



**YANGON  
INTERNATIONAL  
SCHOOL**

2020-2021

# High School Course Descriptions

Grades 9-12

Yangon International School is a college preparatory school that seeks to foster the development of the whole child, who is a participating global citizen and lifelong learner: one who is academically well-prepared, socially responsible, culturally sensitive, and personally fulfilled.

## Welcome from the Secondary Principal

Dear YIS Secondary School Students and Parents:

Yangon International School offers a wide variety of courses based on an American curriculum model, with our educational and instructional materials sourced from the United States and internationally.

We have a well-qualified faculty with staff from the United States, Canada, and other countries, in addition to host-country nationals teaching in the Myanmar Studies program. Our school's low student to teacher ratio ensures great relationship building between students and faculty, promoting a school atmosphere which will maximize learning.

The high school course of study reflects a college preparatory school environment, with a variety of rigorous course choices as a cornerstone of our current program. Each year we evaluate our course offerings to ensure we meet student needs and satisfy university requirements.

The graduating class of 2022 will be the last cohort of students to participate in the Advanced Placement program at YIS. Beginning with the graduating class of 2023, YIS students will follow the International Baccalaureate Diploma Program (IBDP) course of study in grades 11 and 12. Starting with the class of 2023, students will have the option of earning an IBDP Diploma alongside the traditional American High School Diploma we currently offer.

Thank you for taking the time to review our YIS course catalog, and please feel free to discuss this information with our staff.

Sincerely,

David Falconer  
Secondary School Principal  
Yangon International School

## Expected Schoolwide Learning Results

When students leave Yangon International School, we expect them to be prepared for their next educational experience by being

### Academically well prepared

Students should:

- ◆ Reach their potential in all curricular areas.
- ◆ Be effective problem solvers and critically analyze information.
- ◆ Be effective communicators.
- ◆ Demonstrate inquisitiveness and curiosity.
- ◆ Be responsible, independent learners and thinkers.

### Socially responsible

Students should:

- ◆ Demonstrate honesty and integrity.
- ◆ Demonstrate social and environmental responsibility.
- ◆ Work cooperatively and collaboratively with each other as a team.
- ◆ Develop habits of punctuality, accountability, and responsibility.

### Culturally sensitive

Students should:

- ◆ Understand and respect cultural and individual differences.
- ◆ Develop a global perspective.

### Personally fulfilled

Students should:

- ◆ Be self-confident, open-minded, and adaptable.
- ◆ Develop healthy habits and lifestyle.
- ◆ Work toward their development of talents and interests.
- ◆ Value effort as a means to accomplish goals.
- ◆ Gain a better understanding of self.
- ◆ Display attributes of a lifelong learner.

## Graduation Requirements

	Required for Graduation	Recommended for University
English	4	4
Mathematics	3	4
Science	3	4
Social Studies	3	4
Foreign Language*	2	3
Physical Education	1.5	2
Health	0.5	0.5
Visual & Performing Arts	1	1
Technology	1	1
Myanmar Studies**	1	-
College and Career	0.5	-
Electives	5.5	3.5
Total Credits	26	

One year of credit is equal to a full year course. (Credit is given on a semester basis.)

Students are required to complete a minimum of 26 credits to graduate.

Transfer students are required to take a prorated number of credits.

\* Languages must be consecutive levels of the same language.

\*\* Myanmar Studies is waived for foreign students.

## Advanced Placement Program at YIS

YIS is proud to offer Advanced Placement (AP) courses. AP courses typically cover first-year university subject matter. High school students passing a College Board AP Exam (scaled 1- 5) with a 3, 4, or 5 may earn university credit. While success in AP courses is highly regarded, each university chooses whether to grant the student credit depending on their unique credit policies.

Due to the high workload expected in an AP course at YIS, any students requesting more than three (3) AP courses in one-year must seek pre-approval through their Academic Counselor, the AP Coordinator, and the Principal. The counselor will initiate this pre-approval process when necessary.

Students enrolled in an AP course must take the AP exam in May. Approximate cost for each exam is \$124 USD depending on the exam; and payment is due prior to ordering the AP exam in the Fall. A portion of this fee is non-refundable.

Parents and students should be aware that AP semester grades below 60% may result in removal from the AP course at the end of the first semester. Any student withdrawing from an AP course will have this noted on their official transcript with the grade at the time the course was dropped. The fee for the AP exam is not fully refundable.

The graduating class of 2022 will be the last cohort of students to participate in the Advanced Placement program at YIS. Beginning with the graduating class of 2023, YIS students in grades will follow the International Baccalaureate Diploma Program<sup>17</sup> course of study in grades 11 and 12.

### **AP Courses Available at YIS\***

- AP Biology
- AP Calculus AB
- AP Calculus BC
- AP Chemistry
- AP Chinese Language and Culture
- AP English Literature and Composition
- AP Environmental Science
- AP Macroeconomics
- AP Microeconomics
- AP Physics 1
- AP Physics 2
- AP Psychology
- AP Spanish Language and Culture
- AP Studio Art: 2D
- AP Studio Art: 3D
- AP Studio Art: Drawing
- AP World History

\*Depending on enrollment, some AP Courses may be combined or not offered.

## AP Course Prerequisite Information

Students should meet the course requirements listed below to maximize their potential for success in AP Courses.

Due to the high workload expected in an AP course at YIS, students requesting more than three (3) AP courses in one-year must seek pre-approval through their Academic Counselor, the AP Coordinator, and the Principal. The counselor will initiate this pre-approval process when necessary.

AP semester grades below 60% may result in removal from the AP course at the end of the first semester. Students may only transfer out of AP Courses with teacher permission. Any student withdrawing from an AP course will have this noted on their official transcript with the grade at the time the course was dropped.

**All students who register for AP Courses will be required to take the AP Exam for that course at the end of the school year.** Approximate cost for each exam is about \$124 USD depending on the exam and payment is due prior to ordering the AP exam in the Fall. The payment for exams is not refundable. Students who register for AP Courses may be required to complete summer assignments or reading.

Course	Grades	Prerequisite Courses Prerequisites Courses must have been passed with a final semester average and exam grade of 90 or higher for both semesters. This may be verified at year end.
AP Biology	10-12	Biology
AP Calculus AB	11-12	PreCalculus
AP Calculus BC	12	AP Calculus AB
AP Chemistry	11-12	Chemistry
AP Chinese Language & Culture	10-12	Chinese 3 or permission of teacher
AP English Literature & Composition	12	English 11
AP Environmental Science	10-12	Biology, Geometry
AP Macroeconomics	11-12	Economics
AP Microeconomics	11-12	Economics
AP Physics 1	11-12	Physics
AP Physics 2	12	AP Physics 1, with a score of 3 or above on the AP Physics 1 exam

AP Psychology	10-12	English 9
AP Spanish Language & Culture	10-12	Spanish 3 or permission of teacher
AP Studio Art: 2D	11-12	Advanced Studio Art
AP Studio Art: 3D	11-12	Advanced Studio Art
AP Studio Art: Drawing	11-12	Advanced Studio Art
AP World History	11-12	World History II

# English.

YIS English courses are guided by the Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts/Literacy (CCSS).

## English 9

**Credits: 1.0**

Grade Level 9

Prerequisite: None

English 9 students develop their knowledge of textual elements and structures enabling them to engage in close reading of increasingly complex texts; developing analytical skills and strategies while moving from a variety of literature genres to a variety of nonfiction genres. Students will read a variety of fictional texts ranging from micro fiction, short stories, and novels to practice identifying story elements and their impact on author's purpose. Students will also read a range of advertisements across marketing sub-genres to analyze how advertisers market a product and persuade consumers. Students apply their knowledge of informational texts to read critically, making inferences and analyzing bias. Student's knowledge of argument is extended through immersion and study of two related genres: personal narrative and personal essay culminating in the writing of their own personal essay.

## English 10

**Credits: 1.0**

Grade Level 10

Prerequisite: English 9

Throughout the English 10 course students develop their knowledge of textual elements and structures enabling them to engage in close reading of increasingly complex texts. They also develop analytical skills and strategies while moving from a variety of literature genres to a variety of nonfiction genres including foundational documents from American history, multi-media, and visual texts. Students work with literary non-fiction, literature, and informational text types in both reading and writing. Across the course, students continue to deepen their skills of argumentation with close study and development of claims, counterclaims, line of reasoning, and building evidence-based arguments.

## English 11

**Credits: 1.0**

Grade Level 11

Prerequisite: English 10

English 11 focuses on close reading and effective writing. Literary selections largely focus on American Literature through some comparative international works are also studied. Course readings include multiple genres such as novels, novellas, short stories, nonfiction, poetry, and literary theory. Students practice writing in a variety of formats and for a variety of audiences including analysis, interpretation, poetry, research, free writing, narration, description, comparison and contrast, and cause and effect. Students refine presentation techniques and critical response through classroom presentations, and a formal speech.



**English 12****Credits: 1.0**

Grade Level 12

Prerequisite: English 11

English 12 incorporates the study of reading, language development, literature, composition, listening, and speaking. The study of language arts at the twelfth-grade level integrates the reading and literature skills with the study of language mechanics, writing, spelling, and vocabulary to create a well-rounded, balanced language arts program.

**AP Literature and Composition****Credits: 1.0**

Grade Level 12

Prerequisite: See AP Prerequisites Page

AP Literature and Composition focuses on close reading and effective writing. The literature in class is primarily British Literature but includes selections by American and international authors and poets. The course includes multiple genres such as novels, novellas, short stories, nonfiction, poetry, satire, and literary theory. Students write in a variety of formats and for a variety of audiences including responding to College Admissions essay prompts, analysis, interpretation, poetry, argumentation, free writing, narration, description, comparison and contrast, and cause/effect. With the major writing assignments, students learn how to use textual evidence to support a thesis.

Throughout the year students practice taking sections of the AP Literature exam in class. There may also be opportunities to receive practice outside of class. Students examine the AP test in detail throughout the year to improve their individual abilities.

# Foreign Language

YIS Foreign Language courses are guided by the American Council for the Teaching of Foreign Languages Standards (ACTFL).

## Chinese I

**Credits: 1.0**

Grade Level 9+

Prerequisite: None

Chinese 1 is a beginner class. In this beginner course, students develop Chinese language skills in five goal areas: communication, cultures, connections, comparisons, and communities. The basic character concepts such as character structures, radicals, basic strokes, stroke order, and the four tones will be introduced to Chinese 1 class. We emphasized on listening and speaking skills through spontaneous interaction.

## Chinese II

**Credits: 1.0**

Grade Level 9+

Prerequisite: Chinese I or placement test

Chinese II is an intermediate beginner class. In this intermediate course, students develop Chinese language skills in 3 communicative modes, which are interpersonal, interpretive and presentational, and the 5 Cs goals. They are communication, cultures, connections, comparisons, and communities. Students are expected to use correct grammar and compound sentence structures in both written and oral forms to communicate. Listening and speaking practice involve students using Chinese to communicate their thoughts spontaneously in real-life situations with accuracy and fluency. Writing skills are gradually developed through a process of guided writing on topics familiar to students.

## Chinese III

**Credits: 1.0**

Grade Level 9+

Prerequisite: Chinese II or placement test

Chinese III is an intermediate class. Students develop Chinese language skills in 3 communicative modes, which are interpersonal, interpretive and presentational, and the 5 Cs goals. They are communication, cultures, connections, comparisons, and communities. Students are expected to use correct grammar and compound sentence structures in both written and oral forms to communicate. Listening and speaking practice involve students using Chinese to communicate their thoughts spontaneously in real-life situations with accuracy and fluency. Writing skills are gradually developed through a process of guided writing on topics familiar to students.

## Chinese IV

**Credits: 1.0**

Grade Level 9+

Prerequisite: Chinese III or placement test

Chinese IV is an advanced intermediate class. Students develop Chinese language skills in 3 communicative modes, which are interpersonal, interpretive and presentational, and the 5 Cs goals. They are communication, cultures, connections, comparisons, and communities. Students are expected to use correct grammar and compound sentence structures in both

written and oral forms to communicate. Listening and speaking practice involve students using Chinese to communicate their thoughts spontaneously in real-life situations with accuracy and fluency. Writing skills are gradually developed through a process of guided writing on topics familiar to students.

## AP Chinese Language and Culture

**Credits: 1.0**

Grade Level 10+

Prerequisite: See AP Prerequisites Page

The AP course prepares students to demonstrate their level of Chinese proficiency across the three communicative modes (Interpersonal, Interpretive, and Presentational) and the five goal areas (Communication, Cultures, Connections, Comparisons, and Communities) as outlined in the Standards for Foreign Language Learning in the 21st Century. It aims to provide students with ongoing and varied opportunities to further develop their proficiency across a full range of language skills within a cultural frame of reference reflective of the richness of Chinese language and culture. Instructional materials and activities are carefully and strategically adapted from authentic sources to support the linguistic and cultural goals of the course. This course prepares students for the AP Chinese exam.

## Spanish I

**Credits: 1.0**

Grade Level 9+

Prerequisite: None

In Spanish I, students meet the four skills for language learning: listening comprehension, speaking, reading and writing. Students are introduced to common vocabulary terms and phrases. Students learn to comprehend a variety of grammar patterns and begin to produce ways of language communication integrating a primary vocabulary and some common grammar patterns. Students participate in simple conversations and respond to basic conversational input. Students learn about the culture of the Hispanic world.

## Spanish II

**Credits: 1.0**

Grade Level 10+

Prerequisite: Spanish I or placement test

In Spanish II, students continue their introduction to Spanish with the four skills for language learning: listening comprehension, speaking, reading and writing. Students build on their foundation from Spanish I as they expand their vocabulary, grammar, and phrases. Students' comprehension of spoken and written material also grows, and students can initiate conversations and give more extensive answers to questions. Students continue to learn about the culture of the Hispanic world through integration of cultural activities in the classroom.

## Spanish III

**Credits: 1.0**

Grade Level 11+

Prerequisite: Spanish II or placement test

In Spanish III, students continue with the four skills for language learning: listening comprehension, speaking, reading and writing. Students build on their foundation knowledge as they expand their vocabulary, grammar, and phrases. Students' comprehension of spoken and

written material also grows, and students can initiate conversations and give more extensive answers to questions. Students continue to learn about the culture of the Hispanic world through integration of cultural activities in the classroom.

### Spanish IV/AP Spanish Language & Culture

**Credits: 1.0**

Grade Level 12

Prerequisite: See AP Prerequisites Page

Students further their mastery of the four skills for language learning: listening comprehension, speaking, reading and writing. Students build on their foundation from previous Spanish courses as they expand their vocabulary, grammar, and phrases. Students show progress in Spanish language acquisition through quizzes, tests, and speaking/writing activities as well as numerous interactive activities reinforcing vocabulary and grammar. Students taking AP Spanish will complete the AP Spanish Language and Culture Exam in the Spring.

# Technology

YIS Technology courses are guided by the International Society for Technology in Education Standards (ISTE).

## IT9

Grade Level 9

**Credits: .5**

Prerequisite: IT9

The Web Design/Coding course is a project-based course that teaches students how to build their own web pages. Students will learn the languages HTML and CSS, and they will create their own live home

## Web Design/Coding

Grade Level 10+

**Credits: .5**

Prerequisite: IT9

The Web Design/Coding course is a project-based course that teaches students how to build their own web pages. Students will learn the languages HTML and CSS, and they will create their own live homepages to serve as portfolios of their creations. By the end of this course, students will be able to explain how web pages are developed and viewed on the Internet, analyze and fix errors in existing websites, and create their very own multi-page websites.

## Yearbook

Grade Level 10+

**Credits: .5**

Prerequisite: IT9

Yearbook gives students marketable experience in print media publishing. This course works solely toward the completion and selling of a large finished product, Yangon International School's yearbook.

In class, students compose, construct, and edit all elements of computerized text layout, graphic art, and digital photography. Students work on many clerical operations, make announcements, maintain signs, conduct student polls, take photos, and write articles. The course, in turn, covers many of the content standards and objectives encountered in English courses, as does it also for purposes of art, business, and computer technology courses.

Because Yearbook is a monetary business, students must cooperatively work with others, must be hardworking, and be eager to be creative. Out of class and after school, students will shoot digital photos, sell and design advertising, and distribute yearbook order forms.

## Introduction to Cybersecurity

Grade Level 10+

**Credits: .5**

Prerequisite: none

As our world becomes increasingly dependent on technology, cybersecurity is a topic of growing importance. It is crucial that companies and individuals take precautions to protect themselves from the growing threat of cyber attacks. The Introduction to Cybersecurity is the first online blended K12 cybersecurity course. It is designed for students with no background in computer science and there are no specific course prerequisites. Students will learn foundational cybersecurity topics and digital citizenship and cyber hygiene all through a web-based platform.

## Introduction to Tech Design

**Credits: .5**

Grade Level 10+

Prerequisite: none

This course uses a framework of design thinking to examine the following topics 1) Introduction to Design - Design Thinking and idea generation. 2) Introduction to 3D Modeling - Students learn the software used to 3d print, and solve engineering problems. 3) Introduction to Animation/Visual Effects/Video Game Development - Students will learn blender, and be able to create short animations, visual effects, 3d modeling, and video game development. 4) Data Analysis/Big Data - processing large data sets that are analyzed computationally to reveal patterns, trends, and associations, especially relating to human behavior and interactions

# Mathematics

YIS Mathematics courses are guided by the Common Core State Standards for Mathematics (CCSS).

## Math 9

Credits: 1.0

Grade Level 9+

Math 9 is the first course of a two year IB-preparatory integrated math sequence. Students will extend their understanding of numerical manipulation to algebraic manipulation; synthesize understanding of function; deepen and extend understanding of linear relationships; apply linear models to data that exhibit a linear trend; establish criteria for congruence based on rigid motions; and apply the Pythagorean Theorem to the coordinate plane. Students will be expected to work collaboratively and individually and to demonstrate their learning through a variety of assessments. Students will be exposed to rich instruction that develop their conceptual understanding, procedural skill, problem solving skills, critical thinking abilities, and strengthen situational analysis abilities.

Starting in the 2020-2021 school year, all YIS freshmen will take Math 9 to prepare them for Math 10 (to be offered in 2021-2022), which will equip them with the foundational math skills necessary for IB Math courses.

## Algebra II

Credits: 1.0

Grade Level 10+

Prerequisite: Geometry

Algebra 2 emphasizes problem-solving, real-world application, and study skills necessary to succeed in higher-level math. Students consistently work on the standard language and symbols of math and with word problems.

In Algebra 2, students become better at understanding the concepts of algebra. Students study functions: Linear equations in one variable; Systems of linear equations in several variables; Quadratic functions; Power functions; Root functions; Exponential functions; Logarithms and logarithmic functions; Trigonometric functions; and polynomials. Arithmetic and geometric series are introduced in this course.

Technology is integrated throughout the curriculum. Graphing calculators are used extensively as visualization tools and as symbolic manipulators to expedite algebraic computations, or to check answers arrived at by paper-and-pencil means. There will be many problems that students cannot solve without graphing calculators. Students are required to own a graphing calculator.

**Statistics****Credits: 1.0**

Grade Level 11+

Prerequisite: Algebra II

Statistics is an introductory, non-calculus based, college-level course in statistics. The course covers most of the requirements for introductory statistics courses in fields such as psychology, sociology and health sciences, and it also prepares students for higher-level calculus-based statistics courses in fields such as engineering, business, and mathematics. There is a strong emphasis on practical skills and projects as well as the use of spreadsheets (both for research and business purposes). Students are exposed to four broad conceptual themes: exploring data to describe patterns and departures from patterns, sampling and experimentation, anticipating patterns by exploring random phenomena using probability and simulation, and using statistical inference to estimate population parameters and to test hypotheses.

**Precalculus****Credits: 1.0**

Grade Level 11+

Prerequisite: Algebra II

Precalculus prepares students for the further study of calculus in general, and specifically for AP Calculus AB. The beginning of the course consists of a study of functions, including polynomial, rational, power, and exponential functions, as well as their inverses, including logarithmic functions. The next part of the course consists of a study of trigonometry, including trigonometric identities, relationships, and graphs of the six trigonometric functions and their inverses. The final part of the course covers topics related to the SAT, SAT subject tests and preparation for the AP Calculus BC course. Examples of these topics include: matrices, conic sections, vectors, parametric equations, polar coordinates and introduction to sequences, series and limits.

Graphing calculators, interactive Geogebra drawings, and other electronic resources will be used in class sessions to deepen students' understandings of these topics, including function transformations, domain and range, end-behavior, asymptotic behavior, increasing and decreasing intervals, maxima and minima, and real-world problems applying these ideas. Other topics to be addressed are the Binomial Theorem, Synthetic Division & the Rational Root Theorem, elementary matrix and vector operations and parametric equations. Some calculus topics will be introduced throughout the year (but not mastered), including limits, continuity, and the average change function.

**Calculus****Credits: 1.0**

Grade Level 11-12

Prerequisite: PreCalculus

The Calculus course introduces students to differential and integral calculus and prepares students to successfully complete a university calculus course. Students learn about limits, derivatives and integrals and their applications. Limits are examined both in terms of the value of a function and the slope of a function at a point, the later resulting in the limit-definition of the derivative. In the Differential Calculus section of the course, students will learn about a multitude of differentiating techniques (including the product rule, quotient rule, chain rule) for polynomial, rational, power, trigonometric, exponential, and combination functions. In the Integral Calculus section of the course, students will learn anti-differentiation techniques for the same functions.



Throughout the course real-world applications, including kinematic problems (position, velocity, and acceleration), maxima and minima and area (extended to volumes of rotation) will be covered. Depending on the needs of the students content related to the social sciences and business may also be presented.

## **AP Calculus AB**

**Credits: 1.0**

Grade Level 11-12

Prerequisite: See AP Prerequisites Page

AP Calculus introduces students to differential and integral calculus and prepares students for the culminating AP Calculus AB Exam given yearly in May. Students learn about limits and limiting situations. This will culminate in several forms of the limit-definition of the derivative. In the Differential Calculus section of the course, students will learn about a multitude of differentiating techniques (including the product rule, quotient rule, chain rule, and implicit derivatives) for a multitude of familiar and unfamiliar functions (including polynomial, rational, power, trigonometric, exponential, and combination functions).

In the Integral Calculus section of the course, students will learn about a multitude of anti-differentiation techniques with, again, numerous familiar and unfamiliar functions. Applications of the integral will be introduced as well. Students will finish the AP Calculus AB syllabus near the end of March, allowing 4-6 weeks to review topics before the AP Calculus Exam in early in the month of May. After the AP Calculus Exam, students will examine a few other topics and applications of calculus.

Calculus techniques are used to work on real-world applications, including kinematic problems (position, velocity, and acceleration), related rates, maxima and minima (optimization), and other applications.

## **AP Calculus BC**

**Credits: 1.0**

Grade Level 12

Prerequisite: See AP Prerequisites Page

AP Calculus BC is designed to provide students who have successfully completed the AB course with a deeper understanding of calculus or to provide advanced students who have no prior calculus experience with an understanding of calculus equivalent to a full year of calculus at the university level. The aim of the course is to prepare students for the culminating AP Calculus BC Exam given yearly in May.

The course covers all the topics of the AB course (see course description above), but includes additional topics within the three big ideas of limits, differentiation and integration as well as the fourth big idea of series. Examples of additional topics are: derivatives of parametric or vector valued functions and functions in polar coordinates, advanced techniques for integration such as integration by parts and partial fractions, calculating the length of a curve and approximations using Euler's method.

# Visual & Performing Art

YIS Visual and Performing Arts courses are guided by the National Core Arts Standards (NCAS).

## High School Choir

Credits: .5

Grade Level 9 (required); 10+ (elective)

Prerequisite: None

Choral singers make music through solo and ensemble settings. They study singing in unison and multiple parts from aural and written traditions. Musicians apply critical listening, music theory, and singing techniques to their work. Formal concerts offer an opportunity to display student learning and music making. This course meets for full block for the entire year and earns 1 credit.

## Beginning Guitar

Credits: .5

Grade Level 10+

Prerequisite: None

Beginning Guitar is designed to introduce guitar playing to beginners or mostly new players. No previous music study is needed. Emphasis is placed on learning guitar through playing popular songs.

Musicians taking beginning guitar can plan to learn basic strumming patterns using standard rhythmic notation and a pick, 1<sup>st</sup> position major and minor chord shapes, guitar tuning, barre chord basics, simple finger picking techniques (p i m a), major and minor pentatonic scales, singing while playing, and analyzing songs for various components like rhythm, pitch, chords, and musical form. While this class incorporates singing, *it does not include choral singing*.

Individual practice and study of both teacher and student selected songs helps direct the music selection. Guitarists perform in a recital at the end the term for classmates and parents. Success comes from being able to perform accurately on the instrument: You will play and sing a lot in this course and submit written assignments infrequently.

## Advanced Guitar

Credits: .5

Grade Level 10+

Prerequisite: Beginning Guitar (or demonstrated ability)

Advanced Guitar is designed to further a guitarist's skills on the instrument and develop musical understanding through song-writing and analysis. Previous music study is necessary. Emphasis is placed on learning guitar through playing popular songs.

Musicians in advanced guitar can plan to continue learning strumming patterns using rhythmic notation and a pick, complex chord shapes, playing melodies in ensemble settings using finger picking (p i m a), major and minor diatonic scales, singing while playing, and analyzing songs for various components like rhythm, pitch, chords, and musical form. While this class incorporates singing, *it does not include choral singing*. Individual practice and study of both teacher and

student selected songs helps direct music's selection. Guitarists perform in a recital at the end of the term for classmates and parents. Standards based grading means success comes from being able to perform accurately on the instrument: You will play and sing a lot in this course and submit written assignments infrequently.

## Studio Art 9

**Credits: .5**

Grade Level

Prerequisite: None

Studio Art 9 is a year long course designed to build a strong foundation of skill in art. The units of study explore artworks from a variety of artists and artwork throughout history and within cultures. Students create art in both two and three dimensional forms. Students study artists and their work to gain an understanding of the meanings and intent of the artists work. A deeper understanding of the formal elements and principles of design is gained as students experiment with materials to create their own work.

We practice classroom critiques to encourage students to gain an understanding of how to critically analyze a work of art using the vocabulary of art terms as their guide. We also explore works and art movements from the modern and contemporary art worlds.

## Advanced Studio Art

**Credits: .5**

Grade Level 10+

Prerequisite: Studio Art 9

Advanced Studio Art builds upon the strong foundation of knowledge and skill from Studio Art 9, as well as prepare students who plan to take Advanced Placement Studio Art. This course will challenge students to deepen their understanding and experience of Art as they continue to build conceptual and excessive skills. Students create works of art in response to fundamental visual problems as well as a wide range of ideas in the Arts. A deeper understanding of the formal elements and principles of design will be gained as students experiment with materials to create their work. Any works students create in this course may be considered for inclusion in the AP Studio Art portfolios.

## Ceramics

**Credits: .5**

Grade Level 10+

Prerequisite: Studio Art 9

Ceramics explores methods of artistic expression through studies in pottery. Various forming techniques will be discussed and utilized such as the pinch pot method, coil method, slab building, and the potter's wheel. Within each unit of study, various artists and artistic styles will be covered. As well as different sculptural techniques and surface renderings. Emphasis will be placed on technique, glazing, and craftsmanship. The evolution of pottery and some art history will also be covered.

**Ceramics 2****Credits: .5**

Grade Level 10+

Prerequisite: Ceramics I

Ceramics II continues the exploration of methods of artistic expression through studies in pottery. Various forming techniques will be discussed and utilized such as the pinch pot method, coil method, slab building, and the potter's wheel. Within each unit of study, various artists and artistic styles will be covered. As well as different sculptural techniques and surface renderings. Emphasis will be placed on technique, glazing, and craftsmanship. The evolution of pottery and some art history will also be covered.

**Digital Graphic Arts****Credits: .5**

Grade Level 10+

Prerequisite: Studio Art 9

In Digital Graphic Arts students learn the principles of graphic design and gain a working understanding of digital software. In the first part of this class, students will apply the Elements of Art and Principles of Design to complete a minimum of two graphic artworks. Through these projects, students develop critical thinking, analysis and an understanding of the design cycle in a collaborative classroom environment. Assignments may include image compositing, logo design, typography, layout and digital photography. In the final part of the class, students will create digital graphic art works through the use of digital software, applying their graphic design skills. Students will be encouraged to incorporate their interests and passions, explore areas of design that interest them, and relate their work to the real world.

**AP Studio Art: 2D****Credits: 1**

Grade Level 11+

Prerequisite: See AP Prerequisites Page

AP Studio Art: 2D is for those students who intend to further their studies in art at a post-secondary education institution. Students will prepare a portfolio of 2D work according to the specifications presented by the College Board. The portfolio is sent to the College Board for assessment. A passing score indicates a strong portfolio submission and may earn credit in many universities and colleges in the United States. Students will receive a separate grade and credit for the yearlong AP Studio Art course at YIS.

To succeed in this AP Art course, a high level of skill, motivation, and willingness to research in conjunction with the creation of the artwork is necessary. Students not meeting these requirements will not have portfolios submitted to the College Board

**AP Studio Art: 3D****Credits: 1**

Grade Level 11+

Prerequisite: See AP Prerequisites Page

AP Studio Art: 3D is for those students who intend to further their studies in art at a post-secondary education institution. Students will prepare a portfolio of 3D work according to the specifications presented by the College Board. The portfolio is sent to the College Board for assessment. A passing score indicates a strong portfolio submission and may earn credit in

many universities and colleges in the United States. Students will receive a separate grade and credit for the yearlong AP Studio Art course at YIS.

To succeed in this AP Art course, a high level of skill, motivation, and willingness to research in conjunction with the creation of the artwork is necessary. Students not meeting these requirements will not have portfolios submitted to the College Board

## **AP Studio Art: Drawing**

**Credits: 1**

Grade Level 11+

Prerequisite: See AP Prerequisites Page

AP Studio Art: Drawing is for those students who intend to further their studies in art at a post-secondary education institution. Students will prepare a portfolio of drawings according to the specifications presented by the College Board. The portfolio is sent to the College Board for assessment. A passing score indicates a strong portfolio submission and may earn credit in many universities and colleges in the United States. Students will receive a separate grade and credit for the yearlong AP Studio Art course at YIS.

To succeed in this AP Art course, a high level of skill, motivation, and willingness to research in conjunction with the creation of the artwork is necessary. Students not meeting these requirements will not have portfolios submitted to the College Board

# Science

YIS Science courses are guided by the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS).

## Science 9

**Credits: 1.0**

Grade Level 9

Prerequisite: None

Science 9 is the first course of a two year IB-preparatory integrated science sequence. In Science 9 students will explore physical science, life science, and Earth and space science in relationship to one another through the use of authentic science and engineering practices. This course integrates practices and content which was previously covered in Biology, Physics, and Chemistry in a way which helps students gain conceptual understanding of the world around us. Students will learn scientific concepts as well as practice the skills of scientific method, critical thinking, lab safety, reading, writing, and organization, to prepare them for further Science study

Starting in the 2020-2021 school year, all YIS freshmen will take Science 9 to prepare them for Science10 (to be offered in 2021-2022), which will equip them with the foundational science skills necessary for IB science courses.

## Science 10

**Credits: 1.0**

Grade Level 10

Prerequisite: None

In 2020-2021, Science 10 will be the one-year preparatory integrated science course to prepare current YIS grade 10 students for IB Science. In Science 10, students will explore physical science, life science, and Earth and space science in relationship to one another through the use of authentic science and engineering practices. This course integrates practices and content which was previously covered in Biology, Physics, and Chemistry in a way which helps students gain conceptual understanding of the world around us. Students will learn scientific concepts as well as practice the skills of scientific method, critical thinking, lab safety, reading, writing, and organization, to prepare them for further Science study

## Physical Science

**Credits: 1.0**

Grade Level 10+

Prerequisite: None

Physical Science Research is a survey Physics and Chemistry course. The purpose is to provide students with information research skills that will serve them in future High School classes, College and beyond. Students learn these skills through answering targeted questions, practical activities & projects relating to Physics and Chemistry topics. Topics covered in this course include an overview of chemical bonds, electricity, energy, speed, waves, atoms, force, motion and space.

## **Physics** **Credits: 1.0**

Grade Level 10+

Prerequisite: Must be enrolled in or have passed Algebra II

Physics explores descriptions of natural phenomena from both a conceptual and mathematical perspective. Topics studied include motion and vectors, forces and laws of motion, work and energy, momentum and collisions, circular motion and gravitation, vibration and waves, and sound. Students who take this course must have very good algebraic problem-solving skills.

## **AP Biology** **Credits: 1.0**

Grade Level 10+

Prerequisite: See AP Prerequisites Page

AP Biology is designed to offer students a solid foundation in college level introductory biology. The course framework includes six science practices and the course content. The major units of study include chemistry of life, cell structure and function, cellular energetics, cell communication and cell cycle, heredity, gene Expression and regulation, natural selection and ecology. Students complete the College Board Advanced Placement Biology examination in May.

## **AP Chemistry** **Credits: 1.0**

Grade Level 11+

Prerequisite: See AP Prerequisites Page

AP Chemistry requires strong analytical and mathematical skills. Topics include the periodic table and electron structure of elements, chemical reactions and equations, stoichiometry, chemical bonding, solutions, gases, acids & bases, thermochemistry, chemical kinetics, chemical equilibria, electrochemistry, and nuclear chemistry & reactions. Students complete the College Board Advanced Placement Chemistry examination in May.

## **AP Environmental Science** **Credits: 1.0**

Grade Level 11+

Prerequisite: See AP Prerequisites Page

AP Environmental Science raises awareness and understanding of environmental problems, both human-made and naturally-occurring, as well as the concepts, scientific values, and methodologies behind the interrelationships of the natural world. Students learn how to assess problems, identify possible solutions, or means to prevent them. Subjects covered include ecology, biodiversity, populations, chemicals and hazardous waste, energy use, water, soil, and air. Students are required to work outdoors. Students complete the College Board Advanced Placement Environmental Science examination in May.

## **AP Physics I** **Credits: 1.0**

Grade Level 11+

Prerequisite: See AP Prerequisites Page

AP Physics 1 is aimed at students who wish to pursue a career in engineering or other science disciplines. The course covers Newtonian mechanics (including rotational dynamics and angular

momentum); work, energy, and power; and mechanical waves and sound. It also introduces electric circuits. Students must have excelled in Physics and have strong mathematical and conceptualization skills to take AP Physics. Students complete the College Board Advanced Placement Physics 1 Examination in May.

## **AP Physics II**

**Credits: 1.0**

Grade Level 12

Prerequisite: See AP Prerequisites Page

AP Physics 2 is a deeper exploration of Physics concepts than AP Physics 1. It explores fluid statics and dynamics, thermodynamics with kinetic theory, PV diagrams and probability, electrostatics, electrical DC circuits with capacitors, magnetic fields, electromagnetism, physical and geometric optics, and quantum, atomic, and nuclear physics. Students must have excelled in Physics I and have strong mathematical and conceptualization skills to take AP Physics 2. Students complete the College Board Advanced Placement Physics 2 Examination in May.



# Social Studies

YIS Social Studies courses are guided by the College, Career, and Civic Life (C3) Standards.

## Social Studies 9

**Credits: 1.0**

Grade Level 9

Prerequisite: None

Social Studies 9 introduces students to inquiry-based learning outlined by the College, Career, and Civic Life framework (C3). Students will apply this inquiry-based approach to the subjects of geography and economics. What is the best location for a garment factory? How has globalization affected international trade? How has geography impacted economic development? These are all sample questions that students may be exploring in Social Studies 9. Once students have developed these questions, they will then work on gathering sources and evaluating them, and developing claims and using evidence to answer the questions. Finally, students will move on to communicating and critiquing existing conclusions on the topic and then taking informed action on it.

## Social Studies 10

**Credits: 1.0**

Grade Level 10

Prerequisite: Social Studies 9

Social Studies 10 builds upon the inquiry-based learning from Social Studies 9 as outlined by the College, Career, and Civic Life framework (C3). Students will apply this inquiry-based approach to the subjects of history and civics. Students will work on developing their own questions to investigate. Sample questions might include: Should safety outweigh freedom? What ended apartheid? Why is conflict so difficult to resolve? Once students have developed these questions, they will then work on gathering sources and evaluating them, and developing claims and using evidence to answer the questions. Finally, students will move on to communicating and critiquing existing conclusions on the topic and then taking informed action on it.

## International Relations

**Credits: .5**

Grade Level 10+

Prerequisite: Social Studies 9

International Relations examines the topics of 1) power, sovereignty and international relations; 2) human rights; 3) development; and 4) peace and conflict, through a current global lens with a special emphasis on relations between Southeast Asia and the world.

## Economics

**Credits: .5**

Grade Level 10+

Prerequisite: Social Studies 9

Economics is an in-depth examination of fundamental economic concepts, microeconomics, macroeconomics, international economics, and personal finance. In each area students are introduced to major concepts and themes of economics. Students develop the ability to think like economists through the decisions of consumers and producers, the institutions that shape

our modern economy, and the economic policies of governments. This course equips students with the tools and knowledge they need to make sound, fruitful economics decisions for themselves, their businesses, and their future families.

### AP World History: Modern

**Credits: 1.0**

Grade Level 11+

Prerequisite: See AP Prerequisites Page

AP World History: Modern is an introductory college-level modern world history course. Students cultivate their understanding of world history from c. 1200 CE to the present through analyzing historical sources and learning to make connections and craft historical arguments as they explore concepts like humans and the environment, cultural developments and interactions, governance, economic systems, social interactions and organization, and technology and innovation. Students must complete the AP World History Exam in the spring.

### AP Macroeconomics

**Credits: 1.0**

Grade Level 11+

Prerequisite: See AP Prerequisites Page

AP Macroeconomics provides a foundation for future study in economics or business. It is a year- long course in macroeconomics designed to give students a thorough understanding of the principles of economics that apply to an economic system as a whole.

This course emphasizes the study of national income and price level determination. Students analyze macroeconomic issues by breaking them down into the following themes or categories; performance measures, the financial sector, stabilization policies, economic growth and international economics. Students must complete the AP Macroeconomics Exam in the spring.

### AP Microeconomics

**Credits: 1.0**

Grade Level 11+

Prerequisite: See AP Prerequisites Page

Microeconomics is the study of how individuals, households, businesses, and government confront the problem of scarcity and make economic decisions in the context of different types of markets and economic circumstances. In this course students will be expected to develop the ability to think like economists, employing the nine principles of economic thinking. Students must complete the AP Microeconomics Exam in the spring.

### AP Psychology

**Credits: 1.0**

Grade Level 10+

Prerequisite: See AP Prerequisites Page

The AP Psychology course introduces students to the systematic and scientific study of the behavior and mental processes of human beings and other animals. Students are exposed to the psychological facts, principles, and phenomena associated with each of the major subfields within psychology. They also learn about the ethics and methods psychologists use in their science and practice. Students must complete the AP Psychology Exam in the spring.

## Introduction to Business

**Credits: .5**

Grade Level 10+

Prerequisite: None

Introduction to Business introduces the concept of entrepreneurship. Students will learn how to identify problems, and solutions in their surroundings. Students will then design a business to take advantage of a possible market that is currently missing. During this process students will write, and learn the different components of a business plan. he students will learn about conflict resolution, technology and computer safety in the workplace, and the importance and benefits of a multicultural workplace. Students will present their business idea in an expo presentation at the end of the semester. Technology integration includes Blender 3d, and sketchup. Students will also develop skills of product design, 3d modeling, and cost benefit analysis,

## Advanced Business

**Credits: .5**

Grade Level 10+

Prerequisite: Introduction to Business

Advanced Business is the second half of the Yangon International School's business program. Students are required to complete the Introduction to Business course to progress into the Advanced course. This course will cover the various methods of creating and successfully operating a business. Students will work both alone and in groups to draft business plans, develop a product of their design, practice sales strategies, implement marketing, and understand what it means to learn from your failures. Students will use technological platforms to develop products, as well as develop marketing strategies. Finance, and its role in business will also play a role in the course. The course will conclude with a project that requires the student to independently to create a business that is both profitable, and has a social benefit.

# Myanmar Studies

## Myanmar Studies 9

**Credits: .5**

Grade Level 9

Prerequisite: N/A

In Myanmar Studies students understand the culture, language, and traditions of Myanmar. Students practice writing, reading and speak skillfully. In Grade 9 to Grade 10 students study Myanmar history, cultural traditions, and customs. This course meets for ½ a block for the entire year and earns .5 credits.

## Myanmar Studies 10

**Credits: .5**

Grade Level 10

Prerequisite: N/A

In Myanmar Studies students understand the culture, language, and traditions of Myanmar. Students practice writing, reading and speak skillfully. In Grade 9 to Grade 10 students study Myanmar history, cultural traditions, and customs. This course meets for ½ a block for the entire year and earns .5 credits.

## Advanced Myanmar Language Studies 1

**Credits: .5**

Grade Level 11+

Prerequisite: Myanmar Studies 10

In Advanced Myanmar Language Studies 1, students learn Myanmar studies skills relevant to college and university level of Myanmar Studies. Students learn about their cultural heritage and reading, writing, speaking and listening. This course meets for ½ a block for the entire year and earns .5 credits.

## Advanced Myanmar Language Studies 2

**Credits: .5**

Grade Level 11+

Prerequisite: Advanced Myanmar Language Studies 1

In Advanced Myanmar Language Studies 2, students learn Myanmar studies skills to college and university level of Myanmar Studies. Students learn about their cultural heritage and reading, writing, speaking and listening. This course meets for ½ a block for the entire year and earns .5 credits.

# Physical Education

YIS Physical Education courses are guided by the Society of Health and Physical Educators Standards (SHAPE).

## PE 9 Credits: .5

Grade Level 9

Prerequisite: None

In PE 1, students will understand the basics of fitness, game play, and strategy in sports. They will explore the rules which govern sports while practicing sportsmanship, offensive and defensive skills, and strategies of various sports such as volleyball, soccer, basketball, and net games.

## Advanced PE 1 Credits: .5

Grade Level 10+

Prerequisite: PE 9

In Advanced PE1, students will review the basics of fitness, game play, and strategy in sports. They will explore advanced strategies for offensive and defensive skills of various team sports such as volleyball, soccer, basketball, and net games.

## Lifetime Fitness 1 Credits: .5

Grade Level 10+

PE 9

Lifetime Fitness 1 is for students interested in fitness but who may not wish to play a competitive team sport. Students will participate in health-related physical activities, demonstrate knowledge of fitness, design a nutrition plan, and design a workout or exercise plan. Activities may include yoga, zumba, pilates, golf, swimming, pickle ball, badminton, curling, and lawn games.

## Strength and Conditioning 1 Credits: .5

Grade Level 10+

Prerequisite: PE 9

Strength and Conditioning is for students who wish to learning how to work out in the weight room. Students will gain general knowledge of how muscular strength and growth occurs in the body. They will design a workout to impact a targeted muscle group or skill. Proper safety protocols of the weight room and proper lifting form will be emphasized.

# Health

## Health 9

**Credits: .5**

Grade Level 9

Prerequisite: None

This single semester course will replace Health 11 for our students who will enter the IB program. The aim of the Health 9 Program of Studies is to enable students to make well-informed, healthy choices and to develop behaviors that contribute to the well-being of self and others. To achieve this aim, students require an understanding of self as the basis for healthy interactions with others and for career development and lifelong learning.

## Health 10

**Credits: .5**

Grade Level 10

Prerequisite: None

This single semester course will replace Health 11 for our students who will enter the IB program. The aim of the Health 10 Program of Studies is to enable students to make well-informed, healthy choices and to develop behaviors that contribute to the well-being of self and others. During this one-semester course, students will comprehend concepts related to health promotion and disease prevention. They will demonstrate the ability to access valid health information and health-promoting products and services; demonstrate the ability to practice health-enhancing behaviors and reduce health-related risks; analyze the influence of culture, media, technology, and other factors on health. Further, students will demonstrate the ability to use interpersonal communication skills to enhance health; and demonstrate the ability to advocate for personal, family, and community health. Students are strongly encouraged to discuss the course content and work with their families for the duration of this course.

## Health 11

**Credits: .5**

Grade Level 11

Prerequisite: None

During this one-semester course, students will comprehend concepts related to health promotion and disease prevention. They will demonstrate the ability to access valid health information and health-promoting products and services; demonstrate the ability to practice health-enhancing behaviors and reduce health-related risks; analyze the influence of culture, media, technology, and other factors on health. Further, students will demonstrate the ability to use interpersonal communication skills to enhance health; and demonstrate the ability to advocate for personal, family, and community health. Students are strongly encouraged to discuss the course content and work with their families for the duration of this course.