



2021-2022 SCHOOL YEAR
Course Guide

TRANSITIONAL KINDERGARTEN–GRADE 10

Education redefined.



**BASIS
INDEPENDENT™
FREMONT**



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The BASIS Diploma

The BASIS Diploma prepares students to fully participate in the dynamic, exciting and unpredictable world of the 21st century. Students who earn this diploma grow in our classrooms to love learning and the pursuit of deeper understanding. They experience the delight of mastering fields of complex knowledge and of developing the habits of disciplined, critical enquiry. Above all they have the best possible educational foundation to be independent and resourceful problem solvers and to face future challenges. It is their choice what career opportunities they pursue and intellectual decisions they make in the future. It is our job to fully prepare them to succeed in those choices.

The scope and sequence of the BASIS Diploma is determined by these practices.

We define opportunity for our students in **GLOBAL** terms. In the 21st century we can no longer conceive of opportunity for the next generation as confined to a city, a state or even a nation. Hence, we commit to teaching our students to the highest global standards so that they can win admission to the best universities in the world and compete in a global professional marketplace.

Founded by two economists, from our earliest days our schools have been committed to the smart, network-wide use of student performance data. We hold ourselves **ACCOUNTABLE** to use the insights this data provides to sustain and improve learning outcomes for our students.

We teach our students to achieve **MASTERY** of the foundational academic disciplines and competencies, for it is that mastery which will empower their future lives and careers. In our classrooms they face extraordinary challenges, and they grow accustomed to the unwavering support of the faculty.

We have a course of study that is **CONNECTED** from the student's academic start in Preschool to its finish with Senior Projects. Our curriculum is carefully calibrated so that in every discipline and at every grade level, students are appropriately challenged and excited by their learning, and each year builds as a preparation for the challenges to come.

Our approach to the use of **TECHNOLOGY** in education is highly focused: we use technology to help us solve problems of scale, to help create the connective tissue that joins a network of schools into an integrated system with data-driven quality control and the sharing of best practices, and to ensure that curricular decisions and innovations are driven by our master teachers, not a top-down centralized bureaucracy.

In terms of the integration of technology in the classroom itself, we believe that technology is one of many tools available to teachers to engage and inspire students to take ownership of their learning experience. However, devices cannot replace the dynamic, **CO-CREATIVE** classroom interaction between teacher and student. We have developed our own tablet-based electronic learning platform to enhance, not replace the role of the teacher. Our belief is that technological competency with industry-standard hardware and software is a key skill necessary to thrive in our modern academic, professional and personal lives.

We create a learning culture in which diverse **PERSPECTIVES** are challenged and tested in an environment of informed thought and collegiality. Our students must be prepared to productively and decently navigate the uncertainty of the 21st century landscape with a profound humility. By engaging with a variety of global perspectives, our students are empowered to make their own decisions about how they will navigate their world. As a learning community, we do not hide from the conflict and struggle that ensues. We revel in it as a vital component in the maturation of our students and the evolution of their most deeply held convictions.

Overview

All BASIS Independent Schools use the BASIS Curriculum. This internationally-benchmarked and accelerated liberal arts curriculum was developed by BASIS.ed and is managed and continuously developed by BASIS Curriculum experts.

This Course Guide was developed to provide brief descriptions of courses offered for the upcoming school year. Elective courses are selected by students and are subject to meeting a minimum enrollment and teacher availability. Additional courses may be offered closer to the start of the school year, which include but are not limited to post-advanced placement (Post-AP), Math and Senior Capstone courses. The course descriptions are organized by grade level or type (e.g. electives, world languages, etc). Students will receive a complete set of course syllabi after the first day of school. The syllabus will list required books, course topics, grading policies and necessary materials. Prior to the start of the school year, students and families will be given a list of textbooks for purchase.

Course Listing by Grade

Transitional Kindergarten

Language and Literacy
Read Discovery
Math Discovery
World Discovery
Movement Discovery
Mandarin Discovery
Visual Arts Discovery
Music Discovery
Performing Arts Discovery
STEM Discovery

Kindergarten

Language and Literacy
Math Foundation
History, Civics, and Science Foundation
Movement Foundation
Mandarin Foundation
Music Foundation
Visual Arts Foundation
Engineering and Technology Foundation

Grade 1

Humanities
Math and Science
Mandarin
Physical Education
READ
Visual Arts
Music
Performing Arts
Engineering and Technology
Connections

Grade 2

Humanities
Math and Science
Mandarin
Physical Education
READ
Visual Arts
Music
Performing Arts
Engineering and Technology
Connections

Grade 3

Humanities
Math and Science
Mandarin
Physical Education
READ
Visual Arts
Music
Performing Arts
Engineering and Technology
Connections

Grade 4

English
Math
Science
Social Studies
Mandarin
Physical Education
Visual Arts
Music
Performing Arts
Engineering and Technology

Grade 5

Art: Music/Choir, Visual Arts, and Drama
Classics
English
Science
Latin IA
Math: Introduction to Pre-Algebra
PE & Sports
Physical Geography

Grade 6

Biology 6
Chemistry 6
English 6
World History & Geography I
Latin I B
Math: Pre-Algebra or higher
PE & Sports 6
Physics 6
Elective(s)

Course Listing by Grade (Continued)

Grade 7

Biology 7
Chemistry 7
English 7
World History & Geography II
Logic
Math: Algebra I/Geometry or higher
Physics 7
Elective(s)
Language: Level I A (except Latin IIA)
Health

Grade 8

Biology 8
Chemistry 8
Economics
English 8
Math: Algebra II or higher
Physics 8
World History & Geography II
Elective(s)
Language: Level I B except (Latin IIB)

Grade 9

AP U.S. Government & Politics
Honors English Language
Honors English Literature
Honors Science: Biology, Chemistry, Physics
or AP Physics 1
Math: Algebra II/Geometry or higher
Elective(s)
Language: Level II (except Latin III)

Grade 10

AP English Language or Honors English 10

AP Science: Biology, Chemistry, Physics 1 or AP Physics 2
AP U.S. History
Honors Science: Biology, Chemistry, Physics
or AP Physics 1
Math: Pre-Calculus AB or higher
Elective(s)
Language: Level III (except Latin IV)

Grade 11

AP English Language or AP English Literature
AP Science: Biology, Chemistry, Physics 1 or Physics 2
AP World History: Modern or AP European History
Honors Science: Biology, Chemistry Physics
or AP Physics 1
Math: AP Calculus AB or higher
Elective(s)
Language: Level IV except Latin V or AP course

Grade 12

College Counseling
Course Selection: Based on graduation requirements

Grade TK Course Guide

2021–2022

To read more about what life is like for students in the BASIS Independent Fremont Transitional Kindergarten class, please [CLICK HERE >](#)

Daily Courses

Language and Literacy

Language & Literacy will focus on the basics of a child's development of personal and interpersonal communication skills in English, while also teaching them to actively listen and speak. Literacy will involve an introduction to storybook reading, storytelling, poems, rhymes, phonics, as well as recognition of letters and sight words, writing letters, and journaling. Students will progress from the ability to identify pictures in books to having solid reading comprehension. Literature will often be used to introduce themes that will be carried through all of the Discovery Blocks of Learning.

Read Discovery

Through story time, students will explore their world, make connections, expand their knowledge, and expand their vocabulary.

Math Discovery

Math is everywhere, and is easily brought to life for children through real-world examples, interactive play, manipulatives, and teacher-led exercises. Students are introduced to math concepts including: days, months, years, numbers, recognition of shapes, sorting and writing numbers, simple addition, subtraction, and division problem solving. In addition, the students will explore the basic concepts of math, including geometry, graphing, quantity and counting, money, weight, and measurement.

World Discovery

World Discovery exposes students to the early concepts of what are traditionally defined as social studies and science. At these young ages, children are just beginning to discover and understand who they are and the world in which they live. World Discovery begins with a child learning and sharing who they are in the world, their interests, and how and what they like to play with. It extends to understanding our family, our school, our community, city, state, and country and the larger world, holidays and important historical figures. Students will examine their world with an introduction to learning about their bodies, the environment, seasons, weather, the earth, planets, geography, geology, plants, and animals.

Movement Discovery

In the Movement Discovery class, students are introduced to movement activities that improve coordination, rhythm, and timing. Students will participate in songs and movements that will develop the imagination and help reinforce language concepts.

Weekly Specials

Mandarin Discovery – 30 Minutes X 2 Classes

The BIF Mandarin instructional curriculum is based on the state of California’s world language standards and the BASIS Curriculum for Mandarin, as well as communicative skills, organized by themes. Units include My Daily World, My Home and Neighborhood, Special Times Throughout the Year, Have Fun at Home and Elsewhere, Taking Care of My Body & My Health, Food is Special, Shopping for Clothes the Year Around, and so on. Students authentically use a second language for real and immediate purposes every day.

Each student is set up for success in the immersive curriculum through language learning best practices, active academic scaffolding, and social emotional support. Our early learners learn Mandarin through lessons that are rich in oral language, interactive, and project-based.

Visual Arts Discovery – 30 Minutes X 2 Classes

Art, while taught every week by the Visual Arts Subject Expert Teacher, is also used as a medium for learning throughout our entire program. Children will have the opportunity for hands-on exploration with various art materials, and a number of artistic concepts. Through art, children will be encouraged to express themselves, experiment, play, and make connections to early academic concepts.

Music Discovery – 30 Minutes X 2 Classes

This course is designed as an introduction to the elementary music curriculum. This is achieved through the discovery and appreciation of music as a school subject. During this class, students will engage in active-learning music games, rhythmic activities, listening, creating, and performing opportunities. It is the goal of this class to encourage a deeper appreciation of and natural curiosity about music.

Performing Arts Discovery – 30 Minutes X 2 Classes

In the Performance Arts Transition class, students will engage in dramatic storytelling as they express themselves using their bodies and voices. With a focus on literacy and movement, students will develop their imagination, creativity, and critical thinking skills through drama activities. In addition, students will have the opportunity to participate in public performances for friends and family.

STEM Discovery – 30 Minutes X 2 Classes

STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Math) Discovery is taught weekly by a Subject Expert Teacher who has a love and passion for all things STEM and knows how to create age-appropriate, hands-on, STEM-based projects for early learners. In this weekly class, children are exposed to “Materials and Tools” and “Engineering Design” as fundamental learning areas for establishing their STEM awareness. Children investigate, innovate, build, and use natural and manmade materials to explore early science, technology, engineering, and math concepts.

Grade K Course Guide

2021–2022

To read more about what life is like for students in the BASIS Independent Fremont Kindergarten class, please [CLICK HERE >](#)

Daily Courses

Language and Literacy

In Kindergarten, this course will emphasize phonemic awareness, phonics, and handwriting. Students will begin the year developing these skills, and by the end of the year, they will be able to express complete thoughts while writing sentences using subjects and verbs, basic capitalization, and punctuation. We will explicitly focus on students' reading skills, as our goal for them is to read age-appropriate chapter books based on their reading level. We will also distinguish between several genres in literature. Throughout the year, lessons will engage students to work as a whole class, in clusters, or follow individual instruction.

Math Foundation

In Math Foundation, teachers scaffold instruction of each concept and continue to review information introduced earlier. Topics include: skip counting by 1s, 2s, 5s, and 10s; compare and order numbers; identify ordinal position to tenth; identify a sorting rule; identify and extend patterns; solve routine and non-routine problems; master all basic addition facts and most of the basic subtraction facts; add two-digit numbers without regrouping; picture and name fractions; measure using inches, feet, and centimeters; compare volume, mass, and area; tell time to the half hour; count pennies, nickels, dimes, and quarters; identify and draw polygons; identify geometric solids; tally marks; and create, read, and write observations from real graphs, pictographs, and bar graphs.

Civics, History, and Science Foundation

Our Science Program is designed not just to understand the world around us, but to foster creativity in our students and enable them to carry out innovations in science and develop problem solving skills. They learn to apply the Scientific Method and draw conclusions on the basis of observation, investigation, and experiments. Our interactive science program fosters a positive attitude towards learning and understanding of inter-relationships of science and society.

Our History Program covers several time periods. It gives opportunity to discuss morals and ethics from great men and women of the past. Classroom discussions reflect on the problems they face these days that are similar to problems people have faced through the centuries. Children take active part in learning about past events, civilizations, and people.

Movement Foundation

The Kindergarten Movement curriculum focuses on the introduction of physical education skills and concepts. Throughout the course, students will learn a number of motor and social skills through physical activity.

Weekly Specials

Mandarin Foundation – 30 Minutes X 3 Classes

This is an introductory course in Mandarin Chinese designed for Kindergarten students. This course encompasses content for those whom have no prior experience with the Chinese language as well as for heritage speakers. The emphasis in this class is to develop listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills using both the Pinyin phonetic system and simplified/traditional Chinese characters. The goal for this class is for students to increase their capacity for language while gaining an appreciation of other cultures.

Visual Arts Foundation – 30 Minutes X 1 Class

The Visual Arts course exposes students to a wide range of Visual Art techniques and provides students with an introduction to Art History. This course is taught thematically, exploring the answers to an overarching question each grading period. Students will develop and refine fine motor skills by working with a variety of materials while making cross-cultural connections through the arts. Visual Arts inspires students to explore and develop creative and innovative ideas, preparing them for a variety of future interests, as well as establishing an overall appreciation for the arts

Music Foundation – 30 Minutes X 1 Class

This course is an introduction to the elementary music curriculum. This is achieved through the discovery and appreciation of music as a school subject. During this class, students will engage in active-learning music games, rhythmic activities, listening, creating, and performing opportunities. It is the goal of this class to encourage a deeper appreciation of and natural curiosity about music.

Performing Arts Foundation – 30 Minutes X 1 Class

In the Performance Arts Foundation class, students will explore the magic of drama while building confidence and public speaking skills. With a focus on literacy and movement, this course will help to develop students' language and communication skills. Additionally, students will participate in our Second Step® program. Second Step® is a social emotional research-based program that helps students to build healthy relationships, control their emotions, and deal with social challenges to benefit their learning environment. Students will also have the opportunity to participate in public performances for friends and family.

Engineering and Technology Foundation – 60 Minutes X 2 Classes

Students are exposed to engineering concepts through questions. They learn about the engineering design process and practice applying it to work through age-appropriate activities that facilitate individual and group learning. Students will develop problem solving, logic, and relationship skills through unique and meaningful projects. Solutions created by the students will be analyzed, reported, and communicated using a variety of media. This class is taught weekly by Subject Expert Teachers with a passion for all things STEM who are committed to fostering STEM literacy for early learners.

Grade 1 Course Guide

2021–2022

To read more about what life is like for a BASIS Independent Fremont first grader, please [CLICK HERE >](#)

Daily Courses

Humanities – 85 Minutes

In Humanities I, students will start to develop the foundational tools for reading and writing, which include reading comprehension strategies, vocabulary enrichment, phonics, and grammar skills. In addition, they will begin to compare historical events, connect those events with their geographic locations, and compare aspects of various forms of government to start to gain a more complete perspective of the world in which we live.

Math and Science – 85 Minutes

This course is designed to teach math and science in an integrated block. Students will discuss relevant connections between math and science. Students will also practice skills, explore topics, and demonstrate knowledge with the use of manipulatives and hands-on approaches when possible. Students will learn and apply math topics in the areas of number sense and operations, measurement, patterns, and data analysis. Students will explore essential science topics, including science as a process, life science, physical science, and earth and space science.

Mandarin – 40 Minutes

The BIF Mandarin instructional curriculum is built based on the state of California’s world language standards and the BASIS Curriculum for Mandarin, as well as communicative skills, organized by themes. Units include My Daily World, My Home and Neighborhood, Special Times Throughout the Year, Have Fun at Home and Elsewhere, Taking Care of My Body & My Health, Food is Special, Shopping for Clothes the Year Around, and so on. Students authentically use a second language for real and immediate purposes every day.

Grade 1 learners meet Mandarin teachers every day for 40 minutes. In addition to recognizing basic Chinese characters and building a solid foundation of correct character writing, Mandarin shared and guided reading is reinforced on a daily basis, and differentiated small groups are designed intentionally to meet personalized goals through BASIS Independent Fremont’s Mandarin reading and writing system.

Physical Education – 40 Minutes

This is the first year of formal Physical Education study. The focus in first grade is on specific skills including locomotor skills, stability skills, and manipulative skills. The focus throughout the course will be on performance and attitude. Health topics are covered in class-based discussions.

READ – 20 Minutes

In this course, students will develop reading comprehension skills through participation in teacher-led read-alouds. The course will incorporate a selection of texts of various lengths, genres, and subjects, including many relating to topics studied in other courses. During READ, students will become familiar with comprehension skills modeled by the teacher; these skills are practiced with more independence during Humanities.

Weekly Specials

Visual Arts – 85 Minutes

The Visual Arts course exposes students to a wide range of Visual Art techniques and provides students with an introduction to Art History. This course will be taught thematically, exploring the answers to an overarching question each grading period. Students will develop and refine fine motor skills by working with a variety of materials while making cross-cultural connections through the arts. Visual Arts inspires students to explore and develop creative and innovative ideas, preparing them for a variety of future interests, as well as establishing an overall appreciation for the arts.

Music – 85 Minutes

This course is designed to provide essential experiences in the five conceptual areas of music: rhythm, melody, harmony, form, and expression. Students will learn each elemental area through a wide range of musical processes: moving, speaking/singing, listening, playing, reading/notating, and creating/improvising. Students will be given the opportunity throughout the school year to present material and concepts they have learned in class. The goals of our elementary music education program are to develop good musicianship, provide each child with a solid foundation for further music study and appreciation, and ultimately to enrich the lives of children – aesthetically, socially, academically, and personally.

Performing Arts – 85 Minutes

In Performance Arts 1, students will explore the magic of drama through acting out the structure of a story, creating group stage pictures, and designing characters through mask work. Additionally, students will participate in our Second Step® program. Second Step® is a social emotional research based program that helps students to build healthy relationships, control their emotions, and deal with social challenges to benefit their learning environment. Students will also have the opportunity to participate in public performances for friends and family.

Engineering and Technology – 85 Minutes

Engineering is all around us! Almost anything not naturally occurring that you interact with was engineered by someone. In this class students are encouraged to be hands-on problem solvers. They will learn about the various types of engineering, ideologies, and concepts using the Engineering Design Process (EDP). They will use the EDP to work through age-appropriate activities that facilitate individual and group learning. The use of the EDP facilitates teamwork and fosters design principles. Students will be encouraged to brainstorm new ideas and work together to apply science and math concepts, create and test prototypes, analyze data, and aim for creativity and practicality in their solutions.

Connections – 85 Minutes

Students will use hands-on approaches to create unique solutions to scenario-based problems, which require the utilization of knowledge and skills taught in their other classes. The course is designed to increase inter-personal skills, build critical thinking skills, and allow students to showcase and refine their creative minds.

Grade 2 Course Guide

2021–2022

To read more about what life is like for a BASIS Independent Fremont second grader, please **CLICK HERE** >

Daily Courses

Humanities – 85 Minutes

In Humanities II, students will study concepts and events in history, geography, and government to see how they are related. Students will learn to compare historical events, present an opinion, see and discuss different points of view, and complete map work. They will continue to develop problem solving and critical thinking skills throughout the course. All the while, they will develop the essential tools for reading and writing needed to succeed at a high level in the English Language Arts.

Math and Science – 85 Minutes

Math and science will be taught as an integrated block where relevant connections between math and science will be stressed. Studies suggest that integration of courses can increase topic retention and comprehension and improve critical thinking skills. Essential math topics include: number sense and operations, measurement, patterns and functions, and data analysis. Essential science topics include: science as a process, life science, physical science, and earth and space science.

Mandarin – 40 Minutes

The BIF Mandarin instructional curriculum is built based on the state of California's world language standards and the BASIS Curriculum for Mandarin, as well as communicative skills, organized by themes. Units include My Daily World, My Home and Neighborhood, Special Times Throughout the Year, Have Fun at Home and Elsewhere, Taking Care of My Body & My Health, Food is Special, Shopping for Clothes the Year Around, and so on. Students authentically use a second language for real and immediate purposes every day.

Grade 2 learners meet Mandarin teachers every day for 40 minutes. In addition to recognizing basic Chinese characters and building a solid foundation of correct character writing, Mandarin shared and guided reading is reinforced on a daily basis, and differentiated small groups are designed intentionally to meet personalized goals through BASIS Independent Fremont's Mandarin reading and writing system.

Physical Education – 40 Minutes

Physical education looks to build up students' mind, body, and character through physical activity. Students will learn the importance of good sportsmanship and respect for other participants as they learn mechanics for a variety of sports. Students will also learn about healthy habits that will help them to maintain a strong body and sharp mind.

READ – 20 Minutes

In this course, students will develop reading comprehension skills through participation in teacher-led read alouds. The course will incorporate a selection of texts of various lengths, genres, and subjects, including many relating to topics studied in other courses. During READ, students will become familiar with comprehension skills modeled by the teacher; these skills will then be practiced with more independence during Humanities.

Weekly Specials

Visual Arts – 85 Minutes

The Visual Arts course exposes students to a wide range of Visual Art techniques and provides students with an introduction to Art History. This course will be taught thematically, exploring the answers to an overarching question each grading period. Students will develop and refine fine motor skills by working with a variety of materials while making cross-cultural connections through the arts. Visual Arts inspires students to explore and develop creative and innovative ideas, preparing them for a variety of future interests, as well as establishing an overall appreciation for the arts.

Music – 85 Minutes

This course is designed to provide essential experiences in the five conceptual areas of music: rhythm, melody, harmony, form, and expression. Students will learn each elemental area through a wide range of musical processes: moving, speaking/singing, listening, playing, reading/notating, and creating/improvising. Students will be given the opportunity throughout the school year to present material and concepts they have learned in class. The goals of our elementary music education program are to develop good musicianship, provide each child with a solid foundation for further music study and appreciation, and ultimately to enrich the lives of children – aesthetically, socially, academically, and personally.

Performing Arts – 85 Minutes

In Performance Arts 2, students will build upon their drama knowledge through storytelling activities, teamwork exercises, and character development explorations. Additionally, students will participate in our Second Step® program. Second Step® is a social emotional research-based program that helps students to build healthy relationships, control their emotions, and deal with social challenges to benefit their learning environment. Students will also have the opportunity to participate in public performances for friends and family.

Engineering and Technology – 85 Minutes

Students will be introduced to various types of engineering, ideologies and concepts using the Engineering Design Process (EDP). They will use the EDP to work through age-appropriate activities that facilitate individual and group learning. The engineering projects will also encourage students to integrate math and science technologies into the engineering problem solving processes. Students will learn how engineers and technicians use math, science, and technology to solve real-world problems with tangible benefits. This will facilitate a more in-depth understanding and the application of concepts from other classes. Students will engage in hands-on, real-world projects to gain an appreciation for social and political needs and technologies. Project-based learning engages learners of all ages—and fosters STEM literacy.

Connections – 85 Minutes

Students will use hands-on approaches to create unique solutions to scenario-based problems, which require the utilization of knowledge and skills taught in their other classes. The course is designed to increase inter-personal skills, build critical thinking skills, and allow students to showcase and refine their creative minds.

Grade 3 Course Guide

2021–2022

To read more about what life is like for a BASIS Independent Fremont third grader, please **CLICK HERE** >

Daily Courses

Humanities – 85 Minutes

In Humanities III, students strengthen critical thinking skills through reading fiction and nonfiction texts, and participating in the Touchstones discussion project. Through novel studies, they deepen their understanding of critical comprehension and vocabulary skills, making them more effective readers. Students improve writing and spelling skills through annotating, crafting reading responses, and multiple drafts of essay writing. They also study concepts and events in the history, geography, and government of ancient civilizations such as ancient Greece and Rome as well as various periods in US history. Students compare historical events, present opinions, and complete map work, thereby gaining a more complete perspective of the world in which we live.

Math and Science – 85 Minutes

Math and science is taught as an integrated block where relevant connections between math and science will be stressed. Studies suggest that integration of courses can increase topic retention and comprehension and improve critical thinking skills. Students will learn, apply, and analyze math topics in the areas of number sense and operations, measurement, patterns and functions, and data analysis. Students will use science inquiry to explore essential science topics including: science as a process, life science, physical science, and earth and space science. This course will be taught with the use of manipulatives and hands-on approaches as much as possible.

Mandarin – 40 Minutes

The BIF Mandarin instructional curriculum is built based on the state of California’s world language standards and the BASIS Curriculum for Mandarin, as well as communicative skills, organized by themes. Units include My Daily World, My Home and Neighborhood, Special Times Throughout the Year, Have Fun at Home and Elsewhere, Taking Care of My Body & My Health, Food is Special, Shopping for Clothes the Year Around, and so on. Students authentically use a second language for real and immediate purposes every day.

Grade 3 Mandarin learning focuses on real-world bilingual projects which deepen in complexity and leverage real-world connections. Mandarin teachers continue to use a range of instructional approaches, including guided and independent practice, small-group writing instruction, and technology integration.

Physical Education – 40 Minutes

Physical education looks to build up students’ mind, body, and character through physical activity. Students will learn the importance of good sportsmanship and respect for other participants as they learn mechanics for a variety of sports. Students will also learn about healthy habits that will help them to maintain a strong body and sharp mind.

READ – 20 Minutes

In this course, students develop reading comprehension skills through participation in teacher-led read-alouds. The course will incorporate a selection of texts of various lengths, genres, and subjects, including many relating to topics studied in other courses. During READ, students will become familiar with comprehension skills modeled by the teacher; these skills are practiced with more independence during Humanities.

Weekly Specials

Visual Arts – 85 Minutes

The Visual Arts course exposes students to a wide range of Visual Art techniques and provides students with an introduction to Art History. This course is taught thematically, exploring the answers to an overarching question each grading period. Students will develop and refine fine motor skills by working with a variety of materials while making cross-cultural connections through the arts. Visual Arts inspires students to explore and develop creative and innovative ideas, preparing them for a variety of future interests, as well as establishing an overall appreciation for the arts.

Music – 85 Minutes

This course is designed to provide essential experiences in the five conceptual areas of music: rhythm, melody, harmony, form, and expression. Students will learn each elemental area through a wide range of musical processes: moving, speaking/singing, listening, playing, reading/notating, and creating/improvising. Students are given the opportunity throughout the school year to present material and concepts they have learned in class. The goals of our elementary music education program are to develop good musicianship, provide each child with a solid foundation for further music study and appreciation, and ultimately to enrich the lives of children – aesthetically, socially, academically, and personally.

Performing Arts – 85 Minutes

In Performance Arts 3, students will build upon their performance arts vocabulary as they create original stories through playwriting and pantomime. In addition, students will engage in learning about the theatrical techniques of Kabuki theatre and will act out a play in this style. Additionally, students will participate in our Second Step ® program. Second Step ® is a social emotional research based program that helps students to build healthy relationships, control their emotions, and deal with social challenges to benefit their learning environment. As a part of this class, students will actively participate in exciting in-class drama projects and public performances for friends and family.

Engineering and Technology – 85 Minutes

Students will be exposed to and continue to build on the Engineering Design Process they have learned in earlier grades. The design process applies to problems big and small - global, local and personal. They will use the EDP to work through age appropriate activities that facilitate individual and group learning. The engineering projects will also encourage students to integrate math and science technologies into the engineering problem solving processes. Students will engage in hands-on, real-world projects to gain an appreciation for social and political needs and technologies. Project-based learning engages learners of all ages—and fosters STEM literacy.

Connections – 85 Minutes

Students will use hands-on approaches to create unique solutions to scenario-based problems and make connections across the curriculum, which requires the utilization of knowledge and skills taught in their other classes. The course is designed to increase interpersonal skills, build critical thinking skills, and allow students to showcase and refine their creative minds. Students engage in lessons in which they learn about fossils and artifacts, extend their understanding of Greek and Roman mythology, create their own gods and goddesses, create a replica of an ancient structure, and develop their own original culture.

Grade 4 Course Guide

2021–2022

To read more about what life is like for a BASIS Independent Fremont fourth grader, please [CLICK HERE](#) >

Daily Courses

English – 50 Minutes

This course will focus on four major components: reading, writing, conventions, and scholarship. In reading, students will be able to recognize basic genre differences and demonstrate comprehension of a variety of texts by identifying the main idea. Students will make predictions, discuss elements of plot, and make inferences from a variety of genres. In writing, students will also be able to produce short fictional and nonfictional written works, demonstrate mastery of basic paragraph organization, and respond to text-dependent questions by providing specific textual evidence. In conventions, students will be able to recognize and correctly use capitalization, basic punctuation, and basic grammar. In scholarship, students will be able to build vocabulary skills using textual context, dictionaries and thesauri, and perform simple research. Students will also be able to take notes and use graphic organizers.

Math – 50 Minutes

The Saxon Course 1 curriculum is an introduction to the pre-algebra concepts that students will see in Saxon Math 8/7. The class will complete one lesson each day that will cover one or two basic concepts. Students are expected to complete their homework daily to ensure they are practicing the concepts they have learned throughout the year. Cumulative assessments are given weekly to determine the students' current level of mastery.

Science – 50 Minutes

Science IV is designed to teach essential science topics, as well as organizational and study skills. Science topics include ecology, biology, chemistry, and physics along with the scientific process. This course is taught with the use of hands-on approaches, investigations, and inquiry as much as possible.

Social Studies – 50 Minutes

This course is designed to introduce students to social studies and history as discrete subjects within the humanities. Students will begin developing important skills needed to understand and think critically about the past and present. These skills include analyzing primary sources, close-reading non-fiction material, connecting historical events through chronology and cause-and-effect relationships, and evidence-based writing. Students will practice and apply these skills while exploring historical topics such as state and local history and the history of the 20th century. Students will also survey different ways of investigating the human world through archaeology, geography, and government.

Weekly Specials

Mandarin – 50 Minutes x 3 Classes

The BIF Mandarin instructional curriculum is built based on the state of California’s world language standards and the BASIS Curriculum for Mandarin, as well as communicative skills, organized by themes. Units include My Daily World, My Home and Neighborhood, Special Times Throughout the Year, Have Fun at Home and Elsewhere, Taking Care of My Body & My Health, Food is Special, Shopping for Clothes the Year Around, etc. Students authentically use a second language for real and immediate purposes every day.

Grade 4 Mandarin learning focuses on real-world bilingual projects, which deepen in complexity and leverage real-world connections. Mandarin teachers continue to use a range of instructional approaches, including guided and independent practice, small-group writing instruction, and technology integration.

Physical Education – 50 Minutes x 4 Classes

Physical Education looks to build up students’ mind, body, and character through physical activity. Students will learn the importance of good sportsmanship and respect for other participants as they learn mechanics for a variety of sports. Students will also learn about healthy habits that will help them to maintain a strong body and sharp mind.

Visual Arts – 50 Minutes x 2 Classes

The Visual Arts course exposes students to a wide range of Visual Art techniques and provides students with an introduction to Art History. This course is taught thematically, exploring the answers to an overarching question each grading period. Students will develop and refine fine motor skills by working with a variety of materials while making cross-cultural connections through the arts. Visual Arts inspires students to explore and develop creative and innovative ideas, preparing them for a variety of future interests, as well as establishing an overall appreciation for the arts.

Music – 50 Minutes x 2 Classes

This course is designed to provide essential experiences in the five conceptual areas of music: rhythm, melody, harmony, form, and expression. Students will learn each elemental area through a wide range of musical processes: moving, speaking/singing, listening, playing, reading/notating, and creating/improvising. Students are given the opportunity throughout the school year to present material and concepts they have learned in class. The goals of our elementary music education program are to develop good musicianship, provide each child with a solid foundation for further music study and appreciation, and ultimately to enrich the lives of children – aesthetically, socially, academically, and personally.

Performing Arts – 50 Minutes x 2 Classes

In Performance Arts 4, students will build upon their performance arts vocabulary as they engage in scene work, improvisation, and pantomime. Students will expand their knowledge of theatrical styles as they explore melodrama, commedia dell’arte, and shadow puppetry. Additionally, students will participate in our Second Step® program. Second Step® is a social emotional research based program that helps students to build healthy relationships, control their emotions, and deal with social challenges to benefit their learning environment. As a part of this class, students will actively participate in exciting in-class drama projects and public performances for friends and family.

Engineering and Technology – 50 Minutes x 2 Classes

Students will be exposed to, and continue to build on, the Engineering Design Process they have learned in earlier grades. The design process applies to problems big and small - global, local and personal. They will use the EDP to work through age appropriate activities that facilitate individual and group learning. The engineering projects will also encourage students to integrate math and science technologies into the engineering problem solving processes. Students will apply all that they have learned towards a real-world challenge and participate in developing and presenting a solution for it. This can be a cross-curricular activity within the school or outside of the school. Project-based learning engages learners of all ages—and fosters STEM literacy.

Grade 5 Course Guide

2021–2022

To read more about what it is like to be a fifth grader at a BASIS Independent school, please **CLICK HERE** >

English – 50 Minutes x 5 Classes/Week

Grade 5 English consists of five major components: Reading, Writing, Conventions, Scholarship, and Reasoning. During this yearlong course, students develop their skills as effective readers and writers through meaningful and creative study in these areas. Using classic works of literature, including novels, poetry, short stories, and non-fiction sources, students will learn the components and purpose of a variety of works to communicate effectively in writing while developing an appreciation for the written word. They will strengthen their understanding of conventions and the structure of the English language. They will develop their skills for formulating well-constructed sentences through mechanics (spelling, punctuation, capitalization, paragraph formation, grammar) and learn to express thoughts and ideas not only in written form, but orally as well. Instruction in writing will focus on moving from a well-constructed paragraph to a cohesive, thoughtful essay.

Math 8/7 – 50 Minutes x 5 Classes/Week

Saxon Mathematics 8/7 provides students with knowledge of general mathematics by practicing addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, fractions, mixed numbers, decimals, and negative numbers, as well as introducing them to pre-algebra concepts before entering Grade 6. Geometric principles of area, perimeter, volume, and surface area are also practiced.

Physical Geography – 50 Minutes x 5 Classes/Week

In this course, students will develop an understanding of planet Earth, both the physical world and how it affects the people and cultures on it. The course combines classical geography - the study of landforms, inhabitants, and maps - with Earth science concepts. Students will learn states and countries around the world, and be introduced to cultural geography topics including languages, religions, trade, populations, and natural resources. The Earth science portion of this course divides the Earth into “spheres” which are each a critical part of the Earth system. Students will learn characteristics and processes related to the hydrosphere (water on Earth), atmosphere (weather and climate), geosphere (geology and plate tectonics) and biosphere (life on Earth). All areas are taught to enhance the student’s knowledge of basic scientific principles and serve as a foundation to future studies in chemistry, biology, and physics.

Intermediate Science – 50 Minutes x 5 Classes/Week

Grade 5 Science is a survey course designed to prepare students for the intensive middle school science curriculum at BASIS Independent Fremont. Students will study basic principles in Biology, Space Science, Chemistry, and Physics. This course teaches scientific skills and principles with a focus on observation and the scientific method. Skills practiced throughout the course include: critical thinking, data collection, data analysis, collaboration, and communication. Organization, note-taking skills, and good study habits are emphasized and necessary to be successful in this course.

Classics – 50 Minutes x 3 Classes/Week

This course will prepare students for their future history courses at BASIS Curriculum Schools. Students will gain a thorough understanding of ancient history and the impact that the civilizations of the ancient Mediterranean world have had on society today. Topics of study will include geography, social structure, politics, religion, and culture. A strong emphasis is placed on Mesopotamian, Egyptian, Greek, and Roman civilizations and their contributions to our own culture in the United States. During the year, students will become familiar with primary and secondary sources, map skills, chronological order, key vocabulary, note taking, and research techniques.

Latin – 50 Minutes x 3 Classes/Week

This course will introduce students to Latin language skills including vocabulary, grammar, etymology, and syntax. Particularly, students will establish a foundation for the study of English grammar and vocabulary, and for advanced learning in Latin and modern languages. Through learning the Latin language, students will explore Roman culture, history, and its impact on modern languages and societies.

Music – 50 Minutes x 3 Classes/Week

Students will develop their musical skills by singing and/or playing instruments, studying music history and theory, and practicing music literacy. With the aid of musical examples and in-class activities, students will be able to identify and evaluate melody, harmony, rhythm, dynamics, musical texture, and musical style. Students will practice basic music notation in theory concepts as they relate to the chosen repertoire and through aural and sight-singing exercises. In addition, students are required to attend live concerts in order to reinforce the material presented in class. As a performance group, the students will perform concerts throughout the year. Selected repertoire for study and for performance will represent a variety of styles, genres, and levels of difficulty. The students will have the option of participating in either a vocal or instrumental music course. The vocal track class will focus on historical musical theater and choral techniques. The instrumental track class will take place in a jazz ensemble format with an emphasis in theory and practical application.

Visual Arts – 50 Minutes x 3 Classes/Week

The Visual Arts course exposes students to a wide range of Visual Art techniques and provides students with an introduction to Art History. This course is taught thematically, exploring the answers to an overarching question each grading period. The themes for this course are Communication, Community, Technology, Movement, and Self. While investigating these themes students will put into practice the elements and principles of art and design. Students will develop and refine fine motor skills by working with a variety of materials while making cross-cultural connections through the arts. Visual Arts inspires students to explore and develop creative and innovative ideas, preparing them for a variety of future interests, as well as establishing an overall appreciation for the arts.

Performing Arts—50 minutes x 2 Classes/Week

In this course, students will continue to develop their skills as young artists, tackling theatrical challenges as actors, directors, designers, and dramaturges. Working as an ensemble from day one, students will explore dramatic texts, practice new techniques in acting and directing, and hone their skills as analytical audience members. Additionally, students will participate in our Second Step® program. Second Step® is a social emotional research based program that helps students to build healthy relationships, control their emotions, and deal with social challenges to benefit their learning environment. As a part of this class, students will actively participate in exciting in-class drama projects and public performances for friends and family.

Physical Education – 50 Minutes x 3 Classes/Week

Physical Education looks to build up students' mind, body, and character through physical activity. Students will learn the importance of good sportsmanship and respect for other participants as they learn mechanics for a variety of sports. Students will also learn about healthy habits that will help them to maintain a strong body and sharp mind.

Grade 6 Course Guide

2021–2022

To read more about what it is like to be a sixth grader at a BASIS Independent school, please [CLICK HERE >](#)

English – 50 Minutes x 5 Classes/Week

This course consists of five major components: conventions, reading, writing, scholarship, and critical thinking. Students will build lifelong skills and an appreciation for written communication, reading, and learning in general. The course emphasizes language conventions, which includes a focus on grammar and punctuation. Students can expect to spend their English periods divided between grammar, vocabulary, critical thinking skills, and instruction in reading and writing. Students will read literature with the intent of sparking and developing imaginative thought in traditionally academic fields. Instruction in writing will focus on perfecting the student's ability to write effectively at the sentence and paragraph level, along with introducing format conventions. Finally, students will build on the foundational research skills developed in Grade 5. The course is designed to provide students with a solid foundation for future scholarship in all fields by ensuring that students have a strong grasp of the fundamental workings and effects of language.

Biology – 50 Minutes x 3 Classes/Week

Students are introduced to the study of living things by starting with the most basic unit of life, the cell. The organization of cells, tissues, organs, and organ systems in complex organisms are studied in the context of the human body. Grade 6 biology students will discover the anatomy and physiology of the organ systems that allow for movement, coordination, circulation, digestion, excretion, immunity, and reproduction. This knowledge is used to understand the importance of homeostasis in living things and what can happen when disease interferes with the functions of human organ systems. Throughout the course, students will develop note-taking skills and the ability to analyze complex systems.

Chemistry – 50 Minutes x 3 Classes/Week

Students are introduced to the fundamentals of chemistry and scientific inquiry. Students will learn about the structure and properties of matter, the organization of the periodic table, chemical bonding, physical and chemical changes, and molar quantities. Students will explore these concepts through laboratory activities and demonstrate proper safety procedures and techniques.

Physics – 50 Minutes x 3 Classes/Week

In this course, students are introduced to the vocabulary that describes the physical universe around them. They learn about motion, forces, energy, and electricity as core topics. They will begin to apply the language of mathematics to physical relationships. Throughout this course, students will develop the skills to become effective problem solvers by investigating the physics behind everyday situations, for example: How does a bicycle work? Why are ramps useful? What happens inside a batter? In-class demonstrations accompanied by thoughtfully crafted laboratory sessions will allow students to use their motor and visual skills to link cause and effect. Most importantly, they will establish the foundations of critical thought that pave the way for scientific exploration and discovery.

World History – 50 Minutes x 5 Classes/Week

This course introduces to students a holistic view of world history from the beginnings of human societies to roughly 1250 C.E. This course will offer balanced global coverage of Africa, the Americas, Asia, Europe, and Oceania. We will focus on five themes including interaction between humans and the environment, development and interaction of culture, state building through expansion and conflict, interaction of economic systems, and the development and transformation of social structures. These unifying threads will highlight what is particular about each period or society as part of the larger framework of the world.

Latin – 50 Minutes x 3 Classes/Week

This course will continue to deepen student understanding of Latin vocabulary and Latin grammar, as well as Latin syntax. A greater emphasis is placed on the fundamental elements of Latin translation via sentences and short reading passages. Students will memorize a key set of vocabulary words, although readings will necessarily go beyond that short list. Students will also develop their knowledge of Latin as a root of the Romance languages, as well as its influence on English. Thus, this course serves as either a solid stepping-stone into the study of other languages or the next step upward in the study of the Latin language itself.

Math – 50 Minutes x 5 Classes/Week

Grade 6 students will be placed in math courses based on performance and math ability shown during the Math 8/7 course and math placement exam.

SPORK Pre-Algebra

This course covers traditional concepts that will help students transition from arithmetic to Algebra 1/Geometry. At the end of the course, students will be well versed in the following areas: fractions, decimals, mixed numbers, positive and negative numbers, order of operations, percentages, proportions, ratios, unit conversions, scientific notation, data representation, algebraic representation, solving real world problems, and calculating surface area and volume.

SPORK Algebra I & Geometry

The prerequisite for this course is Pre-Algebra. Students may also test into this course in 5th and 6th grade without taking Pre-Algebra. This course will cover all of the traditional first-year algebra topics while helping students build higher-order thinking skills, real-world application skills, reasoning, and an understanding of interconnecting math strands. The class will focus on multiple representations of algebraic thinking: verbal, numerical, symbolic, and graphical. Topics covered will include: algebra foundations; basic geometric concepts; functions and relations; linear equations; polynomials; rational expressions and functions; inequalities; systems of equations; radical expressions and functions; quadratic equations; absolute-value inequalities; and probability and data analysis. Real-world applications and continual practice/review are fundamental parts of the class and are important for mastery of the material. Students who complete the course should be well prepared to enter Algebra and Geometry II the following year.

Physical Education – 50 Minutes x 3 Classes/Week

Grade 6 Physical Education focuses on teaching specific skills through sports. The course also includes health topics, which are covered in class discussions. Students will learn rules for various sports and will work on the concepts of teamwork, fair play, and sportsmanship. Students will also learn the basics of exercise including warming up, stretching, and cooling down. The focus of the course will be on attitude and performance.

Elective(s) – 50 Minutes x 5 Classes/Week

Grade 6 students will have the option to choose up to two electives (students must take at least one elective course in the fine arts) from the offerings presented each year. This class will span the entire duration of the year and will focus in on a topic of interest. Common electives are visual arts, computer science, creative writing, band, and musical theatre, but offerings may change based on student interest and teacher availability. Students will be able to state their elective preferences during course selection in late February.

Grade 7 Course Guide

2021–2022

To read more about what it is like to be a seventh grader at a BASIS Independent school, please **CLICK HERE** >

English – 50 Minutes x 5 Classes/Week

Grade 7 English continues to improve students' abilities in the five major components: conventions, reading, writing, scholarship, and reasoning. The purpose of this course is to prepare seventh graders for their future courses at BASIS Independent Fremont, as well as their future college and workplace endeavors. Students will learn how to analyze and utilize a variety of literary devices; to both examine and use advanced vocabulary; to vary and manipulate sentence structure; to understand and interpret what they read; to scrutinize and improve what they write; to appreciate and imitate literary styles; and to put to use their ever-growing repertoire of research skills. All these skills will begin to develop the base they need to prepare them for the AP work in our high-school curriculum.

Biology – 50 Minutes x 3 Classes/Week

Students will take a more in-depth look at the study of living things, and will expand on their understanding of the fundamental unit of life, the cell, by learning about structures and processes of prokaryotic and eukaryotic cells. In addition, students will discover the characteristics of living things and how homeostasis is maintained throughout all the kingdoms of life. The basics of evolution are introduced and discussed as we investigate the structures and functions of bacteria, protists, fungi, plants, and animals (including a revisit to organ systems). By threading the evolution discussion throughout the year and introducing ecology, students will understand the underlying concepts leading to the vast biological diversity that exists on Earth. Note-taking and scientific investigation skills are emphasized throughout the year.

Chemistry – 50 Minutes x 3 Classes/Week

Students will deepen their understanding of the chemistry concepts learned in Grade 6. Students practice using the language and nomenclature of chemistry in measurements and with the representation of chemical reactions using balanced chemical equations. Students will also apply mathematics to solve numerical problems relating to the application of chemical concepts. **Hands-on laboratory activities will accompany students' active learning.**

Physics – 50 Minutes x 3 Classes/Week

In this course, students are introduced to the application of basic algebra to physics concepts learned in Physics 6. Students develop problem solving skills that will help them in using mathematics to represent physical situations and make predictions. Topics will include experimental design, measurement, motion, forces, energy, momentum, electrostatics, and waves. At the end of this course, students will be able to approach any physical system under the topics investigated, and appropriately apply their knowledge of mathematics to the system.

Most importantly, they will establish the foundations of critical thought that pave the way for scientific exploration and discovery in conceptually difficult topics like electrostatics and waves. Connections between energy and waves will help students develop an appreciation of the connectedness between topics studied in their Physics studies.

World History II – 50 Minutes x 5 Classes/Week

This course examines the cross-cultural historical journey of humans from many cultural perspectives and historical narratives. This skill-centered course enables students to think critically and prepares them for high school AP History and Government courses. Throughout the academic year, students will explore developments and processes in global history using a variety of primary and secondary sources and examine the questions and problems that have affected the world from ancient times through today. This course is not a strict chronological history of the world. Rather, it is based on themes that enable students to think conceptually, make connections between the past and present, and develop a deeper understanding of the evolution of the global developments and processes that continue to shape our world.

World Language – 50 Minutes x 3 Classes/Week

In Grade 7, students will be able to choose which world language course they will take. They will have the option of French, Latin, Mandarin, and Spanish. Students will be able to state their language preferences during course selection in late February.

French 1A

This is a beginning-level French course, for students who have never been exposed to the language, to develop basic speaking, listening, reading, and writing skills in French.

Students will learn the fundamental vocabulary and sentence structures required to communicate in French. At the end of this course, students will be able to ask and answer simple questions about themselves, their friends, their families, the weather, and their leisure activities. They will also be able to write simple, descriptive paragraphs and glean information from simple texts. Students will also develop a cultural appreciation for the art, music, geography, customs, and cuisine of the French-speaking world.

Spanish 1A

This is a first-year Spanish course with equal emphasis on the four basic skills of comprehension: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Students will acquire knowledge in Spanish by continually increasing their vocabulary, grammar, and use of idiomatic expressions. Students will learn to write short sentences in the present tense on various topics. Students will describe, ask and answer questions, engage in simple conversations, and carry out simple realistic functions to communicate in the target language.

Latin II A

Students will engage in a deeper study of Latin grammar and syntax. Regular vocabulary memorization and practice with grammatical concepts will be essential. A greater emphasis is placed on reading fluency and translation.

Chinese 1A

The Chinese IA course is to familiarize students with basic knowledge of Mandarin Chinese. Students will be able to exchange greetings, give their identity, and name a number of familiar objects from their immediate environment. Students may be able to communicate with a number of isolated words and memorized phrases limited by the particular context in which the language is taught. Students will be able to recognize 300 characters, and write commonly used 150 radicals and 250 characters. They will be able to write from memory a limited number of isolated words or phrases, and supply limited information on simple forms and documents, and other basic biographical information, such as names, numbers, and nationality. They may be able to write on well-practiced, familiar topics using limited formulaic language with a high degree of accuracy. Four language skills (listening, speaking, reading, and writing) are taught with an emphasis on listening and speaking. Standards for Foreign Language Teaching in the 21st Century (Communication, Cultures, Comparisons, Connections and Communities) are incorporated into the curriculum. Classes are conducted mainly in Mandarin Chinese. Three types of communicative mode (Interpretive, Interpersonal, and Presentational) are practiced through a variety of cooperative learning activities. Students will write characters by hand.

Health – 50 Minutes x 1 Class/Week

This course provides students with knowledge, positive attitudes, and skills towards health throughout their lifetime. It focuses on the importance of physical, mental, social, and emotional health. It motivates students to exercise, receive adequate amounts of sleep, control what they eat, reduce risk of injury, prevent disease, and be an overall healthier person. It also covers topics such as anatomy, physiology, nutrition, CPR, and biomechanics. This course creates opportunities and experiences that challenge and engage students to assess and value their health, while personalizing and evaluating their learning.

Math – 50 Minutes x 5 Classes/Week

Grade 7 students are placed in math courses based on performance and math ability.

SPORK Algebra I & Geometry

The prerequisite for this course is Pre-Algebra. Students may also test into this course in in Grade 5 and 6 without taking Pre-Algebra. This course will cover all of the traditional first-year algebra topics while helping students build higher-order thinking skills, real-world application skills, reasoning, and an understanding of interconnecting math strands. The class will focus on multiple representations of algebraic thinking: verbal, numerical, symbolic, and graphical. Topics covered will include: algebra foundations; basic geometric concepts; functions and relations; linear equations; polynomials; rational expressions and functions; inequalities; systems of equations; radical expressions and functions; quadratic equations; absolute-value inequalities; and probability and data analysis. Real-world applications and continual practice/review are fundamental parts of the class and are important for mastery of the material. Students who complete the course should be well prepared to enter Algebra and Geometry II the following year.

Algebra & Geometry II

The prerequisite for this course is Algebra & Geometry I. This is the second part in a series of algebra and geometry courses. Students will continue working on concepts introduced in Algebra 1, but more in-depth. After mastering topics introduced in this course students should be able to solve equations and inequalities with absolute value, quadratic and logarithmic equations, and work with complex numbers and trigonometric functions of right triangles. Geometry is incorporated, and the equivalent of formal geometry will be concluded. Students are introduced to proofs in geometry with similar and congruent figures, circles and their parts, lines, and planes.

Logic – 50 Minutes x 2 Classes/Week

The purpose of this course is to prepare students for their future courses at BASIS Independent Fremont, as well as for their future college and workplace endeavors. This course introduces students to the principles of deductive argumentation and propositional logic. The general goal is to learn how to distinguish acceptable arguments from poor ones. The approach is two-sided: (1) the analysis and construction of valid arguments, and (2) the analysis and classification of fallacies. Additional aims of this course are to gain an appreciation of the complexity of language, to develop the ability to think critically, to recognize, diagram and evaluate the structure of various arguments, to refute arguments by devising logical analogies, and to obtain facility in symbolic logic.

Elective(s) – 50 Minutes x 5 Classes/Week

Grade 7 students will have the option to choose up to two electives (students must take at least one elective course) from the offerings presented each year. This class will span the entire duration of the year and will focus in on a topic of interest. Common electives are physical education, creative writing, visual arts, computer science, drama, and band, but offerings may change based on student interest and teacher availability. Students will be able to state their language preferences during course selection in late February.

Grade 8 Course Guide

2021–2022

To read more about the middle school program at a BASIS Independent School, please

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English – 50 Minutes x 5 Classes/Week

This course is the equivalent of a high school honors English program. Students will prepare for a higher level of scholarship required for eventual passage of both the AP English Literature and AP English Language exams. To that end, students will broaden their exposure to different genres of literature, including fiction, nonfiction, poetry, and drama, and will learn to produce thoughtful, well-argued analyses. In their writing, students will build on their composition skills to ensure that pieces -- whether short or long -- are both soundly constructed and powerfully phrased. Students will also expand their mastery of the English language through higher-level instruction on grammar, syntax, and mechanics, along with vocabulary and spelling practice.

Biology – 50 Minutes x 3 Classes/Week

Students will delve into their study of living things at the high school level in this course by building on the basics learned in previous courses. Students will further their comprehension of cells by learning more about cellular processes and the maintenance of homeostasis. Additionally, students will continue their study of molecular and cellular processes by learning the biochemistry of photosynthesis and cellular respiration. Students will also build a foundation on additional topics such as genetics, the structure and replication of DNA, and gene expression. Evolutionary and ecological concepts are reinforced, especially in the context of genetics. Through a variety of activities in these topics, students will continue to hone their scientific investigation skills throughout the year and begin their preparation for AP Biology exam.

Chemistry – 50 Minutes x 3 Classes/Week

Students will study the basic principles of atomic structure, elements, compounds, molar quantities, and the periodic table. Students are also introduced to high school-level concepts such as gas laws, stoichiometry, and types of reactions.

Physics – 50 Minutes x 3 Classes/Week

In this course, students will continue to build their understanding of the physical world, both conceptually and mathematically. The application of physical concepts will be expanded to a larger number of real-world situations, and two-dimensional problems will be introduced for the first time. Using fundamental physical concepts and algebraic skills gained from Physics 6 and 7, students will develop the ability to pose a scientific argument and present scientific evidence to support a claim. Topics will include kinematics, forces, energy, momentum, optics, and electricity. Slope and Area under the curve approaches will enable understanding of the origin of mathematical formulas, beginning the students' journey into pre-calculus. Support in understanding the necessary mathematical tools to tackle Physics 8 will be provided in Physics class and in collaboration with Algebra 2.

At the end of this course, students will have a foundation in theoretical physics and the necessary algebraic skills to prepare them for high school physics.

World History II – 50 Minutes x 5 Classes/Week

This course examines the cross-cultural historical journey of humans from many cultural perspectives and historical narratives. It is a skill-centered course that enables students to think critically and prepares them for high school AP History and Government courses. Throughout the academic year, students will explore developments and processes in global history using a variety of primary and secondary sources and examine the questions and problems that have affected the world from ancient times through today. This course is not a strict chronological history of the world. Rather, it is based on themes that enable students to think conceptually, make connections between the past and present, and develop a deeper understanding of the evolution of the global developments and processes that continue to shape our world.

World Language – 50 Minutes x 3 Classes/Week

In Grade 8, students will be able to choose which world language course they will take. They will have the option of French, Latin, Mandarin, and Spanish. We encourage students to remain with the same language they took during their Grade 7 year.

French 1B

This is a beginning-to-intermediate level course providing an exploration of the French language and Francophone cultures. Students will build their skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writing, and focus on effective communication in French as well as cultural understanding and appreciation. With emphasis on daily life, family and society, and introductions to global challenges, students will begin interacting with the six AP themes and work towards expressing personal opinions while developing skills in critical analysis and presentation. Successful completion of this course leads to the French IM course. Throughout the year, we will also develop a cultural appreciation for the art, music, geography, customs, and cuisine of the French speaking world.

Latin II B

This course is designed to complete the instruction of grammatical and syntactical concepts in Latin. Students will develop their abilities to translate complex sentences and render accurate translations. Additional points of grammar may be introduced in order to prepare students to translate un-adapted passages in the future, and students will encounter several short passages from ancient authors throughout the year.

Chinese 1B

This is the second year of Mandarin studies, a continuation from Grade 7 Mandarin. Students will continue to develop their skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Students will be introduced to more culture and etiquette during lessons. Students learn to create original responses with the language when talking about familiar topics related to their daily life. They are able to recombine learned material in order to express personal meaning. Beginning-level 2 speakers can ask simple questions and can handle a straightforward survival situation. They produce sentence-level language, ranging from discrete sentences to strings of sentences, typically in present time. Beginning-level 2 speakers are understood by interlocutors who are accustomed to dealing with non-native learners of the language.

Students at the beginning- level 2 are characterized by the ability to meet practical writing needs, such as simple messages and letters, requests for information, and notes. In addition, they can ask and respond to simple questions in writing. These writers can create with the language and communicate simple facts and ideas in a series of loosely connected sentences on topics of personal interest and social needs. They write primarily in present time. At this level, writers use basic vocabulary and structures to express meaning that is comprehensible to those accustomed to the writing of non-natives.

Spanish 1B

This is an intermediate Spanish course with equal emphasis on the three major modes of communication: interpretive (reading and listening), interpersonal (writing and speaking), and presentational (writing and speaking). Students will acquire knowledge in Spanish by continually increasing their vocabulary, grammar, and use of idiomatic expressions. Students will practice speaking and writing short sentences in the present, present progressive, and preterite tenses on various topics. Students will describe, ask and answer questions, engage in simple conversations, and carry out simple realistic functions to communicate in the target language. Students will be assessed in a variety of ways including exams and quizzes, essays, presentations, role-plays, skits, and other projects.

Math – 50 Minutes x 5 Classes/Week

Grade 8 students will be placed in math courses based on performance and math ability.

Algebra & Geometry II

The prerequisite for this course is Algebra & Geometry I. This is the second part in a series of algebra and geometry courses. Students will continue working on concepts introduced in Algebra 1, but more in-depth. After mastering topics introduced in this course students should be able to solve equations and inequalities with absolute value, quadratic and logarithmic equations, and work with complex numbers and trigonometric functions of right triangle. Also, geometry will be incorporated, and the equivalent of formal geometry will be concluded. Students will be introduced to proofs in geometry with similar and congruent figures, circles and their parts, lines, and planes.

Pre-Calculus A

The prerequisite for this course is Algebra & Geometry II. Pre-Calculus A is the first half of a two-year course that covers trigonometry, logarithms, analytic geometry, and upper-level algebraic concepts. Students will complete their study of geometry and will continue the practice of intermediate algebraic concepts and skills and be introduced to upper-level algebraic concepts. Students will continue the study of trigonometry that began in the middle of Algebra 2, focusing on the study of trigonometric functions, common and natural logarithms, and the equations of conics.

Pre-Calculus AB

The prerequisite for this course is Algebra & Geometry II. In this course, students will learn trigonometry, logarithms, analytic geometry, and upper-level algebraic concepts. Students will complete their study of geometry and continue the practice of intermediate algebraic concepts and skills and be introduced to upper-level algebraic concepts. Students will continue the study of trigonometry that began in the middle of Algebra 2, focusing on the study of trigonometric functions, common and natural logarithms, and the equations of conics.

Economics – 50 Minutes x 3 Classes/Week

This is an introductory course that is geared toward preparing students for AP Economics. Students are exposed to a wide array of everyday economic concepts in microeconomics, macroeconomics, and international economics. The course begins with the foundations of economics, which will include scarcity, consumer choice theory, and economic systems. Microeconomics will cover various topics including competition, entrepreneurship and market failure. Macroeconomics will study the economy as a whole and include the role of the government and the Federal Reserve (and central banks in general), inflation, unemployment, and economic growth. International economics will compare the economies of countries with different economics systems, discuss exchange rates, trade, and protectionism.

Elective(s) – 50 Minutes x 5 Classes/Week

Grade 8 students have the option to choose up to two electives (students must take at least one elective course) from the offerings presented each year. This class will span the entire duration of the year and will focus in on a topic of interest. Common electives are physical education, creative writing, visual arts, computer science, drama, and band, but offerings may change based on student interest and teacher availability. Students will state their elective preferences in late February.

Grade 9 Course Guide

2021–2022

To read more about how BASIS Independent high school students perform on international benchmark exams, please **CLICK HERE** >

Honors English Language and Composition – 50 Minutes x 5 Classes/Week

In Grade 9, BASIS Curriculum School students take both Honors Language and Composition and Honors Literature and Composition to prepare for both AP English Literature and Composition and AP English Language and Composition. This class is specifically designed to provide students with the content knowledge and skills to succeed in AP English Language and Composition. Therefore, students will focus on the analysis, research, and writing of nonfiction texts, with a focus on rhetorical modes. Throughout the year, students will also review and improve their understanding of syntax and grammar, and study vocabulary.

Honors English Literature – 50 Minutes x 5 Classes/Week

In Grade 9, BASIS Curriculum School students take both Honors Language and Composition and Honors Literature and Composition to prepare for both AP English Literature and Composition and AP English Language and Composition. This class is specifically designed to provide students with the content knowledge and skills to succeed in AP English Literature and Composition. Students will gain a general overview of world literature and intellectual movements throughout world history. Students will read, discuss, analyze, and write about many of the great works dealing with the human experience, the growth of individual and global cultures, and significant changes and events in world history. Students will write several essays analyzing individual texts and will become comfortable with the language of literary analysis.

Honors Science—50 minutes x 5 Classes/Week

Students will choose one science class to take for the full year. Options include Honors Chemistry, Honors Biology, Honors Physics, and AP Physics I. Students will be able to state their course preferences in late February.

Honors Biology

This course is designed to be a pre-college level introduction to the Biological Sciences. Students will study a broad range of biology lecture and laboratory topics ranging from molecules to cells, tissues, organs, organ systems, organisms, populations, communities, ecosystems, and biomes. This course serves as a broad foundation for AP Biology in which these same topics will be covered again, but in greater detail and depth with more of a focus on inquiry-based science. Students are expected to take responsibility for their own learning under the guidance of the instructor. At the end of this course, students will be equipped with the knowledge and skills to excel in an AP Biology course. This course offers students the opportunity to explore diversity and interdependence in our living world. It aims to provide students with the conceptual framework, factual knowledge, and analytical skills necessary to deal critically with the rapidly changing science of biology. Students will develop a conceptual understanding of biology with an emphasis on the “process” as they make connections to modern environment / social issues and other scientific disciplines while refining their laboratory skills. Big Ideas: Big Idea 1: The process of evolution drives the diversity and unity of life. Big Idea 2: Biological systems utilize free energy and molecular building blocks to grow, to reproduce and to maintain dynamic homeostasis. Big Idea 3: Living systems store, retrieve, transmit and respond to information essential to life processes. Big Idea 4: Biological systems interact, and these systems and their interactions possess complex properties.

Honors Chemistry

This is the first course in a two-year sequence, with AP Chemistry being the second year. In this course, students will learn about topics such as chemical formulas and reactions, stoichiometry, atomic and molecular structure, relationships within the periodic table, bonding, and states of matter and gas laws. Students will engage in hands-on laboratory work integrated throughout the course.

Honors Physics

In this course, students will be introduced to the concepts and fundamentals of physical science. Students will develop a system for standard physical investigation by specifically designing models to represent physical situations. At the end of this course, students will be able to approach any system and use their knowledge of the physical world to separate and test the system appropriately.

AP Physics I

Enrollment in this course is based on teacher recommendation. AP Physics 1 is an algebra-based, introductory college-level physics course. Students cultivate their understanding of physics through inquiry-based investigations as they explore these topics: kinematics, dynamics, circular motion and gravitation, energy, momentum, simple harmonic motion, torque and rotational motion, electric charge and electric force, DC circuits, and mechanical waves and sound.

AP US Government and Politics – 50 Minutes x 5 Classes/Week

AP U.S. Government and Politics provides a college-level, nonpartisan introduction to key political concepts, ideas, institutions, policies, interactions, roles, and behaviors that characterize the constitutional system and political culture of the United States. Students will study U.S. foundational documents, Supreme Court decisions, and other texts and visuals to gain an understanding of the relationships and interactions among political institutions, processes, and behaviors. They will also engage in disciplinary practices that require them to read and interpret data, make comparisons and applications, and develop evidence-based arguments. In addition, they will complete a political science research or applied civics project.

World Language – 50 Minutes x 5 Classes/Week

In Grade 9, students will be able to choose which world language course they will take. They will have the option of French, Latin, Mandarin, and Spanish. We encourage students to remain with the same language they took during their Grade 7-8 years.

Math – 50 Minutes x 5 Classes/Week

Grade 9 students will be placed in math courses based on performance and math ability.

Algebra & Geometry II

The prerequisite for this course is Algebra & Geometry I. This is the second part in a series of algebra and geometry courses. Students will continue working on concepts introduced in Algebra 1, but more in-depth. After mastering topics introduced in this course students should be able to solve equations and inequalities with absolute value, quadratic and logarithmic equations, and work with complex numbers and trigonometric functions of right triangle. Also, geometry will be incorporated, and the equivalent of formal geometry will be concluded. Students will be introduced to proofs in geometry with similar and congruent figures, circles and their parts, lines, and planes.

Pre-Calculus A

The prerequisite for this course is Algebra & Geometry II. Pre-Calculus A is the first half of a two-year course that covers trigonometry, logarithms, analytic geometry, and upper-level algebraic concepts. Students will complete their study of geometry and will continue the practice of intermediate algebraic concepts and skills and be introduced to upper-level algebraic concepts. Students will continue the study of trigonometry that began in the middle of Algebra 2, focusing on the study of trigonometric functions, common and natural logarithms, and the equations of conics.

Pre-Calculus AB

The prerequisite for this course is Algebra & Geometry II. In this course, students will learn trigonometry, logarithms, analytic geometry, and upper-level algebraic concepts. Students will complete their study of geometry and continue the practice of intermediate algebraic concepts and skills and be introduced to upper-level algebraic concepts. Students will continue the study of trigonometry that began in the middle of Algebra 2, focusing on the study of trigonometric functions, common and natural logarithms, and the equations of conics.

AP Calculus AB

The prerequisite for this course is Pre-Calculus AB or Pre-Calculus B. AP Calculus AB and AP Calculus BC focus on students' understanding of calculus concepts and provide experience with methods and applications. Through the use of big ideas of calculus (e.g., modeling change, approximation and limits, and analysis of functions), each course becomes a cohesive whole, rather than a collection of unrelated topics. Both courses require students to use definitions and theorems to build arguments and justify conclusions. The courses feature a multirepresentational approach to calculus, with concepts, results, and problems expressed graphically, numerically, analytically, and verbally. Exploring connections among these representations builds understanding of how calculus applies limits to develop important ideas, definitions, formulas, and theorems. A sustained emphasis on clear communication of methods, reasoning, justifications, and conclusions is essential. Teachers and students should regularly use technology to reinforce relationships among functions, to confirm written work, to implement experimentation, and to assist in interpreting results.

Elective(s) – 50 Minutes x 5 Classes/Week

Grade 9 students will have the option to choose up to two electives (students must take at least one elective course) from the offerings presented each year. This class will span the entire duration of the year and will focus in on a topic of interest. Common electives are physical education, creative writing, visual arts, computer science, drama, and band, but Grade 9 offerings may change based on student interest and teacher availability. Students will state their elective preferences in late February.

Grade 10 Course Guide

2021–2022

To read more about how BASIS Independent high school students perform on international benchmark exams, please **CLICK HERE** >

Grade 10 Required Courses

Below are course descriptions for required courses except Mathematics, Electives and World Languages. For English, students select one course. For the sciences, students select two courses (one AP level).

AP U.S. History – 50 Minutes x 5 Classes/Week

This course focuses on the development of historical thinking skills (chronological reasoning, comparing and contextualizing, crafting historical arguments using historical evidence, and interpreting and synthesizing historical narrative) and an understanding of content learning objectives organized around seven themes, such as identity, peopling, and America in the world. In line with college and university U.S. history survey courses' increased focus on early and recent American history and decreased emphasis on other areas, the AP U.S. History course expands on the history of the Americas from 1491 to 1607 and from 1980 to the present. Selected topics across nine different periods of U.S. history will be taught in depth.

Students select ONE English course:

AP English Language – 50 Minutes x 5 Classes/Week

This course is designed to provide students with the equivalent of a year's worth of college-level classes in composition and rhetoric, and one of the goals of this class is for students to pass the AP exam in the spring. AP English Language and Composition engages students in becoming skilled readers of prose written in a variety of periods, disciplines and rhetorical contexts and in becoming skilled writers who compose for a variety of purposes. Students will analyze and interpret samples of good writing, identify and explain an author's use of rhetorical strategies and techniques. They will apply effective strategies and techniques in their own writing, create and sustain arguments based on readings, research, and/or personal experience, write for a variety of purposes, produce expository, analytical, and argumentative compositions that introduce a complex central idea and develop it with appropriate evidence drawn from primary and/or secondary sources, cogent explanations, and clear transitions. They will additionally demonstrate understanding and mastery of standard written English as well as stylistic maturity in their own writings, demonstrate understanding of the conventions of citing primary and secondary sources.

> **Prerequisite:** Honors English Literature and Honors English Language (Grade 9)

Honors English 10– 50 Minutes x 5 Classes/Week

This course continues to advance students' abilities in the five major components: Conventions, Reading, Writing, Scholarship, and Reasoning if students wish to defer AP English Language for their 11th grade year. This course prepares students for the kind of analytical, interpretive work that will be required of them in the AP English Literature and Composition or AP English Language and Composition course. Students read, discuss, analyze, and write about many great works of fiction and nonfiction. Students will write essays analyzing an individual text by practicing the literary and rhetorical analysis introduced in their Honors Literature and Honors Language courses.

Students select ONE of the following science courses:

Honors Biology (Pre-AP) – 50 Minutes x 5 Classes/Week

This course covers a broad range of biology lecture and laboratory topics ranging from molecules to cells, tissues, organs, organ systems, organisms, populations, communities, ecosystems, and biomes. This course serves as a broad foundation for AP Biology in which these same topics will be covered again, but in greater detail and depth with more of a focus on inquiry-based science.

Honors Chemistry (Pre-AP) – 50 Minutes x 5 Classes/Week

This course includes topics such as chemical formulas and reactions, stoichiometry, atomic and molecular structure, relationships within the periodic table, bonding and states of matter and gas laws. Students are engaged in hands-on laboratory work, integrated throughout the course, which accounts for twenty-five percent of the course. This course will focus on fostering deeper conceptual understanding under the six Big Ideas outlined by the College Board, and all of the problem solving, laboratory investigations and activities are founded in the practice of chemistry, which is broken down into the seven Science Practices. Although students will still be required to complete mathematical manipulations, the focus throughout will remain on the underlying conceptual ideas. Therefore, when performing mathematical calculations students should be able to relate their solutions to the conceptual underpinnings behind the math.

Honors Physics (Pre-AP) – 50 Minutes x 5 Classes/Week

This course includes topics such as chemical formulas and reactions, stoichiometry, atomic and molecular structure, relationships within the periodic table, bonding and states of matter and gas laws. Students are engaged in hands-on laboratory work, integrated throughout the course, which accounts for twenty-five percent of the course. This course will focus on fostering deeper conceptual understanding under the six Big Ideas outlined by the College Board, and all of the problem solving, laboratory investigations and activities are founded in the practice of chemistry, which is broken down into the seven Science Practices. Although students will still be required to complete mathematical manipulations, the focus throughout will remain on the underlying conceptual ideas. Therefore, when performing mathematical calculations students should be able to relate their solutions to the conceptual underpinnings behind the math.

AP Physics 1 – 50 Minutes x 5 Classes/Week

This course is an algebra-based, introductory college-level physics course that explores topics such as Newtonian mechanics (including rotational motion); work, energy, and power; mechanical waves and sound; and introductory, simple circuits. Through inquiry-based learning, students will develop scientific critical thinking and reasoning skills.

Students must choose ONE of the following AP-level science courses after completing the honors-level or AP Physics 1 prerequisite:

AP Biology - 50 Minutes x 5 Classes/Week

In this course, students are expected to use knowledge obtained in Honors Biology and apply it to novel situations, including student-guided labs. Concepts covered include scientific process, biochemistry, cells, microbiology, heredity, evolution, plant and animal physiology and function, classification, and ecology. Frequent discussions enable students to better see the unifying relationships among all types of organisms. Four unifying themes are emphasized throughout the year:

1. The process of evolution drives the diversity and unity of life
2. Biological systems utilize free energy and molecular building blocks to grow, to reproduce and to maintain dynamic homeostasis
3. Living systems store, retrieve, transmit and respond to information essential to life processes
4. Biological systems interact, and these systems and their interactions possess complex properties

> Prerequisite: Honors Biology

AP Chemistry – 50 Minutes x 5 Classes/Week

This course includes topics such as chemical kinetics, thermodynamics, chemical equilibria and its applications. Students are engaged in hands-on laboratory work, integrated throughout the course, which accounts for 25 percent of the course. This course will focus on fostering deeper conceptual understanding under the six Big Ideas outlined by the College Board, and all of the problem solving, laboratory investigations and activities are founded in the practice of chemistry, which is broken down into the seven Science Practices. Although students will still be required to complete mathematical manipulations, the focus throughout will remain on the underlying conceptual ideas. Therefore, when performing mathematical calculations students should be able to relate their solutions to the conceptual underpinnings behind the math.

> Prerequisite: Honors Chemistry

AP Physics 1 – 50 Minutes x 5 Classes/Week

This course is an algebra-based, introductory college-level physics course that explores topics such as Newtonian mechanics (including rotational motion); work, energy, and power; mechanical waves and sound; and introductory, simple circuits. Through inquiry-based learning, students will develop scientific critical thinking and reasoning skills. Students must be enrolled in Pre-Calculus or higher if they take this course. *This course requires teacher approval.*

AP Physics 2– 50 Minutes x 5 Classes/Week

This course is an algebra-based, introductory college-level physics course that explores topics such as:

- › Fluid statics and dynamics
- › Thermodynamics with kinetic theory
- › PV diagrams and probability
- › Electrostatics
- › Electrical circuits with capacitors
- › Magnetic fields
- › Electromagnetism
- › Physical and geometric optics
- › Quantum, atomic, and nuclear physics.

Through inquiry-based learning, students will develop scientific critical-thinking and reasoning skills.

› **Prerequisite:** Honors Biology

Mathematics – 50 Minutes x 5 Classes/Week

Students will take the next course in the BASIS math progression

Pre-Calculus B: This is the second year of a two-year course that provides an in-depth coverage of trigonometry, logarithms, analytic geometry, and upper-level algebraic concepts. It completes the study of geometry (which is spread over four years in the Saxon series). Primary emphasis is on a continuation of the practice of intermediate algebraic concepts and skills while the upper-level algebraic concepts and skills are introduced. The study of trigonometry that began in the middle of Algebra II is continued, and a heavy emphasis is placed on the study of trigonometric functions, common and natural logarithms, and the equations of conics.

Pre-Calculus AB: This course provides an in-depth coverage of trigonometry, logarithms, analytic geometry, and upper-level algebraic concepts. It completes the study of geometry (which is spread over four years in the Saxon series). Primary emphasis is on a continuation of the practice of intermediate algebraic concepts and skills while the upper-level algebraic concepts and skills are introduced. The study of trigonometry begun in the middle of Algebra II is continued, and a heavy emphasis is placed on the study of trigonometric functions, common and natural logarithms, and the equations of conics.

AP Calculus AB: This is the first part of a two-year calculus course. Students will learn that the functions can be used to describe real life situations. They will understand that in mathematical language the change can be expressed as derivative and the accumulation or gain as an integral. Students will master a wide variety of differentiation techniques and integration methods to deal with more complex functions. This course is designed to cover all of the topics required for the AB Calculus AP test.

AP Calculus BC: This course covers topics in the first part of calculus, i.e. the basic concepts of differential and integral calculus, will be thoroughly reviewed and reinforced. Students will also master the topics required in the BC Calculus AP test. These will include different methods for solving simple differential equations (analytic, graphical, and iterative) and the basic theory of the convergence of the infinite series. Students will work on improving their test taking skills throughout the whole school year.

World Language - 50 Minutes x 5 Classes/Week

Grade 10 students will continue with the next course in the World Language sequence: Spanish III, French III, Mandarin III, AP Chinese, or Latin IV.

Elective(s) – 50 Minutes x 5 Classes/Week

Grade 10 students will have the option to choose up to two electives (students must take at least one elective course) from the offerings presented each year. This class will span the entire duration of the year and will focus in on a topic of interest. Common electives are physical education, creative writing, visual arts, computer science, drama, and band. Advanced Placement electives will also be offered. Examples include AP Computer Science A and AP Economics. Elective courses may change based on student interest and teacher availability. Students will state their elective preferences in late February..

Course Planning Worksheet:

	Courses:		AP Exam Requirements*:
English¹	<input type="checkbox"/> Honors English Language <input type="checkbox"/> Honors English Literature <input type="checkbox"/> AP English Language <input type="checkbox"/> AP English Literature	<i>Students may substitute Honors English 10 for their first AP English course</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> At least one AP English exam
History / Social Science²	<input type="checkbox"/> Economics <input type="checkbox"/> AP US Government & Politics <input type="checkbox"/> AP European History/World History: Modern <input type="checkbox"/> AP United States History	<i>Students may be awarded Economics credit for coursework completed in grade 8.</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> At least one AP History exam
Math	<input type="checkbox"/> Algebra I/Geometry <input type="checkbox"/> Algebra II/Geometry <input type="checkbox"/> PreCalculus (AB, A, B) <input type="checkbox"/> AP Calculus AB	<i>Students must take a math course every year of enrollment. Students may be awarded Algebra and Geometry credits for coursework completed prior to grade 9.</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> At least one AP Calculus exam
Science	<input type="checkbox"/> Honors Biology <input type="checkbox"/> Honors Chemistry <input type="checkbox"/> Honors Physics OR AP Physics I	<u>Select at least one:</u> <input type="checkbox"/> AP Biology <input type="checkbox"/> AP Chemistry <input type="checkbox"/> AP Physics 1 <input type="checkbox"/> AP Physics 2 <input type="checkbox"/> AP Physics C	<input type="checkbox"/> At least one AP Science exam
World Language	<input type="checkbox"/> World Language grade 9 <input type="checkbox"/> World Language grade 10 <input type="checkbox"/> World Language grade 11	<i>Students must take a language course every year of enrollment, and must obtain all three credits in the same language.</i>	Not Required
Electives^{3,4}	<input type="checkbox"/> Fine Art _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Physical Education (PE) <input type="checkbox"/> AP or General Elective _____	<input type="checkbox"/> General Elective(s) _____ _____ _____	<input type="checkbox"/> AP Elective exam <input type="checkbox"/> AP Elective exam
Standard Diploma Requirement	<i>Students must complete all course requirements listed in the Graduation Requirements document located in Parent Square. To graduate with honors or high honors, all course requirements, including taking at least 6 AP exams, must be completed prior to grade 12.</i>		<input type="checkbox"/> Must earn a score of 3 or better on at least one exam.
Honors Diploma	<i>To graduate with honors, students must earn a final course grade of B- or higher in each Capstone Course and fulfill the college counseling requirement.</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Humanities Capstone/AP Research <input type="checkbox"/> Science Capstone <input type="checkbox"/> Math Capstone <input type="checkbox"/> World Language Capstone <input type="checkbox"/> College Counseling		
High Honors Diploma⁵	<i>To graduate with High Honors, students must fulfill the requirements for one of the following options:</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Senior Project <input type="checkbox"/> Senior Research Project (AP Research) <i>Project requirements for both include: off-campus work, external advisor, weekly blog, and community presentation.</i>		

* Students who enroll in an AP course and do not take the College Board AP exam are required to take an alternate-AP exam administered by the school.

1 Students are advised to take AP English Language and Composition followed by AP English Literature.

2 Students entering BASIS Independent Fremont after grade 8 are assigned a modified timeline to fulfill required courses.

3 Students may fulfill the Physical Education (PE) elective credit with outside coursework by requesting the form from the Director of Academic Programs.

4 Students are advised to take a second AP Science.

Graduation Planning Sheet:

GRADE	ENGLISH	HISTORY	SCIENCE	MATH	LANGUAGE	ELECTIVES ¹
9 1 AP Course / Exam Required	Honors Language + Honors Literature	AP U.S. Government	Honors Science 1	Algebra II/ Geometry, Pre- Calculus, or Higher	World Language	9th Grade Elective(s)
10 2 AP Courses / Exam Required	AP Language or Honors English 10	AP U.S. History ³	AP Science 1 ² + Honors Science 2	Pre-Calculus, AP Calculus AB, or Higher	World Language	10th Grade Elective(s)
11 3 AP Courses / Exam Required	AP Literature or AP Language	AP European History or AP World History: Modern ⁴	AP Science 2 ² + Honors Science 3	AP Calculus AB, AP Statistics, or Higher	World Language (may be AP)	11th Grade Elective(s)
12 College Counseling Required	Capstone Humanities or AP Research		Capstone Science	Capstone Math	Capstone Foreign Language	12th Grade Elective (Optional)

¹ Electives – Students must take at least one elective per year in grades 9-11, including a fine arts credit and a PE credit (PE can be completed off campus for credit). In addition, students who enter BASIS Independent Fremont in Grade 9 must take Economics before graduating.

² Students are advised to take a second AP Science.

BASIS Curriculum Schools Graduation Requirements

This outlines the requirements needed to graduate from our school. All BASIS Curriculum Schools follow a common set of academic requirements. Policies and requirements outlined are common to all schools, but routes to fulfilling requirements may vary by school.

Minimum Graduation Requirements Summary

ENGLISH: 4 credits

- 2 Honors Level: Literature and Language
- 2 AP Level or 1 AP Level + Honors Level 10

SCIENCE: 4 credits

- 3 Honors level: Biology, Chemistry, & Physics
- 1 AP level

WORLD LANGUAGE: 3 credits

- Chinese, French, Spanish, Latin

MATHEMATICS: 5 credits

- Including AP Calculus AB

HISTORY: 3.5 credits

- Economics and World History
- 3 AP level: U.S. Government & Politics, European History/ AP World History Modern (depending on graduating class) U.S. History

ELECTIVES: 4 credits

- Including AP level science or AP level elective, Fine Art and PE
- Additional Requirements
- College Counseling Seminar

UC A-G Requirements

A: HISTORY: 2 Credits

- 1 World
 - World History or
 - European History
- 1 US History
 - U.S. History

B: ENGLISH: 4 Credits

- Honors Language
- Honors Literature
- AP Language or Honors English
- AP Literature, AP Language, or Capstone English

C: MATH: 3 Credits

D: SCIENCE: 2 Credits (Lab Sciences)

E: WORLD LANGUAGE: 2 Credits

F: VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS: 1 Credit

G: ELECTIVE: 1 Credit