



AMERICAN CLASSICAL ACADEMY

RUTHERFORD

SENIOR YEAR CURRICULUM

IN SENIOR YEAR MODERN LITERATURE (SEMESTER 1) our students will read and discuss:

- selected poems from Hardy, Houseman, Yeats, Auden, Frost, Eliot, Bishop et al.
- classic novels such as Crime and Punishment and The Heart of Darkness
- short stories by Kafka, Wilde, Chekhov, Poe, Hawthorn, and Robert Louis Stevenson
- Hamlet by William Shakespeare

IN SENIOR YEAR SENIOR THESIS (SEMESTER 2) our students will:

- reflect on the wisdom and practice the skills their classical education has fostered
- wrestle with real world problems concerning human nature
- craft and support a thesis involving the “great conversation of great ideas”
- develop their reading list from the greatest works of literature they’ve not yet read

IN SENIOR YEAR MODERN WORLD HISTORY our students will:

- study the major events of world history from 1815–Present
- understand the ramifications of political revolutions, industrialization, and nationalism
- explore various totalitarian ideologies
- read and discuss accounts of the World Wars, the Cold War, and conflicts in the Middle East

IN SENIOR YEAR AMERICAN GOVERNMENT & POLITICS our students will:

- read and study major speeches and essays in the history of American political thought
- understand the vision of the American Founding and the purposes of the Constitution
- read selections from Democracy in America by Alexis de Tocqueville
- understand their rights and responsibilities as Americans

IN SENIOR YEAR CALCULUS (OR AP CALCULUS AB) our students will study:

- the derivative function and the differentiation of monomials and polynomials
- the calculus method of finding roots
- geometrical and analytical treatment of maxima and minima
- logarithmic and exponential functions and their applications

IN SENIOR YEAR FOREIGN LANGUAGE our students will:

- continue to study either French or Spanish at the intermediate level
- learn proper pronunciation and accent of vowel and consonant sounds
- continue to build a vocabulary of everyday words and conversational phrases
- regularly engage in conversational dialogues

IN SENIOR YEAR SCIENCE our students will choose one or two of the following courses:

- Astronomy
- AP Biology
- AP Chemistry
- AP Physics I

AS SENIORS, STUDENTS MAY ALSO TAKE SEMESTER ELECTIVES IN ART & MUSIC

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IN SENIOR YEAR
our students read:

U.S. Constitution
Democracy in America
The Federalist and Anti-Federalist
Heart of Darkness
The Metamorphosis
Hamlet
Crime and Punishment
“What is Progress?”
“A Time for Choosing”

IN SENIOR YEAR
students will write about & discuss:

The Good Life
Family
Individualism vs. Communalism
Government
Rights
Duty
Citizenship
Virtue
Human Nature