**SOUTH-DOYLE HIGH SCHOOL**

**NON-CTE ELECTIVE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS**

**For 9-12 Grades:**

**Science Fiction (Grades 9-12)** Intended for students with an interest in the genre of science fiction. Literature discussing several prevalent themes within science fiction

(Man and Science, Man in Progression, Alien Encounters, and visions of the Future) will be discussed. The curriculum includes projects, vocabulary development, discussion, composition, and oral presentations.

**Journalism Yearbook I (Grades 9-12)** Students develop their journalism skills (writing, photography, and design) while publishing the yearbook. Students must be strong writers who are highly motivated and outgoing (willing to interview students daily). Must be able to meet deadlines and work with a team of other student journalists. Previous photography experience is welcome but not required. By application only. **(Taken during Advisory).**

**Journalism Newspaper I (Grades 9-12)** Elective credit for students who are proficient in writing skills and have an interest in the production of publications. Curriculum includes the history and elements of journalistic style and the application of journalistic techniques to the development of a publication. Students who wish to take this course must be highly motivated, work well with peers, and be responsible in following through with assignments. By application only. **(Taken during Advisory).**

**Creative Writing (Grades 9-12)** One unit elective course for students who have an interest in studying and writing in the genres of poetry, drama, short story, and non-fiction. The curriculum includes the study of the genres, the students’ personal examples of the genres and their development of a portfolio.

**Visual Art 1 (Grades 9–12)** Designed for students in grades 9-12 who are enrolling in a high school art course for the first time. Provides a variety of experiences that build on the concepts, techniques, and use of media introduced in the middle school program. Generally laboratory in nature, Art I explores and gives experience in two-dimensional (drawing, painting, printmaking) and three-dimensional (sculpture, ceramics, textiles) format and integrates art history, design principles, and aesthetic criticism and response. This class is required in order to take advanced art courses.

**Advanced Art General (Grades 9-12)** For students who have successfully completed Art I and, who, in the judgment of the instructor, show a sufficient level of interest and/or ability that would warrant continued study in Visual Art. **Prerequisite: Art I and teacher recommendation.**

**Advanced Art Photo (Grades 9-12) )** For students who have successfully completed Art I and, who, in the judgment of the instructor, show a sufficient level of interest and/or ability that would warrant continued study in Visual Art. Photography is the topic of concentration. **Prerequisite: Art I and teacher recommendation.**

**Army JROTC (Grades 9-12)** A joint program provided by the KCS System in partnership with the United States Department of Defense. This class provides a curriculum designed to help each student achieve the following goals: (1) Develop habits of orderliness, precision, and respect for authority in our society, (2) Instill patriotism, (3) Develop a high degree of personal honor, self-reliance, individual discipline, and leadership, (4) Instill pride, self-respect, confidence, and a desire to do one’s best in any endeavor, and (5) Promote a basic understanding of national security requirements and the role of the armed service in the national defense structure. Each student must successfully complete an introductory phase before advancing to the next level of the program.

**Band March (Grades 9-12)** Provides students with the opportunity of continuing the study and performance of music emphasizing traditional bad literature and selected orchestral transcriptions. The course focuses on the study of the elements of music and the development of individual and group performance skills. Individual practice, after-school practice and rehearsal sessions, and performances are required**. Prerequisite: Previous experience. Can be taken for multiple credits.**

**Band Color Guard (Grades 9-12)** As a specialized part of the marching band, students selected by audition to the color guard will enroll in the Marching Band Color Guard class (Fall Semester). This class will offer members of the Fall Color Guard the opportunity to master basic techniques in body movement, flag, and weapons as well as exposing the student to more advanced techniques later in the semester.

**Band Concert (Grades 9-12)** Musical groups concentrating their skills on musical performances for advanced woodwinds, brass, and percussion performance. The band plays a variety of styles and types of music selected from the standard high school band repertoire. The goal is to develop proficiency on a chosen instrument through rehearsals, lessons and various performances. The band will have several performance opportunities throughout the semester. Through this class students will improve instrumental skills, elevate performance skills as well as develop an understanding of the performance process. All National Music Standards are addressed and the highest expectations of musicianship and behavior are expected. Rehearsals and performances during the school day, before and after the regular school day, as well as on non-school days, may be required. **Prerequisite: Previous study of a band instrument and Music Instructor’s signature. Can be taken for multiple credits.**

**Vocal Music 3 (Mixed Chorus) (Grades 9-12)** For choral students who wish to study and perform a wide variety of sacred and secular choral literature of easy to medium difficulty in a variety of styles. Emphasis is placed on vocal production and basic choral techniques, intonation phrasing, sight-reading and ear training, general musicianship skills, understanding and attitudes, and the responsibility of individuals to the group. There are no prerequisites, although some basic minimum requirements may be recommended by the teacher. Performances and after-school rehearsals are required. Can be taken for multiple credits.

**Female Chorus (Grades 9-12)** For female choral students to study and perform a wide variety of sacred and secular choral literature of easy to medium difficulty from all historical and performance styles. Emphasis is placed on the development of individual and ensemble skills in vocal production, tone quality, diction, intonation, balance and blend, sight-reading and music reading, and ensemble esprit de corps. Previous choral experience is not a prerequisite but would be beneficial. Performances and after-school rehearsals are required. Can be taken for multiple credits.

**Male Choir (Grades 9-12)** For male choral students to study and perform a wide variety of sacred and secular choral literature of easy to medium difficulty from all historical and performance styles. Emphasis is on vocal production and basic choral techniques, intonation, phrasing, sight-reading and ear training, general musicianship skills, understandings and attitudes, and the responsibility of individuals to the group. There are no prerequisites, although some minimum requirements may be recommended by the teacher. Performances and after-school rehearsals are required. Can be taken for multiple credits.

**Visual Literacy (Grades 9-12)** Students will interpret visual forms of media and analyze and evaluate the effectiveness of the various types. Visual forms of media can include film, print, photography, stage productions, short videos, and graphic design. These forms of media will be used to develop the student’s ability to understand messages conveyed through images. Throughout the course, students will examine and analyze the effect of various forms of media in order to broaden a student’s cultural literacy.

**For 10-12 Grades:**

**Advanced Physical Education (Grades 10-12)** Provides progressive skills, techniques and strategies in various activities. **Prerequisite: PE**

**Advanced Strength & Conditioning (Grades 10-12)** Designed to allow students to make gains in conditioning, muscle tone, and strength while emphasizing the importance of making an active healthy lifestyle a lifelong practice. Health and skill related activities such as flexibility, speed, agility, coordination and power, along with self-discipline and a positive attitude will be the content focus. Proper nutrition will also be examined and emphasized.

**Psychology (Grades 10-12)** Paired with Sociology for a full credit. Course explores human behavior – what people do, how they think, and why they act as they do. The student is exposed to a broad survey of the fundamental principles of psychology.

**Sociology (Grades 10-12)** Paired with Psychology for a full credit. Presents sociology as a field of study of man in his culture and the organization of society. The student will be exposed to current social issues through the use of periodicals and other current materials.

**Music Theory (Grades 10-12)** A course for students with a particular interest and aptitude in music. Emphasis is on an in-depth study of music fundamentals through ear training and reading and writing music. Musical analysis as well as simple rhythmic, melodic, and harmonic dictation will be explored. Maximum credit one unit**. Prerequisite: Teacher approval**

**Choral Ensemble (Grades 10-12)** Consists of students with previous choral experience selected by audition. The nature of the group may vary according to the discretion of the director and the needs of the school music program. Emphasis is placed on an advanced degree of musicianship, increased harmonic and rhythmic reading skills, and increased performance skills. Opportunities are provided for performance in school and community. Performances and after-school rehearsals are required. Choreography and/or costumes may be required by the teacher for some ensembles. **This is an auditioned group. Can be taken for multiple credits.**

**For 11-12 Grades:**

**Shakespeare and the Renaissance (Grades 11-12)** For students interested in further study of Shakespeare's history and literature. The course will outline and study Shakespearean drama and poetry in depth, and his contributions and influence will be connected to present day literature, film and every day life.

**Advanced Journalism Newspaper (Grades 11-12)** A continuation and application of the skills covered in Journalism Newspaper I**. Prerequisite: Journalism Newspaper I; by application only.**

**Band Inst Ensem (Grades 11-12)** Provides students with the opportunity of continuing the study and performance of music literature relative to a specific ensemble, such as Jazz, Percussion, Brass, or Woodwind. The course focuses on advanced individual and group performance skills relative to the selected medium. Individual practice, after-school practice and rehearsal sessions, and performances are required**. Prerequisite: Teacher approval. Can be taken for multiple credits.**