Norton Science & Language Academy

Creating Global Citizens

Middle School
Catalog of Classes
2020-2021

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Departmental Course Offerings

Norton Science and Language Academy exists to prepare students for post-secondary success through a relevant, rigorous college preparatory education.

Promotion to the next grade level / Repeat course procedure:

NSLA feels strongly that students should take ownership of their course work. The following will serve as the guideline for repeating courses and/or a particular middle school grade level:

- If two or more core classes (English, Science, History, Spanish Language Arts, and Math) are failed in a semester, the student may be required to repeat the school year in the grade in which the courses were failed.
- Math courses are sequential and integrated in nature. If a student fails one or two semesters of a middle school math course, they may be required to repeat that course and/or attend a support class the following year. Students may be required to give up their elective class to repeat the course.
- Core academic classes (English, Math, Science, and History) will have a grading scale of A, B, C, D, and F.
- Retention will be considered on an individual basis after thorough dialogue with parents, teachers, and administrators to determine the most appropriate course of action.

This Catalog of Classes gives descriptions of all courses, which may be offered at Norton Science & Language Academy. . Although listed in the Catalog of Classes, some courses may not be offered if there is not sufficient demand.

LANGUAGE ARTS DEPARTMENT

PHILOSOPHY

It is important for every student to develop skills and knowledge that transfer to high school and ultimately ensure graduation with communication skills which enable the student to write and speak clearly and concisely. Further, it is important for every student to have a greater appreciation of literature through improved reading skills. With these skills and appreciation, a student may realize a greater capacity for success.

GOALS

The purpose of the English Department is to develop literacy. Members of the English Department strive to assist students to improve their ability to use written language correctly, think critically, and speak clearly. Students will improve their academic success through better reading skills and they will increase their knowledge and appreciation of literary works.

COURSE OFFERINGS

Language Arts – Grade 6
Language Arts – Grade 7
Language Arts – Grade 8
Journalism and Yearbook (elective)

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS 6	
Level: 6	**Course Length:** Year 5 credits per semester
Prerequisites: None	
Course Description: Course components include the study of rich and varied literary and informational text; writing in the genres of argumentative, informative/explanatory, narrative, and summaries of reading materials; instruction in language arts skills and strategies. Students will work independently, as well as collaboratively, to learn how to understand what they read and evaluate an author's assumptions and claims. Students will conduct research that will require the analysis of resources and accurate interpretation of literary and informational text. Students will use technology and digital media to enhance their reading, writing, speaking, listening and language use.	

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS 7	
Level: 7	**Course Length:** Year 5 credits per semester
Prerequisites: None	
Course Description: Students will read books on historical themes as well as classic and contemporary works. Emphasis will be on improving reading and writing skills. Writing will primarily be of literature-based instruction and will include essays and responses based on the Common Core State Standards for Grade 7 Language Arts. The curriculum will include additional rigor, depth, and pace as deemed appropriate for the class by the instructor.	

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS 8	
Level: 8	**Course Length:** Year 5 credits per semester
Prerequisites: None	
Course Description: Students will read books on historical themes as well as classic and contemporary works. Emphasis will be on improving reading and writing skills. Writing will primarily be of literature-based instruction and will include essays and responses based on the Common Core State Standards for Grade 8 Language Arts. The curriculum will include additional rigor, depth, and pace as deemed appropriate for the class by the instructor.	

JOURNALISM AND YEARBOOK	
Level: 6-8	**Course Length:** Year 5 credits per semester
Prerequisites: None	
Course Description: In this course students will gain skills in page design, advanced publishing techniques, copywriting, editing, and photography while producing a creative, innovative yearbook and school paper which records school memories and events. There is an emphasis on journalism skills in this class that will apply to both the yearbook and paper. Participants gain useful, real world skills in time management, marketing, teamwork, and design principles. To produce a complete yearbook and school paper, students will attend school activities to take photographs and gather information to be used in the yearbook and paper.	

MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT

PHILOSOPHY

It is the vision of the Math Department to create learning environments where students practice and acquire the knowledge of mathematics. Students should be able to proficiently apply a range of numerical, algebraic, geometric, and statistical concepts and the skills to formulate, analyze, and solve real world problems. The learning environment will facilitate inquiry, use of technology and the exploration of real world phenomena. It will support continuous development of mathematical skills and the appreciation of mathematics as a discipline. The mathematics program seeks to graduate students who will possess a sense of numbers, data analysis, spatial relationships, symbolic representations, and the ability to communicate mathematics with others.

GOALS

1. To help the student perform and master mathematical skills and algebraic processes.
2. To encourage students to seek precise solutions and use logical thinking.
3. To help students develop problem solving strategies and critical thinking skills.

COURSE OFFERINGS

Math 6
Math 7
Math 8

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

<table>
<tr><td colspan="2">Math 6</td></tr>
<tr><td>Level: 6</td><td>Course Length: Year 5 credits per semester</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">Prerequisites: None</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">Course Description: This mathematics course is designed to help develop the following skills: (1) connecting ratio and rate to whole number multiplication and division and using concepts of ratio and rate to solve problems; (2) completing understanding of division of fractions and extending the notion of number to the system of rational numbers, which includes negative numbers; (3) writing, interpreting, and using expressions and equations; and (4) developing understanding of statistical thinking. In addition, this course helps students gain the skills/standards needed to prepare for the CAASPP and is aligned with the 6th grade CCSS math and the standards of mathematics. It will feature lectures, presentations, cooperative projects, and interactive activities to enhance the learning experience.</td></tr>
</table>

Math 7	
Level: 7	**Course Length:** Year 5 credits per semester
Prerequisites: None	
Course Description: This mathematics course is designed to help students develop: (1) understanding of and applying proportional relationships; (2) understanding of operations with rational numbers and working with expressions and linear equations; (3) understanding of solving problems involving scale drawings and informal geometric constructions, and working with two- and three-dimensional shapes to solve problems involving area, surface area, and volume; and (4) ability to draw inferences about populations based on samples. In addition, this course helps students gain the skills/standards you need to prepare for the CAASPP and is aligned with the 7th grade CCSS math and the standards of mathematics. It will feature lectures, presentations, cooperative projects, and interactive activities to enhance the learning experience.	

Math 8	
Level: 8	**Course Length:** Year 5 credits per semester
Prerequisites: None	
Course Description: This Mathematics course is designed to help students develop: (1) formulating and reasoning about expressions and equations, including modeling an association in bivariate data with a linear equation, and solving linear equations and systems of linear equations; (2) grasping the concept of a function and using functions to describe quantitative relationships; (3) analyzing two- and three-dimensional space and figures using distance, angle, similarity, and congruence, and understanding and applying the Pythagorean Theorem. In addition, this course helps students gain the skills/standards you need to prepare for the CAASPP and is aligned with the 8th grade CCSS math and the standards of mathematics. It will feature lectures, presentations, cooperative projects, and interactive activities to enhance the learning experience.	

SPANISH LANGUAGE ARTS DEPARTMENT

PHILOSOPHY

The world is rapidly changing, especially in terms of technology, communication, politics and culture. Clearly, language is the connection that better enables us to identify, express, tolerate cultures, and share our ideas and self with each other. The study of a second language allows students to successfully compete in an ever-changing world. All Middle School Students are required to take a one year long Spanish Language Arts course.

GOALS

The study of a second language allows students the opportunity to prepare themselves to successfully compete in today's world. Teachers will assist students in accomplishing the following goals: Develop an understanding and appreciation (verbal communication, written comprehension, and active listening) of the second language. Various forms of technology will be employed to refine these skills. Teachers will encourage insight and appreciation of the second language as well as facilitate an understanding of the history, culture and people of that land while preparing your child to be successful in a dynamic world of the 21 st century where communication, acceptance, and tolerance of others are necessary for success and a peaceful co-existence.

COURSE OFFERINGS

Spanish Language Arts 6
Spanish Language Arts 7
Spanish Language Arts 8
Spanish Language Journalism (elective)
Spanish Culture (elective)

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Spanish Language Arts 6	
Level: 6	**Course Length:** Year 5 credits per semester
Prerequisites: None	
Course Description: The 6th grade Spanish Language Arts course is designed to improve written and oral fluency in Spanish. Students expand their vocabulary through the reading, writing compositions, culture, music, guided dictations, and grammar practice.	

Spanish Language Arts 7	
Level: 7	**Course Length:** Year 5 credits per semester
Prerequisites: None	
Course Description: Seventh grade Spanish language arts focuses on literacy skill development through literature including fiction and non-fiction, composition, grammar concepts, vocabulary study, communication and research skills through the theme People, Places and Environments.	

Spanish Language Arts 8	
Level: 8	**Course Length:** Year 5 credits per semester
Prerequisites: None	
Course Description: Eighth grade Spanish Language Arts focuses on Spanish literacy skill development through comparison of story, drama, and poetry. Literature including fiction and non-fiction, composition, grammar concepts, vocabulary study, communication and research skills is used to improve Spanish literacy and fluency.	

Spanish Language Journalism	
Level: 6-8	**Course Length:** Year 5 credits per semester
Prerequisites: None	
Course Description: This course will guide students in the methods and styles of reporting and writing in Spanish for print and broadcast. It will prepare students to take part in the Journalism Department's media practice. This class will guide students with a groundwork in various forms of media, including writing, videography, broadcasting, or public speaking. Students will develop the basic skills necessary to run a news broadcast and will cover topics such as interviewing, videography, photography, and familiarity with Latin America and abroad. Students will have opportunities to use editing software to design creative videos with a variety of topics. This course will focus on beginning level students. Students will have the opportunity to present their work to the NSLA student body. Conducted in Spanish.	

Spanish Culture	
Level: 6-8	**Course Length:** Year 5 credits per semester
Prerequisites: None	
Course Description: Introduction to Spanish traditions, culture and more. The course focuses on understanding, recognizing, learning all aspects of Spanish culture, traditions and more. The primary purpose of the course is to prepare students to be aware of our multicultural (hispanic) society. Also, students would be prepared to be well-rounded global citizens who can understand and are aware of the cultural influences of the Spanish and Latino heritage at home and abroad. Students in this course will learn differences amongst the hispanic community in language usages, traditions that involve music, dances and celebrations in general. As part of the course, students will be provided opportunities to read, write, listen, and speak Spanish while they work towards becoming linguistically and culturally literate. Conducted in Spanish.	

SOCIAL STUDIES DEPARTMENT

PHILOSOPHY

Helping students understand their relationship to the world, nation, and local community is the primary concern of the Social Studies Department. Courses are designed to broaden the student's awareness of how various human social systems have developed and presently function. At Norton Science and Language Academy, students are required to take a year long Spanish Social Studies class during each year of middle school with the belief that a cohesive language and content program provides students the opportunity to obtain a deep and critical understanding of the content area and to acquire and maintain high levels of biliteracy.

GOALS

Students will develop a better understanding of: (1) Their obligation to the world, nation, and local societies to which they belong. (2) The interrelationships that exist between all peoples in the world – and the necessity that exists for cooperation between all peoples; (3) How our country has developed into a world leader and the obligations that go along with that status.

COURSE OFFERINGS

Spanish Social Studies 6
Spanish Social Studies 7
Spanish Social Studies 8
Current Affairs (elective)

Spanish Social Studies 6	
Level: 6	**Course Length:** Year 5 credits per semester
Prerequisites: None	
Course Description: Students will be actively engaged in learning about early mankind. This includes the growth of early civilizations such as the Mesopotamians, Assyrians, Phoenicians, Egyptians, Greeks, and the Romans.Students will lLocate the four river civilizations and know the difference between Confucianism, Taoism, and Buddhism. Students will also Study the early Chinese and Indian civilizations. There will be research projects, hands-on activities, and historical novel reading in Spanish implemented into the instruction. The course is taught entirely in Spanish.	

Spanish Social Studies 7	
Level: 7	**Course Length:** Year 5 credits per semester
Prerequisites: None	
Course Description: In the Spanish World History Social Studies course, students will study the social, cultural, geographical, and technological changes that occurred in Europe, Africa, Asia, and the Americas in the years AD 500 – 1789. They will examine the growing economic interaction among civilizations as well as the exchange of ideas, beliefs, technologies, and commodities. Students will learn about the growth of Enlightenment philosophy and assess the rise of democratic ideas that influence the world today. The course will be taught entirely in Spanish.	

Spanish Social Studies 8	
Level: 8	**Course Length:** Year 5 credits per semester
Prerequisites: None	
Course Description: This Spanish United States History Social Studies course is designed for students to study the ideas, issues, and events from the framing of the Constitution up to the Rise of Industrialism. Students will understand the development of America's democratic institutions, particularly the shaping of the Constitution. Students will trace the development of American politics, society, culture and economy and relate them to the emergence of regional differences, and the U.S. Civil War. Students will study the rise of industry in the U.S. The course is taught entirely in Spanish.	

Current Affairs	
Level: 6-8	**Course Length:** Year 5 credits per semester
Prerequisites: None	
Course Description: This class focuses on world and local issues, such as economics, government and conflict. This course uses newspapers, online media, cartoons, and newscasts to support class discussion. Students will understand the significance of current events in the news by summarizing and analysing news stories. Students will learn to distinguish between fact and opinion. They will also analyze information to be able to recognize bias and points of view. Additionally students participate in presentations and work with primary source materials and opinion pieces in order to better understand the world around them.	

SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

PHILOSOPHY

Science is an important part of education in the life of each of our students. We encourage parents and students to keep in mind that studying science is not merely an excellent way to prepare for a career, but also represents an opportunity to gain a better understanding and a fuller appreciation of the world in which we live. Such knowledge protects us from being misled and allows us to make informed decisions. Informed decision-making must surely be one of the most vital responsibilities of citizenship in a democratic society.

At Norton Science and Language Academy we encourage students to carefully practice the art of scientific inquiry as they internalize the body of knowledge that science has provided them in the hope that it will provide useful guidance throughout their lives.

GOALS

In each course, the Science Department provides:

1. A stimulating rigorous and thought provoking curriculum
2. Investigations, laboratory experiences, outdoor activities and inquiry based projects that emphasize the development of science-based skills (procedural knowledge), working within and among the greater community of scientists, critical thinking, and the scientific method
3. Encouragement to consider education as a lifelong experience
4. A scientific knowledge base (declarative knowledge) that will lead to successful career choices
5. Reasons to respect the balance between humanity and the natural environment 6. Opportunities to use a variety of technologies related to science.

COURSE OFFERINGS

Science 6
Science 7
Science 8
Space Science (elective)
Destination Imagination (elective)

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Science 6	
Level: 6	**Course Length:** Year 5 credits per semester
Prerequisites: None	
Course Description: The 6th grade middle school science course, is based on an integrated grouping (as determined by the California Department of Education) of Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) will introduce students to the following concepts (arranged topically): In area oflife sciences, students will be introduced to structure and function of all living things at a cellular level, how information is processed using special sensory receptors, how animals and plants grow and develop and how genetic traits and their variations are inherited. In the earth sciences students will learn about the roles water plays in Earth's surface processes, patterns in our planet's weather and climate, how humans are impacting Earth systems and how the planet's global climate is changing. In the area of the physical sciences, students will be learning about the definitions of energy, how energy is conserved and how energy is transferred in the environment. During the year as students are studying various aspects of life, earth and physical sciences, students will be learning to define and delimit engineering problems while being asked to develop possible solutions.	

Science 7	
Level: 7	**Course Length:** Year 5 credits per semester
Prerequisites: None	
Course Description: The7th grade middle school science course, is based on an integrated grouping (as determined by the California Department of Education) of Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) will introduce students to the following concepts (arranged topically): In area oflife sciences, students will be introduced to how matter and energy flows through organism, how organisms are interdependently linked to each other within ecosystems, how matter cycles and energy flows through ecosystems, how ecosystems function dynamically in an effort to remain resilient to change, how when humans impact the planet's biodiversity, it impact them, how energy is involved in chemical process and in everyday life, and how they can develop possible solution to various problems related to living systems. In the earth sciences students will learn about various earth materials and systems, the roles water plays in the Earth's surface processes, the history of the earth, how humans are interacting with earth resources, natural hazards, and about plate tectonics and other large-scale earth processes. In the area of the physical sciences, students will be learning about the structure and property of matter, how chemicals react and why they do react, and the	

definitions of energy. During the year as students are studying various aspects of life, earth and physical sciences, students will be learning to define and delimit engineering problems while being asked to develop possible solutions and considering how their solutions can be optimized.

Science 8	
Level: 8	**Course Length:** Year 5 credits per semester
Prerequisites: None	
Course Description: The 8th grade middle school science course is based on the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS), and introduces students to concepts in space science, earth science, proper science practices, and engineering design. An emphasis is put on group collaboration, proper recording of information, graphing of results, and factors that lead to variation in science. Students will learn about the basic structure of the universe, stars, the Sun's solar system and Earth's place within that system, as well as the history of Earth from a planetary perspective. Utilizing the development of models, students will describe and classify the role of gravity, cyclic patterns and cycles, scale properties and formation theories within our solar system and universe. Students will construct an explanation of evidence for how geoscience processes have changed Earth's surface at varying times and spatial scales. Students will incorporate technology and instrumentation, such as force probes and Earth imaging software, to research how historical and modern technology have contributed to our understanding of the universe. Students will implement engineering techniques, learn to define criteria and constraints of a design problem, evaluate, analyze, and test competing designs to develop models.	

Space Science	
Level: 6-8	**Course Length:** Year 5 credits per semester
Prerequisites: None	
Course Description: This course will explore topics in Astronomy and Space Exploration. Requirements include the development of an Astronomer's Journal, researching current events in Astronomy and Space Exploration. Public viewings and observations of the night sky may be required that may be in the late evening or early morning hours. Students will actively participate in GAVRT projects that support NASA/JPL missions. Hands on projects of physical models and research topics are required.	

Destination Imagination	
Level: 6-8	**Course Length:** Year 5 credits per semester
Prerequisites: None	
Course Description: This is a project-based class. Students work in teams to solve hands-on academic challenges, develop problem solving skills, and use their creativity to communicate results in unique ways. Requirements include developing an engineering plan and project development. Students may choose the Campus or Tournament tracks. For students interested in presenting their projects along with other teams from around the state at Tournaments, time outside the classroom will be required.	

PHYSICAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

PHILOSOPHY

Physical Education is a vital element in a comprehensive, well-balanced educational program that empowers students for life after secondary education. A positive learning experience in physical education can be a major contributing factor in the optimum development of an individual in all aspects of life: physical, emotional, mental and social. Through physical education, an individual has the opportunity to understand the importance of obtaining and maintaining a high level of physical fitness, developing good sportsmanship and socially desirable behavior, working towards maximum physiological development, developing a positive self-image and participating in a wide variety of physical activities.

GOALS

Students are exposed to a variety of wellness experiences that help them expand socially, physically, emotionally, and mentally. A diverse curriculum provides students with essential skills that support them in becoming aware, resilient and healthy. Satisfying and successful experiences in physical education should develop in an individual the desire to choose a continued active life-style.

COURSE OFFERINGS

Physical Education 6-8
Strength and Conditioning 6-8 (elective)

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

<table>
<tr><td colspan="2">Physical Education</td></tr>
<tr><td>Level: 6-8</td><td>Course Length: Year 5 credits per semester</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">Prerequisites: None</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">Course Description: This course combines various forms of movement and fitness education, along with multiple opportunities to learn and play individual and team sports within the physical education class (i.e. movement concepts, basketball, football, fitness training) Classroom lessons will also be a vital part of the course throughout the semester. National Content Standards in Physical Education will be the focus of this course.</td></tr>
</table>

Strength and Conditioning	
Level: 6-8	**Course Length:** Year 5 credits per semester
Prerequisites: None	

Course Description: The objective of this Strength & Conditioning course is for students to learn about the principles of exercise science including, proper warm-up and cool-down methods, exercise testing, spotting procedures, muscle groups, and proper exercise techniques. Students will design and participate in an individualized conditioning program including resistance training and aerobic exercise. Students will take what is learned in this class and use it for lifelong fitness programming.

Students are expected to:

- Understand the components of physical fitness and how they relate to overall physical wellness.
- Demonstrate & apply appropriate safety practices, rules, and procedures in all physical activities
- Demonstrate appropriate social and cooperative behaviors in all activities, including teamwork, respect, and sportsmanship.
- Be able to identify community resources that can further expand personal interests in lifetime / leisure sports.
- Demonstrate competency in selected fitness exercises through demonstration and a final exam.

Student Leadership

The goal of this class is to develop student leaders that positively represent the voices of the school, selflessly serving students and staff, while also striving to reach the community. Leadership will support the student body by being positive examples and providing a fun, exciting atmosphere in which all students want to be involved.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Student Leadership	
Level: 7-8	**Course Length:** Year 5 credits per semester
Prerequisites: By Application	
Course Description: Students will learn to teach, train, and develop the skills and behaviors of good leadership, including understanding leadership styles, goal setting, time management, communication skills, human relations, managerial skills, and project management. All leadership students will be expected to organize and attend events and activities, as well as speak to small and large groups. They will adhere to the school code of conduct and eligibility. At all times they will act responsibly, behave appropriately, demonstrating respect to both students and staff. All student leaders are expected to maintain acceptable attendance and grades.	

SPECIAL NEEDS DEPARTMENT

The Special Needs Department offers math and reading supports designed for students with special needs. These supports provide access to general education for students who require assistance beyond the regular classroom. Programs offered through this department include SAI support. The SAI program works with students in reading, written language and/or math, as well as other subjects as needed. Parents are responsible for bringing their students each day and on time for the classes. Once a student is in the program, he or she will be tested annually to chart academic progress and an Individualized Educational Planning meeting (IEP) will be held to discuss the student's progress and plan annual goals and objectives. Our SAI program is a full-day, five-day a week placement. These students are non-severe but require supports in order to make optimum progress. Annual testing and IEP meetings are also held to discuss progress, plan goals and determine placement and services.

PHILOSOPHY

Reading, writing, and math are an important part of everyone's life. Good reading, writing and math skills increase a student's chance for success in school and later in a career.

GOALS

1. To bring students back up to grade level by using small groups, direct, intensive teaching;
2. To increase each student's academic levels as measured by standardized tests;
3. To increase each student's individual work study skills (includes homework responsibility) as
4. measured by teacher observations and checklists of progress;
5. To increase each student's individual test taking skills as measured by teacher observation, student
6. work samples, and informal assessments; and
7. To increase overall student's skills according to the Individualized Education Program (IEP).

MAJOR OUTCOMES

Students will:

1. Read a variety of materials and write effectively, in both individualized and class guided format.
2. Build decoding and encoding skills which will enhance reading ability;
3. Use direct instruction to develop reading, writing and mathematics skills;
4. Apply mathematical concepts in a variety of settings;

5. Demonstrate understanding of a variety of writing purposes;
6. Develop and increase oral and silent reading rate for improved fluency;
7. Demonstrate understanding of content materials in reading, writing and mathematics at the student's appropriate grade level; and
8. Demonstrate competency of California content standards depending on student's Individual Education Program (IEP). Special Needs classes will count for 5 credits per class per semester on the student's transcript. Coursework to be determined at IEP or through Case Manager.

Course Offerings

ISAI Math 6
ISAI Math 7
ISAI Math 8
ISAI Language Arts 6-8
ISAI Science 6
ISAI Science 7
ISAI Science 8
ISAI Social Studies 6
ISAI Social Studies 7
ISAI Social Studies 8
ISAI Study Skills 6-8
ISAI PE 6-8
ISAI Strength and Conditioning 6-8

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

ISAI Math 6	
Level: 6	**Course Length:** Year 5 credits per semester
Prerequisites: Individualized Education Plan	
Course Description: Direct instruction is provided in the area of this mathematics. This course is designed to help develop the following skills: (1) connecting ratio and rate to whole number multiplication and division and using concepts of ratio and rate to solve problems; (2) completing understanding of division of fractions and extending the notion of number to the system of rational numbers, which includes negative numbers; (3) writing, interpreting, and using expressions and equations; and (4) developing understanding of statistical thinking. In addition, this course helps students gain the skills/standards needed to prepare for the CAASPP and is aligned with the 6th grade CCSS math and the standards of mathematics. It will feature lectures, presentations, cooperative projects, and interactive activities to enhance the learning	

experience.Students with learning disabilities need a variety of accommodations and modifications. Also, we provide differentiated, and scaffolded instruction to meet the needs of our students with accordance to their IEP.

ISAI Math 7	
Level: 7	**Course Length:** Year 5 credits per semester
Prerequisites: Individualized Education Plan	
Course Description: Direct instruction is provided in the area of this mathematics. This course is designed to help students develop: (1) understanding of and applying proportional relationships; (2) understanding of operations with rational numbers and working with expressions and linear equations; (3) understanding of solving problems involving scale drawings and informal geometric constructions, and working with two- and three-dimensional shapes to solve problems involving area, surface area, and volume; and (4) ability to draw inferences about populations based on samples. In addition, this course helps students gain the skills/standards you need to prepare for the CAASPP and is aligned with the 7th grade CCSS math and the standards of mathematics. It will feature lectures, presentations, cooperative projects, and interactive activities to enhance the learning experience. Students with learning disabilities need a variety of accommodations and modifications. Also, we provide differentiated, and scaffolded instruction to meet the needs of our students with accordance to their IEP.	

ISAI Math 8	
Level: 8	**Course Length:** Year 5 credits per semester
Prerequisites: Individualized Education Plan	
Course Description: Direct instruction is provided in the area of this mathematics. This course is designed to help students develop: (1) formulating and reasoning about expressions and equations, including modeling an association in bivariate data with a linear equation, and solving linear equations and systems of linear equations; (2) grasping the concept of a function and using functions to describe quantitative relationships; (3) analyzing two- and three-dimensional space and figures using distance, angle, similarity, and congruence, and understanding and applying the Pythagorean Theorem. In addition, this course helps students gain the skills/standards you need to prepare for the CAASPP and is aligned with the 8th grade CCSS math and the standards of mathematics. It will feature lectures, presentations, cooperative projects, and interactive activities to enhance the learning experience. Students with learning disabilities need a variety of accommodations and modifications. Also, we provide	

differentiated, and scaffolded instruction to meet the needs of our students with accordance to their IEP.

ISAI ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS	
Level: 6-8	**Course Length:** Year 5 credits per semester
Prerequisites: Individualized Education Plan	
Course Description: Direct instruction is provided in the area of course components includes the study of rich and varied literary and informational text; writing in the genres of argumentative, informative/explanatory, narrative, and summaries of reading materials; instruction in language arts skills and strategies. Students will work independently, as well as collaboratively, to learn how to understand what they read and evaluate an author's assumptions and claims. Students will conduct research that will require the analysis of resources and accurate interpretation of literary and informational text. Students will use technology and digital media to enhance their reading, writing, speaking, listening and language use. Students with learning disabilities need a variety of accommodations and modifications. Also, we provide differentiated, and scaffolded instruction to meet the needs of our students with accordance to their IEP.	

Science 6	
Level: 6	**Course Length:** Year 5 credits per semester
Prerequisites: Individualized Education Plan	
Course Description: Direct instruction is provided in the area of 6th grade middle school science course, is based on an integrated grouping (as determined by the California Department of Education) of Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) will introduce students to the following concepts (arranged topically): In area oflife sciences, students will be introduced to structure and function of all living things at a cellular level, how information is processed using special sensory receptors, how animals and plants grow and develop and how genetic traits and their variations are inherited. In the earth sciences students will learn about the roles water plays in Earth's surface processes, patterns in our planet's weather and climate, how humans are impacting Earth systems and how the planet's global climate is changing. In the area of the physical sciences, students will be learning about the definitions of energy, how energy is conserved and how energy is transferred in the environment. During the year as students are studying various aspects of life, earth and physical sciences, students will be learning to define and delimit engineering problems while being asked to develop possible solutions. Students with learning disabilities need a variety of accommodations and modifications. Also, we	

provide differentiated, and scaffolded instruction to meet the needs of our students with accordance to their IEP.

ISAI Science 7	
Level: 7	**Course Length:** Year 5 credits per semester
Prerequisites: Individualized Education Plan	
Course Description: Direct instruction is provided in the area of 7th grade middle school science. The course, is based on an integrated grouping (as determined by the California Department of Education) of Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) will introduce students to the following concepts (arranged topically): In area oflife sciences, students will be introduced to how matter and energy flows through organism, how organisms are interdependently linked to each other within ecosystems, how matter cycles and energy flows through ecosystems, how ecosystems function dynamically in an effort to remain resilient to change, how when humans impact the planet's biodiversity, it impact them, how energy is involved in chemical process and in everyday life, and how they can develop possible solution to various problems related to living systems. In the earth sciences students will learn about various earth materials and systems, the roles water plays in the Earth's surface processes, the history of the earth, how humans are interacting with earth resources, natural hazards, and about plate tectonics and other large-scale earth processes. In the area of the physical sciences, students will be learning about the structure and property of matter, how chemicals react and why they do react, and the definitions of energy. During the year as students are studying various aspects of life, earth and physical sciences, students will be learning to define and delimit engineering problems while being asked to develop possible solutions and considering how their solutions can be optimized. Students with learning disabilities need a variety of accommodations and modifications. Also, we provide differentiated, and scaffolded instruction to meet the needs of our students with accordance to their IEP.	

ISAI Science 8	
Level: 8	**Course Length:** Year 5 credits per semester
Prerequisites: Individualized Education Plan	
Course Description: Direct instruction is provided in the area of 8th grade middle school science course is based on the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS), and introduces students to concepts in space science, earth science, proper science practices, and engineering design. An emphasis is put on group collaboration, proper recording of information, graphing of results, and factors that lead to variation in science. Students will learn about the basic	

structure of the universe, stars, the Sun's solar system and Earth's place within that system, as well as the history of Earth from a planetary perspective. Utilizing the development of models, students will describe and classify the role of gravity, cyclic patterns and cycles, scale properties and formation theories within our solar system and universe. Students will construct an explanation of evidence for how geoscience processes have changed Earth's surface at varying times and spatial scales. Students will incorporate technology and instrumentation, such as force probes and Earth imaging software, to research how historical and modern technology have contributed to our understanding of the universe. Students will implement engineering techniques, learn to define criteria and constraints of a design problem, evaluate, analyze, and test competing designs to develop models. Students with learning disabilities need a variety of accommodations and modifications. Also, we provide differentiated, and scaffolded instruction to meet the needs of our students with accordance to their IEP.

ISAI Physical Education	
Level: 6-8	**Course Length:** Year 5 credits per semester
Prerequisites: Individualized Education Plan	
Course Description: This course combines various forms of movement and fitness education, along with multiple opportunities to learn and play individual and team sports within the physical education class (i.e. movement concepts, basketball, football, fitness training). National Content Standards in Physical Education will be the focus of this course. Students with learning disabilities need a variety of accommodations and modifications. Also, we provide differentiated, and scaffolded instruction to meet the needs of our students with accordance to their IEP.	

ISAI Strength and Conditioning	
Level: 6-8	**Course Length:** Year 5 credits per semester
Prerequisites: Individualized Education Plan	
Course Description: The objective of this Strength & Conditioning course is for students to learn about the principles of exercise science including, proper warm-up and cool-down methods, exercise testing, spotting procedures, muscle groups, and proper exercise techniques. Students will design and participate in an individualized conditioning program including resistance training and aerobic exercise. Students will take what is learned in this class and use it for lifelong fitness programming. Students with learning disabilities need a variety of accommodations and modifications. Also, we provide differentiated, and scaffolded instruction to meet the needs of our students with accordance to their IEP.	

Study Skills

PHILOSOPHY

Study Skills are an important part of education in the life of each of our students with disabilities. Our students will receive services that are driven by the students' needs and identified by their Individual Education Plan (IEP.) Norton models a team philosophy approach for special education services. It is through the cooperative efforts, knowledge, and resources of all team members Including; student, parents/guardians, teachers and other school personnel that produces positive outcomes for our students with disabilities.

GOALS

The purpose of the Special Education Department is to develop literacy. Members of the Special Education Department strive to assist students with disabilities to improve their ability to use written language correctly, think critically, and speak clearly. Students will improve their academic success through better reading skills and they will increase their knowledge and appreciation of literary works. In regards to math, is to help the student perform and master mathematical skills and algebraic processes. We encourage students to seek precise solutions and use logical thinking. As well as, to help students develop problem solving strategies and critical thinking skills.

ISAI Study Skills	
Level: 6-8	**Course Length:** Year 5 credits per semester
Prerequisites: Individualized Education Plan	
Course Description: The Study Skills program is designed to assist students with disabilities to learn, understand, and reinforce concepts assigned in the general education curriculum. Students with disabilities will have the opportunity to develop and strengthen wholesome study habits and learning strategies through various instructional methods and strategies. Teachers also will provide differentiated, and scaffolding instruction based on individual needs of the students. Students' specific goals and objectives identified in the student's IEP will be combined into the class. The study skills teacher will collaborate with general education teachers on an on-going collaborative team effort to develop study strategies and design lessons to best meet academic needs of these students. Study Skills is a support class for students with disabilities to access grade level material in hopes of producing positive outcomes.	