



# LET AMBITION LEAD THE WAY.

Find Your Drive lets you to take the wheel as you plan your future. Discover in-demand occupations and emerging industries, what colleges offer leading programs of study, and how Laurel Springs School's industry-focused curriculum pathways enhance the academic experience as you make progress toward your ultimate professional destination.





Behavioral Science involves the careful analysis of human behavior and includes a number of diverse disciplines, including anthropology, psychology, and sociology. Those who wish to pursue a career in the behavioral sciences have the opportunity to work in fields like education, law enforcement, business, and more.



## Career Pathway: Psychologist



Psychologists study cognitive, emotional, and social processes and behavior by observing, interpreting, and recording how individuals relate to one another and to their environments. They use their findings to help improve mental processes and behaviors.



#### **Colleges & Universities to Consider**

Brandeis University | Colgate University | Duke University | Northwestern University | Pitzer College Reed College | University of Colorado Boulder | University of Virginia | Vassar College Yale University

\$77,030
MEDIAN ANNUAL SALARY

\$66,000
AVERAGE STARTING SALARY

**+14%**GROWTH BY 2026



## Career Pathway: Sociologist



#### **Job Summary**

Sociologists study society and social behavior by examining the groups, cultures, organizations, social institutions, and processes that develop when people interact and work together. Sociologists study how these dynamics influence people and individual attitudes.



#### **Colleges & Universities to Consider**

Connecticut College | Dickinson College | Haverford College | Pomona College | Skidmore College Trinity University | Tulane University | University of Arizona | University of San Diego Whitman College

\$79,650
MEDIAN ANNUAL SALARY

\$52,000 AVERAGE STARTING SALARY **+1%**GROWTH BY 2026





# Career Pathway: Political Scientist



Political scientists study the origin, development, and operation of political systems. They research political ideas and analyze governments, policies, political trends, and related issues.



#### **Colleges & Universities to Consider**

American University | Columbia University | Claremont McKenna College | Davidson College Georgetown University | Suffolk University | SUNY Albany | University of California - Berkeley University of Chicago | University of Florida

**\$115,110**MEDIAN ANNUAL SALARY

\$49,000 AVERAGE STARTING SALARY **+3%**GROWTH BY 2026





# **Laurel Springs Core Course Offerings**

#### **AP Human Geography**

The AP Human Geography course is designed to provide college level instruction on the patterns and processes that impact the way humans understand, use, and change Earth's surface. Students use geographic models, methods, and tools to examine human social organization and its effect on the world in which we live. Students are challenged to use maps and geographical data to examine spatial patterns and analyze the changing interconnections among people and places.

#### **AP Psychology**

Advanced Placement Psychology is a college level course providing students with an overview of the development of human behaviors and thoughts. Along with preparation for the AP Psychology exam, the goals of this course are to immerse students in modern psychological investigation techniques, to accentuate the ethics and morality of human and animal research, and to emphasize scientific critical thinking skills in application to the social sciences. This college level course will expand your knowledge, challenge your mind and, at times, actually be entertaining! It will help you to better understand yourself and those around you.

#### **AP Statistics**

AP Statistics provides students with hands-on experience collecting, analyzing, graphing, and interpreting data. This course draws connections between all aspects of the statistical process including design, analysis, and drawing conclusions. Students will use the vocabulary of statistics to communicate statistical methods, results and interpretations. They will also use graphing calculators and read computer output to further the development of their statistical skills. Students will learn to effectively design and analyze research studies by reviewing and evaluating real-world examples taken from an array of professional disciplines including meteorology, medicine, politics, and athletics.

#### **AP U.S. Government & Politics**

"Lights, Camera, Action" ...Prepare to study the intricacies of the American Political Culture. The script is written and the actors participate daily in the drama of American politics. You will be "on location" to delve into primary source documents. You will go behind the scenes with stars such as the President, Congress people, and Supreme Court Justices. You will research the roles of the media, political parties, interest groups, states, candidates, bureaucracy, and the public in the governmental process. Finally, you will witness the large- scale production of policy building in the areas of economic/social policy, foreign policy and public administration.

#### **Pre-Calculus**

Pre-Calculus teaches students the concepts and skills necessary to succeed in college-level mathematics courses and in mathematics-based disciplines such as chemistry and physics. The course contains in-depth coverage of trigonometry, logarithms, analytical geometry, and upper-level algebraic concepts. There is also emphasis on multiphase calculations, translations and applied mathematics, problem solving, and the development of productive thought patterns. Topics include linear, quadratic, exponential, logarithmic, radical, polynomial, and rational functions; systems of equations; trigonometric ratios and functions; inverse trigonometric functions; vectors; laws of cosine and sine; polar functions; and notation and arithmetic of complex numbers.

#### **Psychology**

Psychology is everywhere, affecting every second of life. Learning about psychology can positively affect life in three main ways. First, while studying psychology, the course will provide a solid foundation for success in later psychology courses. Second, this course can influence your personal life. The concepts discussed here will help you know yourself better; understand your family members, friends, and people you encounter; and improve your relationships. Third, taking this course will help you develop academic skills. Many topics in psychology directly translate into skills that you can use to improve your studying. Students will learn how psychologists develop and validate theories and will examine how hereditary, social, and cultural factors help form an individual's behavior and attitudes. Students will also evaluate the effectiveness of different types of psychological counseling and therapy. Highly interactive content includes online discussions that help develop critical thinking skills.

#### Sociology

The Sociology course takes a fresh and accessible theoretical approach appropriate to our contemporary world. While the course emphasizes the interactionist perspective, students learn a range of theoretical thought, including postmodernism. Students will put into practice what they are learning through innovative methodological exercises in each chapter. Material is presented that is familiar and relevant to the students in a way that allows them to make profound analytic connections between their individual lives and the structure of their society.



# **Laurel Springs Elective Course Offerings**

#### **Anthropology I**

The aim of anthropology is to use a broad approach to gain an understanding of our past, present, and future, and in addition address the problems humans face in biological, social and cultural life. Explore the similarity and diversity of humankind through time as you examine how we have evolved from a biologically and culturally weak species to one that has the ability to cause catastrophic change.

#### **Anthropology 2**

Continue the study of global cultures and the ways that humans have made sense of their world. Examine the ways cultures have understood and gave meaning to different stages of life and death, the creation of art within cultures, and how cultures evolve and change over time. Apply the concepts and insights learned from the study of anthropology to several cultures found in the world today.

#### Criminology

Why do some individuals commit crimes while others do not? What aspects of our culture and society promote crime and deviance? Look at possible explanations for crime from the standpoint of psychological, biological and sociological perspectives, explore the categories and social consequences of crime, and investigate how the criminal justice system handles not only criminals but also their misdeeds.

#### **Health Careers**

In Health Careers 1, students explore a variety of career options related to the health care field, including medicine, nursing, physical therapy, pharmacy, dental careers, sports medicine, personal training, social work, psychology, and more. Students will learn about various options within each field, what each of these jobs entails, and the education and knowledge required to be successful. In addition, they will focus on basic job skills and information that would aid them in health care and other career paths.

#### **Human Geography**

How do language, religion, and landscape affect the physical environment? How do geography, weather, and location affect customs and lifestyle? Explore the diverse ways in which people affect the world around them and how they are affected by their surroundings. Discover how ideas spread and cultures form, and learn how beliefs and architecture are part of a larger culture complex.

#### **Peer Counseling**

Explore the role of a peer counselor, learning the observation, listening, and emphatic communication skills counselors require, and receive basic training in conflict resolution and group leadership. These valuable skills will enhance your ability to communicate effectively in your personal and work relationships.

#### Personal Psychology I

Self-knowledge is the key to self-improvement! Sample topics include the study of infancy, childhood, adolescence, perception, and states of consciousness. Amazing online psychology experiments dealing with our own personal behavior are featured in this course.

#### Personal Psychology II

Personal Psychology II continues the study of self-improvement initiated in Personal Psychology I. Topics include memory, intelligence, emotion, health, stress, and personality. This course features virtual psychology experiments that give students insight into human behavior.

#### Philosophy: The Big Picture

Read about a man who hung out on street corners, pestering everyone he met with questions. Learn about an eccentric who climbed inside a stove to think about whether he existed. These and other philosophers of the Western world are among the most brilliant and influential thinkers of all time and will inform you of the fundamental ideas of Western Civilization. By the time you've "closed the book" on this course, you will better understand yourself and the world around you - from atoms to outer space - and everything in between.

#### **Real World Parenting**

Learn what to prepare for, what to expect, and what vital steps parents can take to create the best environment for their children. Parenting roles and responsibilities, nurturing and protective environments for children, positive parenting strategies, and effective communication in parent/child relationships are some of the topics covered in this course.



# **Laurel Springs Elective Course Offerings**

#### Social Problems I

Explore the challenges faced by social groups, as well as the complex relationships that exist among societies, governments, and the individual. Each unit focuses on a particular area of concern, often within a global context, and explores possible solutions at the structural level as well as that of the individual. You will develop the skills necessary to help make a difference in your own life, in your community, and globally.

#### Social Problems II

Learn about the overall structure of the social problem and how it impacts their lives. Each unit focuses on social problems like racial discrimination, drug abuse, the loss of community, and urban sprawl, then discusses possible solutions at individual and structural levels. For each issue, students examine the connections in the global arena involving societies, governments, and the individual.

#### Sociology I

Students will examine social problems in our increasingly connected world and learn how human relationships can strongly influence and impact their lives. Exciting online video journeys to an array of areas in the sociological world are an important component of this relevant and engaging course.

#### Sociology II

Develop your "sociological imagination" and examine how society shapes human action and beliefs, and how in turn these factors reshape society! Fascinating online videos journeys not inform students, but motivate them to still seek more knowledge on their own.

#### Women's Studies: A Personal Journey Through Film

Maybe you grew up watching movies with female characters like Cinderella, Belle, Snow White, or Ariel. Maybe you've wondered why there are stereotypes about women being bad drivers or ignorant about sports. Maybe you want to know about feminism and the women's movement. The Introduction to Women's Studies: A Personal Journey Through Film can help you answer these questions. Though it focuses on the experience of women, it's appropriate for anyone who wants to learn to critically examine films while learning about the history of the women's movement and how gender, race, and social class influence us. Women have earned their right to stand up and be recognized as equal partners and reap the benefits of their hard work. As the anonymous quote goes, "History is Herstory too.."

#### **World Religions**

Throughout the ages, religions from around the world have shaped the political, social, and cultural aspects of societies. Explore major religions that have played a role in human history, including Buddhism, Christianity, Confucianism, Hinduism, Islam, Judaism, Shintoism, and Taoism. Trace major developments in these religions and explore their relationships with social institutions and culture. Discover the similarities and differences among the major religions and examine the connections and influences they have.

#### **Model United Nations**

**CLUB |** Imagine preparing for the global experience as a member of the United Nations who strives for peace and balance among cultures around the world. This club engages in an authentic simulation of the United Nations (UN) by learning about the UN system, skills of debate, compromise, conflict resolution, and negotiation. Model UN team members meet twice a month to explore and reveal the workings of world diplomacy through the lens of current events.





A myriad of opportunities become available to those who want to pursue careers as Accountants, Financial Analysts, or one of the many other business-related professions. Education and training vary across the many disciplines, and 21st-century skills like communication, leadership, and critical thinking are extremely beneficial.



### **Career Pathway: Accountant**



Accountants and auditors prepare and examine financial records. They ensure that financial records are accurate and that taxes are paid properly and on time. Accountants and auditors assess financial operations and work to help ensure that organizations run efficiently.



#### **Colleges & Universities to Consider**

Florida State University | Georgetown University | Miami University (Ohio) | New York University St. Joseph's University | University of Notre Dame | University of Pennsylvania University of Texas at Austin | University of Washington | Wake Forest University

\$70,500 MEDIAN ANNUAL SALARY \$46,000
AVERAGE STARTING SALARY

**+10%**GROWTH BY 2026



# Career Pathway: Financial Analyst



#### **Job Summary**

Financial analysts provide investment advice for individuals and businesses. They work in banks, pension funds, hedge funds, mutual funds, securities firms, insurance companies, and other businesses. They measure the performance of stocks, bonds, and other kinds of investments in order to stay current with economic trends and guide clients about when to buy and sell investments. Many are certified financial analysts.



#### **Colleges & Universities to Consider**

Bentley University | Boston College | George Washington University | Indiana University
Lehigh University | Santa Clara University | Villanova University | University of California - Berkeley
University of Connecticut | Washington University in St. Louis

\$84,300
MEDIAN ANNUAL SALARY

\$57,000
AVERAGE STARTING SALARY

**+11%**GROWTH BY 2026





### Career Pathway: Sales Manager



#### **Job Summary**

Sales managers direct organizations' sales teams in order to drive revenue for their company. They develop plans to acquire new customers, create plans to meet sales goals, analyze statistical sales data, set sales quotas, and build training programs for their sales team.



### **Colleges & Universities to Consider**

Babson College | Baylor University | Bryant University | Emory University | Michigan State University | Pepperdine University | West Chester University | University of San Diego | University of South Carolina University of Wisconsin - Madison

\$121,060
MEDIAN ANNUAL SALARY

\$87,000 AVERAGE STARTING SALARY **+7%**GROWTH BY 2026



### **Laurel Springs Core Course Offerings**

#### **AP Calculus AB**

AP Calculus AB is a comprehensive introduction to calculus that is comparable to one semester of college-level, introductory calculus. The material is challenging and helps students understand the concepts of calculus and applications to the study of science, business, and engineering. The course emphasizes problems that are expressed graphically, numerically, and algebraically. Students build foundational calculus knowledge by analyzing graphs and calculating limits of functions, determining rates of change, and finding derivatives using the sum rule, product rule, quotient rule, chain rule, and implicit differentiation. Students are introduced to the derivatives of all functions including power functions, exponential functions, logarithmic functions, trigonometric functions, and inverse trigonometric functions. Students then apply derivatives to solve realworld problems. The course continues with techniques of integration, indefinite integrals, definite integrals, the fundamental theorem of calculus, and various applications of integration.

#### **AP Calculus BC**

AP Calculus BC is a comprehensive introduction to calculus that is comparable to two semesters of college-level, introductory calculus. The material is challenging and the course moves at a faster pace as compared to AP Calculus AB. This course helps students understand the concepts of calculus and applications to the study of science, engineering, and advanced mathematics. Through the study of functions, limits, derivatives, integrals, and infinite series, students learn to evaluate the soundness of proposed solutions, apply mathematical reasoning to real-world models, and understand change geometrically, visually, analytically, numerically, and verbally

#### AP Macroeconomics

In AP Macroeconomics, students study the principles of economics that apply to an economic system as a whole. Through learning activities including quizzes, discussions, and document-based questions, students study national income and price-level determination, economic performance measures, the financial sector, stabilization policies, economic growth, and international economics.

#### **AP Microeconomics**

In AP Microeconomics, students study the principles of economics that apply to the functions of individual decision-makers in the economic system. Through learning activities including quizzes, discussions, and document-based questions, students study the nature and functions of product markets and factor markets and of the role of government in promoting greater efficiency and equity in the economy.

#### **AP Psychology**

Advanced Placement Psychology is a college level course providing students with an overview of the development of human behaviors and thoughts. Along with preparation for the AP Psychology exam, the goals of this course are to immerse students in modern psychological investigation techniques, to accentuate the ethics and morality of human and animal research, and to emphasize scientific critical thinking skills in application to the social sciences. This college level course will expand your knowledge, challenge your mind and, at times, actually be entertaining! It will help you to better understand yourself and those around you.

#### **AP Statistics**

AP Statistics provides students with hands-on experience collecting, analyzing, graphing, and interpreting data. This course draws connections between all aspects of the statistical process including design, analysis, and drawing conclusions. Students will use the vocabulary of statistics to communicate statistical methods, results and interpretations. They will also use graphing calculators and read computer output to further the development of their statistical skills. Students will learn to effectively design and analyze research studies by reviewing and evaluating real-world examples taken from an array of professional disciplines including meteorology, medicine, politics, and athletics.

#### Calculus

Calculus introduces students to universal concepts in the graphing of functions and optimizations. Students build foundational calculus knowledge by analyzing graphs and calculating limits of functions, determining rates of change, and finding derivatives using the sum rule, product rule, quotient rule, chain rule, and implicit differentiation. Students are introduced to the derivatives of all functions including power functions, exponential functions, logarithmic functions, trigonometric functions, and inverse trigonometric functions. Students then apply derivatives to solve real-world problems. The course continues with techniques of integration, indefinite integrals, definite integrals, the fundamental theorem of calculus, and various applications of integration.



# **Laurel Springs Core Course Offerings**

#### **Economics**

The Economics course begins with a survey of the basic principles concerning production, consumption, and distribution of goods and services within the free enterprise system. Students will examine the rights and responsibilities of consumers and businesses, analyze the interaction of supply, demand, and price, and study the role of financial institutions. Types of business ownership, market structures, and basic concepts of consumer economics will be surveyed. The impact of a variety of factors including geography, government intervention, economic philosophies, historic documents, societal values, scientific discoveries and technological innovations on the national economy, and economic policy will be an integral part of the course. Students will apply critical-thinking skills to create economic models and to evaluate economic activity patterns. Students will also examine the knowledge and skills necessary as self-supporting adults to make critical decisions relating to personal financial matters such as seeking college financial aid, using credit wisely, and balancing financial accounts. Students will complete a research project as part of their course.

#### **Psychology**

Psychology is everywhere, affecting every second of life. Learning about psychology can positively affect life in three main ways. First, while studying psychology, the course will provide a solid foundation for success in later psychology courses. Second, this course can influence your personal life. The concepts discussed here will help you know yourself better; understand your family members, friends, and people you encounter; and improve your relationships. Third, taking this course will help you develop academic skills. Many topics in psychology directly translate into skills that you can use to improve your studying. Students will learn how psychologists develop and validate theories and will examine how hereditary, social, and cultural factors help form an individual's behavior and attitudes. Students will also evaluate the effectiveness of different types of psychological counseling and therapy. Highly interactive content includes online discussions that help develop critical thinking skills.

#### Sociology

The Sociology course takes a fresh and accessible theoretical approach appropriate to our contemporary world. While the course emphasizes the interactionist perspective, students learn a range of theoretical thought, including postmodernism. Students will put into practice what they are learning through innovative methodological exercises in each chapter. Material is presented that is familiar and relevant to the students in a way that allows them to make profound analytic connections between their individual lives and the structure of their society.



### **Laurel Springs Elective Course Offerings**

#### **Advertising & Sales Promotion**

In the United States, companies spend approximately \$200 billion a year promoting their products and services. Discover how marketing campaigns, ads, and commercials are conceived and brought to life, and even meet some of the creative folks who produce that memorable media. Learn about different career opportunities in the field and how you can be part of this exciting, fast-paced industry.

#### **Creative Writing**

For many hundreds of years, literature has been one of the most important human art forms. It allows us to give voice to our emotions, create imaginary worlds, express ideas, and escape the confines of material reality. Through creative writing, we can come to understand ourselves and our world a little bit better. This course provides students with a solid grounding in the writing process, from finding inspiration to building a basic story to using complicated literary techniques and creating strange hybrid forms of poetic prose and prose poetry. By the end of this course, students will learn how to discover their creative thoughts and turn those ideas into fully realized pieces of creative writing.

# **Entrepreneurship: Starting Your Business**

Do you dream of owning your own business? Get a head start in learning about what you'll need to own and operate a successful business. Learn how to create a business plan, finance a business, and price products and services.

#### **Foundations in Personal Finance**

Personal finance refers to the financial decisions an individual or family makes in order to earn, budget, save, and spend money over time. These decisions are generally based on a variety of financial risks and planning for the future. This course will change your financial future and set you on a path to win with money, allowing you to change the way you look at money forever.

#### **Hospitality & Tourism**

Gain an introduction to this rapidly growing industry, including hotel and restaurant management, cruise ships, spas, resorts, theme parks, and more. Learn key hospitality issues, the development and management of tourist locations, event planning, marketing, and environmental issues related to leisure and travel.

# International Business: Global Commerce in the 21st Century

Designed to help students develop appreciation, knowledge, skills, and abilities needed to live and work in a global marketplace, this course provides a conceptual tool by which to understand how economic, social, cultural, political and legal factors influence domestic and cross-border business. You'll cultivate a mindfulness of how history, geography, language, cultural studies, research skills, and continuing education are important to business activities and the 21st century.

#### **Introduction to Manufacturing**

Learn about the types of manufacturing systems and processes used to create the products we buy every day, and discover various career opportunities in the manufacturing industry. As a culminating project, you'll plan your own manufacturing process for a new product or invention.

#### **Leadership Skills Development**

Leadership Skills Development takes students on a leadership journey, where they explore their own story and goals, and learn how to achieve things they never thought possible. The course concludes with students researching, planning, and participating in a service project that will benefit their school and/or community.

#### **Public Speaking**

Examine the foundations of public speaking through Aristotle and Cicero's views of rhetoric, then trace those foundations into the modern world. Learn theory as well as the practice of effective public speaking, including how to analyze the speeches of others, build a strong argument, and speak with confidence and flair.

#### Restaurant Management

Discover what's needed to run a successful restaurant, including ordering supplies, hiring quality workers, maintaining inventory, and managing a large staff. Understanding such concepts as food safety, hygiene, customer relations, marketing, and using a point-of-sale system is crucial to being an effective restaurateur.



# **Laurel Springs Elective Course Offerings**

#### Social Media: Our Connected World

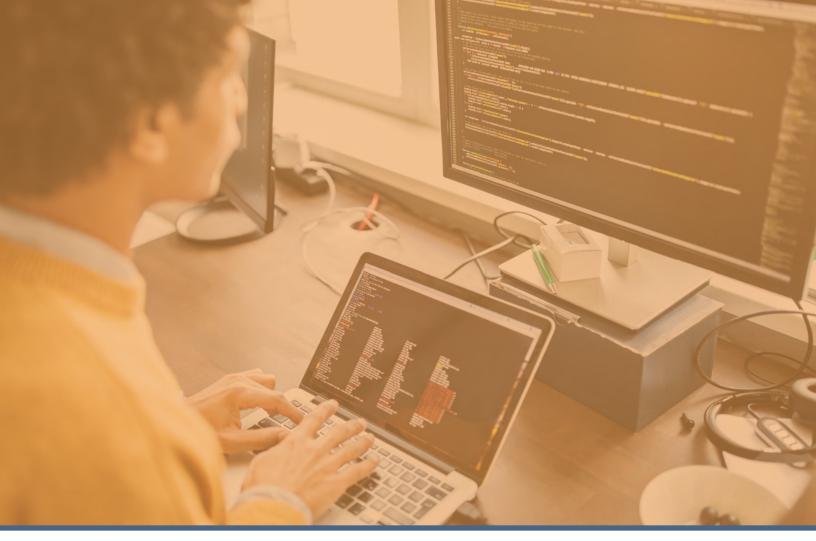
Have a Facebook account? What about Twitter? Whether you've already dipped your toes in the waters of social media or are still standing on the shore wondering what to make of it all, learning how to interact on social media platforms is crucial to surviving and thriving in this age of digital communication. In Introduction to Social Media, you'll learn the ins and outs of such social media platforms as Facebook, Twitter, Pinterest, Google+, and more and how to use them for your benefit—personally, academically, and, eventually, professionally. If you thought social media platforms were just a place to keep track of friends and share personal photos, this course will show you how to use these resources in much more powerful ways.

#### **Sports & Entertainment Marketing**

Explore basic marketing principles and delve deeper into the multi-billion dollar sports and entertainment marketing industry. Learn how professional athletes, sports teams, and well-known entertainers are marketed as commodities and how some of them become billionaires as a result.

#### **TedED Speech Club**

**CLUB |** Using the TED Talk style of presenting big ideas in a short form, LSS students will get a chance to explore what it means to offer quality expressions via speech. Members will identify their passions, interests and talents and the means to share with others in an authentic, clear and expansive manner. Additionally, students will identify and outline their own, unique big idea. Students will have an opportunity to "talk" and benefit from authentic feedback from peers equally excited about this common interest, speaking. Finally, members will be chosen to share their big idea talk school wide, as LSS students, staff and faculty will be invited to hear them speak via web cam.





The digital age is well underway and the demand for skilled computing professionals is high; the industry expects to grow 13% by 2026. Students interested in a career in computer science and technology can choose from a variety of areas of study, including robotics engineering, game development, software programming, and more.



### **Career Pathway: Information Security Analyst**



#### **Job Summary**

Information security analysts plan and carry out security measures to protect an organization's computer networks and systems. Their responsibilities are continually expanding as the number of cyber attacks increases. The U.S. government, health care organizations, financial systems, and other companies are increasingly dependent on the skills of information security analysts to protect their computer networks and software against hackers and cyber attacks.



#### **Colleges & Universities to Consider**

California Institute of Technology | Carnegie Mellon University | George Washington University Purdue University | Rice University | Stevens Institute of Technology | University of Maryland University of Minnesota | University of Toronto | Virginia Polytechnic and State University

\$95,510
MEDIAN ANNUAL SALARY

\$118,000
AVERAGE STARTING SALARY
WITH MASTER'S DEGREE

**+28%**GROWTH BY 2026

College & University Sources: Niche.com | BestValueSchools.com



# **Career Pathway: Game Designer**



#### **Job Summary**

Game designers develop and create video games that can be played on computers and video game consoles. They may be involved in imagining the concept of the game as well as participating in its execution. Depending on what type of job they hold or their experience level, game designers might contribute to a game's story writing and character development, coding and programming, audio (score and sound effects), visual special effects, and production design.



#### **Colleges & Universities to Consider**

Becker College | Columbia College Chicago | DigiPen Institute of Technology | George Mason University
Otis College of Art and Design | Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute | The Art Center College of Design
The New School (Parsons School of Design) | University of California - Santa Cruz

\$60,000

AVERAGE STARTING SALARY WITH BACHELOR'S DEGREE

\$91,000

AVERAGE STARTING SALARY WITH MASTER'S DEGREE +24%

GROWTH BY 2026



### Career Pathway: Software Developer



#### **Job Summary**

Software developers are the creative minds behind computer programs. Some software developers create the applications that allow people to do specific tasks on a computer, smartphone, tablet, or another digital device. Other software developers build the underlying systems that run digital devices or control computer networks. Developers are often natural problem solvers who possess strong analytical skills and the ability to think outside the box.



#### **Colleges & Universities to Consider**

California Polytechnic State University | College of Charleston | Drexel University
Florida Institute of Technology | McGill University | Princeton University
Rochester Institute of Technology | Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology | University of Texas at Dallas

**\$101,790**MEDIAN ANNUAL SALARY

\$80,000
AVERAGE STARTING SALARY
WITH MASTER'S DEGREE

**+24%**GROWTH BY 2026

Salary & Industry Growth Sources: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics 2017 | Payscale.com

College & University Sources: Niche.com | BusinessInsider.com

College & University Sources: Niche.com | BusinessInsider.com

Super Statistics Sources: Niche.com | BusinessInsider.com

# **Laurel Springs Course Offerings**

#### \*Laurel Springs School Core Course

#### **3D Modeling**

Gain a deeper understanding of graphic design and illustration as you use 3D animation software to create virtual three-dimensional design projects. Hone drawing, photography, and 3D construction skills while developing the abilities needed to navigate a 3D digital modeling workspace. This course is an excellent introduction to careers in virtual reality, video game design, television and motion pictures, and more!

#### **AP Calculus AB\***

AP Calculus AB is a comprehensive introduction to calculus that is comparable to one semester of college-level, introductory calculus. The material is challenging and helps students understand the concepts of calculus and applications to the study of science, business, and engineering. The course emphasizes problems that are expressed graphically, numerically, and algebraically. Students build foundational calculus knowledge by analyzing graphs and calculating limits of functions, determining rates of change, and finding derivatives using the sum rule, product rule, quotient rule, chain rule, and implicit differentiation. Students are introduced to the derivatives of all functions including power functions, exponential functions, logarithmic functions, trigonometric functions, and inverse trigonometric functions. Students then apply derivatives to solve realworld problems. The course continues with techniques of integration, indefinite integrals, definite integrals, the fundamental theorem of calculus, and various applications of integration.

#### **AP Calculus BC\***

AP Calculus BC is a comprehensive introduction to calculus that is comparable to two semesters of college-level, introductory calculus. The material is challenging and the course moves at a faster pace as compared to AP Calculus AB. This course helps students understand the concepts of calculus and applications to the study of science, engineering, and advanced mathematics. Through the study of functions, limits, derivatives, integrals, and infinite series, students learn to evaluate the soundness of proposed solutions, apply mathematical reasoning to real-world models, and understand change geometrically, visually, analytically, numerically, and verbally.

#### **AP Computer Science**

The equivalent to the first semester of a college-level introductory computer science course, develop the ability to write programs to correctly solve specific problems. The course also emphasizes design issues that make programs understandable, adaptable, and reusable.

#### **AP Computer Science Principles**

Discover the foundational concepts of computer science and explore the impact computing and technology has on society. With a unique focus on creative problem solving and real-world applications, you'll explore important topics of computing using your own ideas and creativity, use the power of computing to create artifacts of personal value, and develop an interest in computer science that will foster further endeavors in the field.

#### Coding 1A & 1B

Want to create your own webpage or simply curious how your favorite sites were built? Explore the role technology plays in our lives, study the fundamentals of computer science, review hardware and software, and learn how the internet functions. You will also discover how to create and build your own website, and learn basic and complex commands and sequences as you become familiar with programming languages.

#### **Cybersecurity 1A & 1B**

Can anything be kept "secret" online? Learn the tools, technologies, and methods needed to protect online information, and how these issues are impacting safety and rights on a global and personal level. Learn what exciting career possibilities await you in the new and highdemand field of cybersecurity.

#### Game Design 1A & 1B

Tap into your creative and technical skills as you explore the many aspects involved with designing video games. Learn about software and hardware, various gaming platforms, necessary technical skills, troubleshooting and internet safety techniques, and history of gaming. You'll even have the opportunity to create your very own plan for a 2D video game! The second part of this course allows you to conceptualize, design, and fully create your own game.



### **Laurel Springs Course Offerings**

#### **Renewable Technologies**

Learn about the cutting-edge field of renewable energy and the exciting technologies that make it possible. Explore new ways of generating energy and storing that energy, from biofuels to high-capacity batteries and smart electrical grids. Discover the environmental and social effects of renewable technologies and examine how people's energy decisions impact policies.

#### Social Media: Our Connected World

Learning how to interact on social media platforms is crucial to thriving in this age of digital communication. Explore the ins and outs of social media platforms like Facebook, Twitter, and Pinterest, as well as how to use them to benefit personally, academically, and, professionally. This course will show you how to use these resources in powerful ways.

#### **Creative Computing**

**CLUB** | Robotics engineers design robots, maintain them, develop new applications for them, and do research to expand the potential of robotics. These engineers design and test how robots move, use sensors, and store data in order to carry out tasks. Robotics engineers work in a wide range of industries, including manufacturing, medicine, military, agriculture, aerospace, and energy.





Students who travel a path in Engineering can expect to create meaningful change in the world around them. It may take the form of biomedical engineering, where artificial organs and cutting-edge medicine emerge. Or it could look like civil engineering, which is the root of infrastructure design and public health development. The possibilities are virtually endless.



## Career Pathway: Civil Engineer



Job Summary

Civil engineers develop, build, and maintain public and private infrastructure systems, such as roads, buildings, bridges, and water systems. They may design airports, repair tunnels, or rebuild dams. Civil engineers usually specialize in construction, geotechnical, structural, or transportation projects. Their jobs could include analyzing maps, estimating construction costs, and identifying potential environmental hazards. Civil engineers sometimes present information to the public, and many work in supervisory roles for government organizations or corporations.



#### **Colleges & Universities to Consider**

California Polytechnic State University - San Luis Obispo | Cooper Union | Georgia Institute of Technology Massachusetts Institute of Technology | Purdue University | Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute Rice University | University of California - Berkeley | University of California - Davis

\$86,640
MEDIAN ANNUAL SALARY

\$65,000

AVERAGE STARTING SALARY

**+6%**GROWTH BY 2028



# Career Pathway: Biomedical Engineer



#### **Job Summary**

Biomedical engineers apply engineering principles and materials to medicine and healthcare to develop and build devices, software, and equipment. They work for manufacturing companies, colleges and universities, hospital systems, and research organizations. Projects could include artificial joints, surgical robots, dialysis machines, or new pharmaceutical drugs. The field of biomedical engineering is evolving rapidly, and successful biomedical engineers enjoy the combination of problem solving and technical expertise with a focus on helping others in innovative ways.



#### **Colleges & Universities to Consider**

Arizona State University | Duke University | Johns Hopkins University | Ohio State University
Pennsylvania State University | Rice University | University of South Carolina
University of California - Los Angeles | University of Wisconsin - Madison

\$88,550
MEDIAN ANNUAL SALARY

\$63,000
AVERAGE STARTING SALARY

**+4%**GROWTH BY 2028



# Career Pathway: Environmental Engineer



Environmental engineers create solutions to environmental problems by applying principles from engineering, biology, and chemistry. They work on improving public health, recycling, and waste disposal systems, and try to control water and air pollution. Environmental engineering projects include cleaning up toxic waste sites, designing an environmentally sustainable building, or selecting the ideal site for a wind turbine farm. Individuals who are successful environmental engineers are able to acknowledge the needs of humanity with respect for what natural resources are available.



#### **Colleges & Universities to Consider**

Colorado School of Mines | Columbia University | Georgia Institute of Technology Lehigh University | Stevens Institute of Technology | Texas A&M University University of California - Irvine | University of Delaware | University of Florida

\$87,620
MEDIAN ANNUAL SALARY

\$60,000 AVERAGE STARTING SALARY **+5%**GROWTH BY 2028



# Laurel Springs Core Course Offerings

#### **AP Biology**

During this course, students will engage in a wide variety of activities with substantial emphasis on interpreting and collecting data in virtual labs, writing analytical essays, and mastering Biology concepts and connections. The key themes of the AP Biology course are: the scientific processes, the effects of science on technology and society, the chemistry and make up of living organisms, genetics, diversity, and evolution. Throughout this course, students will be expected to answer questions, reflect on issues, and complete lab activities. The primary emphasis is to develop an understanding of concepts rather than memorizing terms and technical details.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Biology, Chemistry, and Algebra 1

#### **AP Calculus AB**

AP Calculus AB is a comprehensive introduction to calculus that is comparable to one semester of college-level, introductory calculus. The material is challenging and helps students

understand the concepts of calculus and applications to the study of science, business, and engineering. The course emphasizes problems that are expressed graphically, numerically, and algebraically. Students build foundational calculus knowledge by analyzing graphs and calculating limits of functions, determining rates of change, and finding derivatives using the sum rule, product rule, quotient rule, chain rule, and implicit differentiation. Students are introduced to the derivatives of all functions including power functions, exponential functions, logarithmic functions, trigonometric functions, and inverse trigonometric functions. Students then apply derivatives to solve real-world problems.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Pre-Calculus or Trigonometry

#### **AP Calculus BC**

AP Calculus BC is a comprehensive introduction to calculus that is comparable to two semesters of college-level, introductory calculus. The material is challenging and the course moves at a faster pace as compared to AP Calculus AB. This course helps students understand the concepts of calculus and applications to the study of science, engineering, and advanced mathematics. Through the study of functions, limits, derivatives, integrals, and infinite series, students learn to evaluate the soundness of proposed solutions, apply mathematical reasoning to real-world models, and understand change geometrically, visually, analytically, numerically, and verbally. *Prerequisite: Successful completion of Pre-Calculus* 

#### **AP Chemistry**

In this course students will build their understanding of the nature and reactivity of matter. After studying chemical reactions and electrochemistry, students move on to understand how the chemical and physical properties of materials can be explained by the structure and arrangements of the molecules, as well as the forces between those molecules. Students will examine the laws of thermodynamics, molecular collisions, and the reorganization of matter in order to understand how changes in matter take place. Finally, students will explore chemical equilibria including acid-base equilibria.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Biology, Chemistry, Algebra 1, Geometry, and Algebra 2

#### **AP Environmental Science**

This course provides students with the scientific principles, concepts, and methodologies required to understand the interrelationships of the natural world. Additionally, students will learn to identify and analyze environmental problems that are natural and human-made. Students will evaluate the relative risks associated with these problems and examine alternative solutions for resolving or preventing problems.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra 2 and Chemistry

#### **AP Physics 1**

AP Physics 1 is equivalent to the first semester of an algebra-based college level course in physics and prepares students to seek credit and/or appropriate placement in college physics courses. This course is structured around the six big ideas that are intended to encourage students to think about physics concepts as interconnected pieces of a puzzle. The solution to the puzzle is how the real world around them actually works. Students will participate in inquiry-based explorations to gain a more conceptual understanding of physics concepts. A special emphasis will be placed on capturing important aspects of the work that scientists engage in, with learning objectives that combine content with inquiry and reasoning skills.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra 2 and Trigonometry or concurrent enrollment in Pre-Calculus



# **Laurel Springs Core Course Offerings**

#### **AP Statistics**

AP Statistics provides students with hands-on experience collecting, analyzing, graphing, and interpreting data. This course draws connections between all aspects of the statistical process, including design, analysis, and drawing conclusions. Students will use the vocabulary of statistics to communicate statistical methods, results and interpretations. They will also use graphing calculators and read computer output to further the development of their statistical skills. Students will learn to effectively design and analyze research studies by reviewing and evaluating real-world examples taken from an array of professional disciplines including meteorology, medicine, politics, and athletics.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra 2

#### **Calculus**

Calculus introduces students to universal concepts in the graphing of functions and optimizations. Students build foundational calculus knowledge by analyzing graphs and calculating limits of functions, determining rates of change, and finding derivatives using the sum rule, product rule, quotient rule, chain rule, and implicit differentiation. Students are introduced to the derivatives of all functions including power functions, exponential functions, logarithmic functions, trigonometric functions, and inverse trigonometric functions. Students then apply derivatives to solve real-world problems.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Pre-Calculus or Trigonometry

#### **Physics**

This course stresses the importance of physics in day-to-day life and aims to help students understand the theoretical concepts of physics through practical applications. Students learn and experience the behavior of motion in one- and two-dimensions, force, work, energy, momentum and collisions, gravitation, heat, thermodynamics, waves, electricity, circuits, magnetism, and atomic physics. This helps the student understand its functions and observe the relationship between one another.



# **Laurel Springs Elective Course Offerings**

#### 3D Modeling

Are you curious about working in fields like virtual reality, video game design, marketing, television and motion pictures, or digital imaging? In this course, you will gain a deeper understanding of graphic design and illustration as you use 3D animation software to create virtual three-dimensional design projects. Hone in on your drawing, photography, and 3D construction techniques and develop the skills needed to navigate within a 3D digital modeling workspace.

#### ConceptsofEngineeringandTechnology

From our phones to the bridges we drive over, engineering and technology influence many parts of our lives. In Concepts of Engineering and Technology, you will learn more about engineering and technology careers and what skills and knowledge you'll need to succeed in these fields. You'll explore innovative and cuttingedge projects that are changing the world we live in and examine the design and prototype development process.

#### **Great Minds in Science**

Is there life on other planets? What extremes can the human body endure? Can we solve the problem of global warming? Today, scientists, explorers, and writers are working to answer all of these questions. Like Edison, Einstein, Curie, and Newton, the scientists of today are asking questions and working on problems that may revolutionize our lives and world. This course focuses on 10 of today's greatest scientific minds. Each unit takes an in-depth look at one of these individuals and shows how their ideas may help to shape tomorrow's world.





The healthcare industry is projected to grow by 18% during the next decade due to the vast number of specializations and occupations. Pursuing a course of study in the Health Sciences can lead to extremely rewarding health-related professions in medicine, technology, management, and more.



### **Career Pathway: Physician**



#### **Job Summary**

Physicians and surgeons diagnose and treat injuries or illnesses. Physicians examine patients; take medical histories; prescribe medications; and order, perform, and interpret diagnostic tests. They counsel patients on diet, hygiene, and preventive healthcare. Surgeons operate on patients to treat injuries, such as broken bones, diseases, such as cancerous tumors, and deformities, such as cleft palates.



#### **Colleges & Universities to Consider**

Boston University | Harvard University | Indiana University | Johns Hopkins University
Kings College London | Stanford University | University of California - San Francisco
University of North Carolina - Chapel Hill | University of Rochester | Washington University in St. Louis

\$208,000
MEDIAN ANNUAL SALARY

\$175,000

FRAGE STARTING SALARY

AVERAGE STARTING SALARY
FOR FAMILY PRACTICE DOCTOR

**+13%**GROWTH BY 2026





## Career Pathway: Physician Assistant



Physician assistants, also known as PAs, practice medicine as a part of teams with physicians, surgeons, and other healthcare workers. They examine, diagnose, and treat patients, under the supervision of a physician, and in some cases prescribe medication. A 2015 American Academy of Physicians Assistants study found that more than 96 percent would recommend their physician assistant career to others.



#### **Colleges & Universities to Consider**

Baylor College of Medicine | Butler University | Drexel University | Emory University | Hofstra University | James Madison University | Northwestern University | Nova Southeastern University | University of California - Davis | University of Iowa

\$104,860
MEDIAN ANNUAL SALARY

\$95,000 AVERAGE STARTING SALARY **+37%**GROWTH BY 2026



### **Career Pathway: Veterinarian**



Veterinarians care for the health of animals and work to improve public health. They diagnose, treat, and research medical conditions and diseases of pets, livestock, and other animals.



### **Colleges & Universities to Consider**

Auburn University | Colorado State University | Cornell University | Oregon State University | Purdue University | Texas A&M University | University of Glasgow | University of Sydney University of Tennessee | Virginia Polytechnic and State University

\$90,420
MEDIAN ANNUAL SALARY

**\$79,000**AVERAGE STARTING SALARY

**+19%**GROWTH BY 2026





# Laurel Springs Core Course Offerings

#### **AP Biology**

During this course, students are engaged in a wide variety of activities with substantial emphasis on interpreting and collecting data in virtual labs, writing analytical essays, and mastering Biology concepts and connections. The key themes of the AP Biology course are: the scientific processes, the effects of science on technology and society, the chemistry and make up of living organisms, genetics, diversity, and evolution. Throughout this course, students will be expected to answer questions, reflect on issues, and complete lab activities. The primary emphasis is to develop an understanding of concepts rather than memorizing terms and technical details.

#### **AP Chemistry**

In this course students will build their understanding of the nature and reactivity of matter. After studying chemical reactions and electrochemistry, students move on to understand how the chemical and physical properties of materials can be explained by the structure and arrangements of the molecules, as well as the forces between those molecules. Students will examine the laws of thermodynamics, molecular collisions, and the reorganization of matter in order to understand how changes in matter take place. Finally, students will explore chemical equilibria including acid-base equilibria. This course prepares students for further study in science, the health sciences, or engineering.

#### **AP Psychology**

Advanced Placement Psychology is a college level course providing students with an overview of the development of human behaviors and thoughts. Along with preparation for the AP Psychology exam, the goals of this course are to immerse students in modern psychological investigation techniques, to accentuate the ethics and morality of human and animal research, and to emphasize scientific critical thinking skills in application to the social sciences. This college level course will expand your knowledge, challenge your mind and, at times, actually be entertaining! It will help you to better understand yourself and those around you.

#### Biology

Biology introduces the fundamental concepts including the nature of life, basic chemistry, animal structure and function, plant structure and function, reproduction and development, genetics, evolution, diversity of living things, and ecology. Through inquiry-based investigations, independent experiments, and activities, students gain firsthand experience with observing, classifying, identifying, measuring, inferring, hypothesizing, interpreting, and predicting. Students conduct kitchen-based laboratory experiments to apply scientific concepts in a practical setting.

#### **Chemistry**

This introductory chemistry course is designed for students pursuing a technical career or admission to college. Topics of study include phases of matter, atomic and molecular models, polarity, solutions, ionic bonding, stoichiometry, acids and bases, Le Chatelier's Principle, the mole, nuclear reactions, the periodic table, isomers, molecular orbitals, chemical reactions, energy and change, osmosis, entropy, reaction rates, and more. This course enhances inquiry-based learning activities and instruction emphasizes the mathematical, theoretical, and experimental basis of modern chemistry. Throughout this course, students actively engage in exploration and analysis that will improve their ability to explain and predict phenomena using scientific skills.

#### **Pre-Calculus**

Pre-Calculus teaches students the concepts and skills necessary to succeed in college-level mathematics courses and in mathematics-based disciplines such as chemistry and physics. The course contains in-depth coverage of trigonometry, logarithms, analytical geometry, and upper-level algebraic concepts. There is also emphasis on multiphase calculations, translations and applied mathematics, problem solving, and the development of productive thought patterns. Topics include linear, quadratic, exponential, logarithmic, radical, polynomial, and rational functions; systems of equations; trigonometric ratios and functions; inverse trigonometric functions; vectors; laws of cosine and sine; polar functions; and notation and arithmetic of complex numbers.

#### **Psychology**

Psychology is everywhere, affecting every second of life. Learning about psychology can positively affect life in three main ways. First, while studying psychology, the course will provide a solid foundation for success in later psychology courses. Second, this course can influence your personal life. The concepts discussed here will help you know yourself better; understand your family members, friends, and people you encounter; and improve your relationships. Third, taking this course will help you develop academic skills. Many topics in psychology directly translate into skills that you can use to improve your studying. Students will learn how psychologists develop and validate theories and will examine how hereditary, social, and cultural factors help form an individual's behavior and attitudes. Students will also evaluate the effectiveness of different types of psychological counseling and therapy. Highly interactive content includes online discussions that help develop critical thinking skills.



# **Laurel Springs Elective Course Offerings**

#### **Anatomy & Physiology**

Explore the organization of the human body and how it works. Acquire the knowledge necessary to understand what the body is doing and how you can help the body cope with many different situations. Body systems will be studied in order to understand how their structure, location, and function allow for interaction with other parts of the body.

#### **Exercise Science**

This course takes an in-depth examination of the effects of exercise on the body. Through this course, students will learn basic anatomy, biomechanics, and physiology, as well as proper principles and techniques to designing an effective exercise program. The study of nutrition and human behavior will also be integrated into the course to enhance the students' comprehension of this multifaceted subject.

#### First Aid & Safety

Learn and practice first aid procedures for a variety of common conditions, including muscular, skeletal, and soft tissue injuries, as well as how to appropriately respond to a variety of emergency situations, such as procedures for choking and CPR for infants, children, and adults. You will also explore personal, household, and outdoor safety, and disaster preparedness.

#### **Health Careers**

Explore a variety of career options related to the healthcare field, including medicine, nursing, physical therapy, pharmacy, dental careers, sports medicine, personal training, social work, psychology, and more. You will gain insights into basic job skills and information that can aid you in healthcare and other career paths.

#### **Health Sciences**

Will we ever find a cure for cancer? What treatments are best for conditions like diabetes and asthma? Learn the answers to questions such as these. In addition, you'll explore various disciplines within the health sciences, including toxicology, clinical medicine, and biotechnology. The course presents information and terminology for the health sciences and examines the contributions of different health science areas.

#### **Introduction to Nursing I**

Learn about the history and evolution of nursing, education and licensure requirements, career path options, and nursing responsibilities. You will also focus on foundational information such as basic anatomy, physiology, medical terminology, pharmacology, first aid, and disease prevention.

#### **Introduction to Nursing II**

Examine various nursing theories, as well as focus on the nursing process, including assessment, diagnosis, and treatment options. You will also learn about professional and legal standards and ethics, as well as skills of communication, teaching, time and stress management, patient safety, and crisis management.

#### **Medical Terminology**

Receive an introduction to basic medical language and terminology required within the healthcare field. Emphasis is placed on definitions, proper usage, spelling, and pronunciation, and you will study word structure and parts, including roots, prefixes, and suffixes, as well as symbols and abbreviations. In addition, students will learn proper terminology of the body's main systems, common tests, procedures, pharmacology, disease, and conditions.

#### Nutrition

A comprehensive study of nutritional principles and guidelines, students learn about worldwide views of nutrition, nutrient requirements, physiological processes, food labeling, healthy weight management, diet-related diseases, food handling, nutrition for different populations, and more.

#### Scrubs Club

**CLUB |** Scrubs Club members research, explore and discuss the health industry; health professions; diseases; healing and all topics related to medical professions at home and around the world. Open ended opportunities and conversations allow members to discover all things curative—especially that which members are interested in discovering. The club begins each year with introductions, including medical profession intentions and culminates in a Health Fair open to all LSS students.





# LAW & JUSTICE

Critical thinking and communication skills are the foundation of a future in Law & Justice. Careers in this arena are very diverse, ranging from paralegals to attorneys to judges to Federal Agents, meaning there are many ways to specialize in the fast-paced and ever-expanding field of law.



## **Career Pathway: Lawyer**



#### **Job Summary**

Lawyers (also called attorneys) provide legal advice to individuals, government agencies, and businesses. Lawyers may work for law firms, governments, or corporations. They prepare legal documents, analyze laws, and research rulings in order to guide their clients through legal complexities. Lawyers file or respond to lawsuits, and represent their clients in court. Attorneys sometimes specialize in a particular area of expertise, such as tax, intellectual property, family, or environmental law.



#### **Colleges & Universities to Consider**

Dickinson College | Fordham University | George Washington University | Michigan State University | Northwestern University | Nova Southeastern University | Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute University of Chicago | University of Toronto | Yale University

\$120,910
MEDIAN ANNUAL SALARY

\$88,945
AVERAGE STARTING SALARY
'Bachelor's Degree and Law Degree Required

**+6%**GROWTH BY 2028



## **Career Pathway: Judge**



Judges are attorneys who oversee the legal process in the court system. They research legal issues, analyze information and evidence presented by lawyers, instruct jurors, and write opinions or decisions about court trials and cases. Judges whose work involves criminal cases may be responsible for determining the sentence for a guilty party. Most judges are employed in government jobs.



#### **Colleges & Universities to Consider**

American University | Columbia University | Georgetown University | Harvard University

New York University | Stanford University | University of California - Berkeley | University College London

University of Maryland | University of Virginia

**\$117,190**MEDIAN ANNUAL SALARY

\$52,414
STARTING SALARY (MAGISTRATE)
'Law Degree and Extensive Work as a Lawyer Required

**+3%**GROWTH BY 2028



# Career Pathway: Federal Agent



Federal agents represent government organizations such as the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), and the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA). Agents work to uphold the law and protect U.S. citizens. While federal agents have some similar requirements in terms of training, what they do each day as part of their jobs can vary widely. For example, a federal agent may work undercover for the DEA, analyze suspicious internet use for the CIA, or track down crime leads for the FBL



#### **Colleges & Universities to Consider**

American University | George Mason University | George Washington University | Florida State University Northeastern University | Rutgers University | University at Albany, SUNY University of California - Irvine | University of North Carolina - Chapel Hill | Washington State University

\$63,380

MEDIAN ANNUAL SALARY



# **LAW & JUSTICE**

# **Laurel Springs Core Course Offerings**

#### **American History**

Students in this course study the political, cultural, and social development of the United States through a variety of writing assignments, discussions, and projects. Students examine conflicts with Britain and the ideas that lead to the American Revolution including the pivotal people, events, and outcomes of that war. Students will also explore the importance of the Bill of Rights and its impact on American citizenship, the effects of European migration on Native American cultures, the causes and effects of the Civil War as well as reconstruction, immigration, and industrialization. Students will differentiate the domestic impacts of World War I and World War II, progressive reform, U. S. foreign policy, the causes and effects of the Vietnam War, the Cold War, and culminating with leaders and issues of the contemporary United States.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of one year of high school social studies

#### **American Government**

American Government is the study of the historical backgrounds, governing principles, and institutions of the government of the United States. The focus of this course is on the principles and beliefs upon which the United States was founded as well as the structure, functions, and powers of government at the national, state, and local levels. Students will study the principles of popular sovereignty, separation of powers, checks and balances, republicanism, federalism, and individual rights. They will also examine the roles of individuals and groups in the American political system with a focus on voting, the electoral process, polling, and interest groups.

#### **AP English Language & Composition**

AP English Language and Composition prepares students to become skilled readers of prose written in a variety of periods, disciplines, and rhetorical contexts. The reading and writing assignments in this course will make students aware of the interactions among a writer's purposes, audience expectations, and subjects as well as how language choice contributes to the effectiveness of a piece of written work. At the end of the course, they will be prepared not only for the AP exam in English Language and Composition, but any situation requiring critical thinking, clear communication, and analysis of multiple - and sometimes conflicting - viewpoints.

Prerequisite: Junior or senior standing; A or B in English

#### **AP English Literature & Composition**

In AP English Literature and Composition, students will read, analyze, write, rewrite, and discuss creations by world-renowned authors. With intensive concentration on composition skills and on authors' narrative techniques, this experience equips students with recipes for success in college, career, and the AP exam in English Literature and Composition.

Prerequisite: Junior or senior standing; A or B in English

#### **AP Psychology**

Advanced Placement Psychology is a college level course providing students with an overview of the development of human behaviors and thoughts. Along with preparation for the AP Psychology exam, the goals of this course are to immerse students in modern psychological investigation techniques, to accentuate the ethics and morality of human and animal research, and to emphasize scientific critical thinking skills in application to the social sciences.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Biology

#### **AP Statistics**

AP Statistics provides students with hands-on experience collecting, analyzing, graphing, and interpreting data. This course draws connections between all aspects of the statistical process, including design, analysis, and drawing conclusions. Students will use the vocabulary of statistics to communicate statistical methods, results and interpretations. They will also use graphing calculators and read computer output to further the development of their statistical skills. Students will learn to effectively design and analyze research studies by reviewing and evaluating real-world examples taken from an array of professional disciplines including meteorology, medicine, politics, and athletics.

Pre<mark>requi</mark>site: Successful completion of Algebra 2

#### **AP US Government & Politics**

Students will study the intricacies of the American Political Culture in this course. Students will examine primary source documents, research the roles of the president, congress people, Supreme Court justices, the role of the media, political parties, interest groups, states, candidates, bureaucracy, and the public in the governmental process. Finally, students will learn about the large- scale production of policy building in the areas of economic/social policy, foreign policy and public administration. Prerequisite: Successful completion of American History



# **LAW & JUSTICE**

# **Laurel Springs Core Course Offerings**

#### **AP US History**

In AP U.S. History, students investigate the development of American economics, politics, and culture through historical analysis grounded in primary sources, research, and writing. The equivalent of an introductory college-level course, AP U.S. History prepares students for the AP exam and for further study in history, political science, economics, sociology, and law. Through the examination of historical themes and the application of historical thinking skills, students learn to connect specific people, places, events, and ideas to the larger trends of U.S. history.

Prerequisite: "A" or "B" in Social Studies

#### **Psychology**

This course will provide a solid foundation for success in later psychology courses. The concepts discussed here will help you know yourself better; understand your family members, friends, and people you encounter; and improve your relationships. Students will learn how psychologists develop and validate theories and will examine how hereditary, social, and cultural factors help form an individual's behavior and attitudes. Students will also evaluate the effectiveness of different types of psychological counseling and therapy. Highly interactive content includes online discussions that help develop critical thinking skills.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Biology

#### Sociology 1 & 2

The Sociology course takes a fresh and accessible theoretical approach appropriate to our contemporary world. While the course emphasizes the interactionist perspective, students learn a range of theoretical thought, including postmodernism. Students will put into practice what they are learning through innovative methodological exercises in each chapter. This course will allow students to make profound analytic connections between their individual lives and the structure of their society.



# **LAW & JUSTICE**

# **Laurel Springs Elective Course Offerings**

#### **Archaeology: Detectives of the Past**

George Santayana once said, "Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it." The field of archeology helps us to better understand the events and societies of the past that have helped to shape our modern world. This course focuses on this techniques, methods, and theories that guide the study of the past. Students will learn how archaeological research is conducted and interpreted, as well as how artefacts are located and preserved. Finally, students will learn about the relationship of material items to culture and what we can learn about past societies from these items.

#### **Careers in Criminal Justice**

Most of us have watched a sensationalized crime show at one time, but do we really know how things work behind those dreaded prison bars? The criminal justice system is a very complex and serious field that requires many dedicated people willing to pursue equal justice for all. Careers in Criminal Justice will begin to illuminate exactly what those career choices are and how the juvenile justice system, the correctional system, and the trial process all work together to maintain social order. Find out exactly what happens when the television show ends and reality begins.

#### Criminology: Inside the Criminal Mind

In today's world, crime and deviant behavior rank at or near the top of many people's concerns. In this course, we will study the field of Criminology – the study of crime. We will look at possible explanations for crime from the standpoint of psychological, biological and sociological perspectives, explore the categories and social consequences of crime, and investigate how the criminal justice system handles not only criminals, but also their misdeeds. Why do some individuals commit crimes why others do not? What aspects in our culture and society promote crime and deviance? Why are different punishments given for the same crime? What factors... from arrest to punishment...help shape the criminal case process?

#### Cybersecurity 1A & 1B

Ever wonder what it's like to be a hacker? Or think about who is trying to steal your passwords while you're shopping online using the free Wi-Fi at your local coffee shop? Unmask the cybersecurity threats around you by understanding hackers and identifying weaknesses in your online behavior. Learn to avoid the various types of cyber attacks, including those to your social media accounts, and to predict the potential legal consequences of sharing or accessing information that you do not have rights to. Dig into these crimes in depth by taking a look at cyber forensics and other cybersecurity careers. In a world where such threats have no boundaries, cybersecurity will

undoubtedly play an increasingly larger role in our personal and professional lives in the years to come.

#### Forensic Science 1

Fingerprints. Blood spatter. DNA analysis. The world of law enforcement is increasingly making use of the techniques and knowledge from the sciences to better understand the crimes that are committed and to catch those individuals responsible for the crimes. Forensic science applies scientific knowledge to the criminal justice system. This course focuses on some of the techniques and practices used by forensic scientists during a crime scene investigation (CSI). Starting with how clues and data are recorded and preserved, the student will follow evidence trails until the CSI goes to trial, examining how various elements of the crime scene are analyzed and processed.

#### Forensic Science 2

Although the crime scene represents the first step in solving crimes through forensic science, the crime laboratory plays a critical role in the analysis of evidence. This course focuses on the analysis of evidence and testing that takes place within this setting. We will examine some of the basic scientific principles and knowledge that guides forensic laboratory processes, such as those testing DNA, toxicology, and material analysis. Techniques such as microscopy, chromatography, odontology, entomology, mineralogy, and spectroscopy will be examined.

#### Law and Order: Intro to Legal Studies

Every society has laws that its citizens must follow. From traffic laws to regulations on how the government operates, laws help provide society with order and structure. Our lives are guided and regulated by our society's legal expectations. Consumer laws help protect us from faulty goods; criminal laws help to protect society from individuals who harm others; and family law handles the arrangements and issues that arise in areas like divorce and child custody. This course focuses on the creation and application of laws in various areas of society. By understanding the workings of our court system, as well as how laws are actually carried out, we become more informed and responsible citizens in our communities and of our nation.



# **Laurel Springs Elective Course Offerings**

#### **Military Careers**

Most of us have seen a war movie; maybe it had a hotshot aviator or a renegade private or a daring Special Forces operative. But outside of these sensationalized portrayals, do you really understand how the military works or what it can do for you? The military offers far more career diversity than most people imagine, and Introduction to Military Careers will provide the information you need to gain a broader understanding of how to find the right fit. You will learn about the five military branches—Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, Marines Corps, and Navy—and examine which jobs you might like to pursue. From aviation, to medicine, to law enforcement, the military can be an outstanding place to achieve your dreams in a supportive and well-structured environment.

#### **National Security**

Do you know what it takes to keep an entire nation safe? It not only requires knowledge of how to handle disasters, but it also demands a cool head and tremendous leadership abilities. In National Security, you will have the opportunity to learn about the critical elements of the job, such as evaluating satellite information, analyzing training procedures, assessing military engagement, preparing intelligence reports, coordinating information with other security agencies, and applying appropriate actions to various threats. Put yourself in the position of the country's decisive leaders and develop your own knowledge base and skill set necessary to meet the requirements of our nation's most demanding career.

# Principles of Public Service: To Serve & Protect

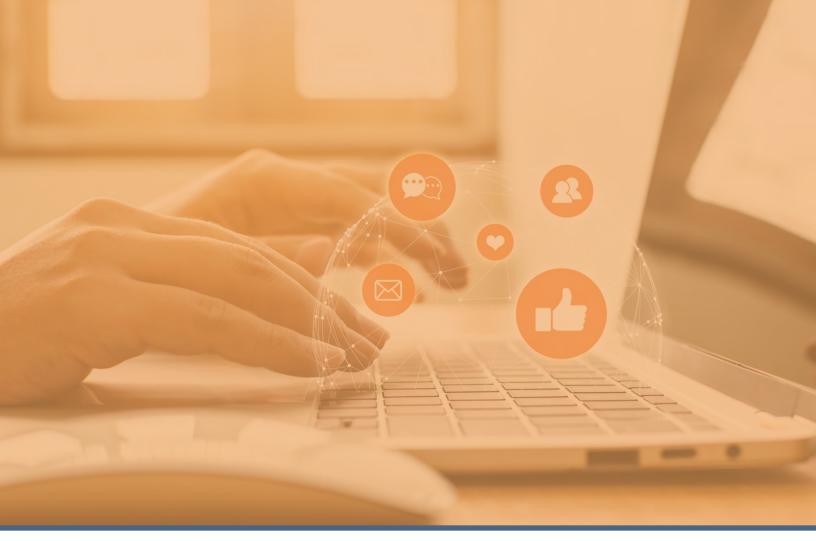
Ambulances scream along, heading toward those in need. But who makes sure someone is there to answer the 9-1-1 call? When you take a pill, who has determined that drug is safe for the public? All of these duties are imperative to our comfort and success as a society. Public service is a field that focuses on building a safe and healthy world, and in Principles of Public Service: To Serve and Protect, you will be introduced to its many different career choices. The protection of society is not only one of our greatest challenges, it also provides ways for people to work together to ensure safety and provide indispensable services. If you've ever contemplated being one of these real-life heroes, now is the time to learn more.

#### Social Problems 1

Students will become aware of the challenges faced by social groups, as well as learn about the complex relationship among societies, governments and the individual. Each unit is focused on a particular area of concern, often within a global context. Possible solutions at both the structural level as well as that of the individual will be examined. Students will not only learn more about how social problems affect them personally, but begin to develop the skills necessary to help make a difference in their own lives and communities, not to mention globally.

#### **Debate Club**

CLUB | There is nothing more lively at Laurel Springs than the Debate Club. Members learn what it means to cultivate and maintain your own individual voice, as the opinions of members can be heard echoing down the virtual halls of Laurel Springs School. Using contemporary topics introduced by the advisor, club members then vote, choose, briefly research, take a pro or con position, gather their arguments, and debate the topic until consensus and resolution is reached. Proper debate techniques are used, as well as expanding into the unique opportunities available in a virtual setting as students explore civic literacy, global awareness, and individual liberties through the utilization of critical, creative, and innovative thinking. This club meets in a supervised setting with feedback and guidance from an advisor who is a seasoned member of the debate community. This club is open to students in grades 9-12.





Marketing and Communications professionals are experts at connecting with individuals and organizations. They live in a world of diverse disciplines, including advertising, brand management, journalism, social media marketing, and more. Students focused on the communications discipline have the opportunity to build a foundation for a career in business, government, public service, or even entrepreneurship.



# Career Pathway: Marketing Manager



#### **Job Summary**

Marketing managers are responsible for developing strategies to market businesses, brands, products, or services and then tracking their results for key stakeholders. They assess the demand for products and services, run comparative analyses about competitors, and determine what markets would be best for the items they are marketing. They develop public relations strategies and keep track of industry trends. In addition, marketing managers sometimes create pricing plans and might help with the development of new products or services.



#### **Colleges & Universities to Consider**

Bucknell University | DePaul University | Emerson College | High Point University
Indiana University - Bloomington | University of Southern California | University of Texas - Austin
University of Virginia | Villanova University | Washington University in St. Louis

\$132,620
MEDIAN ANNUAL SALARY

\$65,000 AVERAGE STARTING SALARY

**+8%**GROWTH BY 2028



# Career Pathway: Technical Writer



Technical writers, also called technical communicators, prepare instruction manuals, how-to guides, journal articles, and other supporting documents to communicate complex and technical information more easily. They also develop, gather, and disseminate technical information through an organization's communications channels.



## **Colleges & Universities to Consider**

Boston University | Indiana University | Middlebury College | New York University | Purdue University | Swarthmore College | University of Chicago | University of Iowa | Wellesley College | Williams College

**\$71,850**MEDIAN ANNUAL SALARY

\$48,000
AVERAGE STARTING SALARY

**+8%**GROWTH BY 2028





## Career Pathway: Public Relations Specialist



#### **Job Summary**

Public relations specialists work on behalf of a company, organization, government, or individual to generate positive publicity while conveying their client's message to the public. They try to portray a particular image of their client, and strive to enhance their reputation. Public relations, often abbreviated as PR, requires close relationships with journalists, photographers, bloggers, and other opinion leaders that are relevant to specific clients. PR specialists may write press releases, presentations, speeches, and social media posts on behalf of their clients. In addition, a public relations specialist might serve as a spokesperson for a client, or prepare a client for a print or video interview.



## **Colleges & Universities to Consider**

American University | Boston University | Butler University | Chapman University | Ithaca College Pennsylvania State University | Pepperdine University | Syracuse University | University of Florida University of Southern California

\$121,060
MEDIAN ANNUAL SALARY

\$69,000
AVERAGE STARTING SALARY

+6% GROWTH BY 2028



# **Laurel Springs Core Course Offerings**

#### **AP English Language & Composition**

AP English Language and Composition prepares students to become skilled readers of prose written in a variety of periods, disciplines, and rhetorical contexts. The reading and writing assignments in this course will make students aware of the interactions among a writer's purposes, audience expectations, and subjects as well as how language choice contributes to the effectiveness of a piece of written work. At the end of the course, they will be prepared not only for the AP exam in English Language and Composition, but any situation requiring critical thinking, clear communication, and analysis of multiple - and sometimes conflicting - viewpoints.

Prerequisite: Junior or senior standing; A or B in English

#### **AP English Literature & Composition**

In AP English Literature and Composition, students will read, analyze, write, rewrite, and discuss creations by world-renowned authors. With intensive concentration on composition skills and on authors' narrative techniques, this experience equips students with recipes for success in college, career, and the AP exam in English Literature and Composition.

Prerequisite: Junior or senior standing; A or B in English

#### **AP Psychology**

Advanced Placement Psychology is a college level course providing students with an overview of the development of human behaviors and thoughts. Along with preparation for the AP Psychology exam, the goals of this course are to immerse students in modern psychological investigation techniques, to accentuate the ethics and morality of human and animal research, and to emphasize scientific critical thinking skills in application to the social sciences.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Biology

#### **AP Statistics**

AP Statistics provides students with hands-on experience collecting, analyzing, graphing, and interpreting data. This course draws connections between all aspects of the statistical process, including design, analysis, and drawing conclusions. Students will use the vocabulary of statistics to communicate statistical methods, results and interpretations. They will also use graphing calculators and read computer output to further the development of their statistical skills. Students will learn to effectively design and analyze research studies by reviewing and evaluating real-world examples taken from an array of professional disciplines including meteorology, medicine, politics, and athletics.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra 2

#### **Economics**

The Economics course begins with a survey of the basic principles concerning production, consumption, and distribution of goods and services within the free enterprise system. Students will examine the rights and responsibilities of consumers and businesses, analyze the interaction of supply, demand, and price, and study the role of financial institutions. The impact of a variety of factors including geography, government intervention, economic philosophies, historic documents, societal values, scientific discoveries and technological innovations on the national economy, and economic policy will be an integral part of the course. Students will also examine the knowledge and skills necessary as self-supporting adults to make critical decisions relating to personal financial matters such as seeking college financial aid, using credit wisely, and balancing financial accounts.

#### **Pre-Calculus**

Pre-Calculus teaches students the concepts and skills necessary to succeed in college-level mathematics courses and in mathematics-based disciplines such as chemistry and physics. The course contains in-depth coverage of trigonometry, logarithms, analytical geometry, and upper-level algebraic concepts. There is also emphasis on multiphase calculations, translations and applied mathematics, problem solving, and the development of productive thought patterns. *Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra 2* 

#### **Psychology**

This course will provide a solid foundation for success in later psychology courses. The concepts discussed here will help you know yourself better; understand your family members, friends, and people you encounter; and improve your relationships. Students will learn how psychologists develop and validate theories and will examine how hereditary, social, and cultural factors help form an individual's behavior and attitudes. Students will also evaluate the effectiveness of different types of psychological counseling and therapy. Highly interactive content includes online discussions that help develop critical thinking skills.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Biology

#### Sociology

The Sociology course takes a fresh and accessible theoretical approach appropriate to our contemporary world. While the course emphasizes the interactionist perspective, students learn a range of theoretical thought, including postmodernism. Students will put into practice what they are learning through innovative methodological exercises in each chapter. This course will allow students to make profound analytic connections between their individual lives and the structure of their society.



# **Laurel Springs Elective Course Offerings**

#### **Advertising and Sales Promotion**

In Advertising and Sales Promotions, you'll see exactly how marketing campaigns, ads, and commercials are conceived and brought to life and even meet some of the creative folks who produce that memorable media. You'll learn about different career opportunities in the field and discover ways that you too can be a part of this exciting, fast-paced industry.

#### **American Sign Language 1**

Did you know that American Sign Language (ASL) is the third most commonly used language in North America? In this course, you will explore Deaf culture – social beliefs, traditions, history, values and communities influenced by deafness. American Sign Language 1 Part A will introduce you to vocabulary and simple sentences so that you can start communicating right away. Part B will introduce you to more of this language and its grammatical structures. You will expand your vocabulary by exploring interesting topics like Deaf education and Deaf arts and culture.

#### **American Sign Language 2**

Building upon American Sign Language 1, you will improve your communication skills and foster your understanding of deaf culture. You will learn about classifiers, glossing, and mouth morphemes, as well as how to give descriptions and directions. Students will learn how to tell a story and ask questions, benefiting with greater exposure to deaf culture.

#### **Business Information Management 1A**

Build your career skills and strengthen your knowledge of business information management by exploring types of businesses and the elements of business planning. Learn about the initial requirements to start a business, then examine business finances, marketing, sales, and the importance of customer service. Computer hardware, networks, and the internet are discussed as well as the basics of web design. Lastly, you will explore ethics and business law, giving you an opportunity to discover your passion for business!

#### **Business Information Management 1B**

Building on the prior prerequisite course, you will become more familiar with the application of information management in business. You will learn about professional conduct, team work, and managerial skills while also examining careers in business technology. The basics of word processing, spreadsheets, databases, and presentation software are explored while you become comfortable operating each of these programs. Finally, the future of business technology is discussed, providing you a foundation in business information management.

#### **Creative Writing**

Literature is one of the most important human art forms. It allows us to give voice to our emotions, create imaginary worlds, express ideas, and escape the confines of material reality. From finding inspiration to building a basic story to using complicated literary techniques and creating strange hybrid forms of poetic prose and prose poetry, this course provides students with a solid grounding in the writing process. By the end of this course, students will learn how to discover their creative thoughts and turn those ideas into fully realized pieces of creative writing.

#### **Journalism**

In our Journalism course, you'll learn how to write a lead that grabs your reader's attention, interview sources effectively, and write engaging news stories. You will explore the history of journalism and how the modern world of social media can provide an excellent platform for news. You'll learn how to transform your writing, photography, and collaborative skills into a journalism-based career.

#### **Marketing Foundations 1A**

Welcome to the fast-paced and exciting world of marketing! You will learn about the role of marketing in business in addition to the basics of business management, customer service, and economics. Also, you will examine how to identify target markets, perform market research, and develop successful marketing strategies. Finally, the legal and ethical considerations of business and marketing are discussed along with the impact of government on business.

#### **Marketing Foundations 1B**

Building on the prior, prerequisite course, you will dive deeper into the marketing world with real world applications and practices. Engage with the marketing mix by studying understanding branding, advertising, promotion strategies, and more. Learn about effective sales techniques and discover employment opportunities to pursue a career in this exciting field!

#### **Photojournalism**

A powerful image can tell a story without words. Students in Photojournalism will be introduced to some of the pioneers who set the standards for this unique way of storytelling. As they study the principal types of photojournalism and the ethical responsibilities a photojournalist has behind the lens, students will develop their storytelling skills through their writing and photographs.



# **Laurel Springs Elective Course Offerings**

# Principles of Business, Marketing, and Finance 1A

Gain fundamental knowledge that will help you pursue a career in business! You will explore the different types of businesses and ownership forms, the impact of governments on business, and the marketing of gods and services. You will also engage with the principles of globalization, free trade, and various economic systems. Finally, the impact of technology on business, business ethics, and social responsibility are discussed, providing you with a foundational knowledge of business.

# Principles of Business, Marketing, and Finance 1B

Building on the prior prerequisite course, you will expand your knowledge of the basics to explore advanced topics, such as marketing strategy, banking, and investments. Finally, examine employability skills and careers in business, finance, and marketing as well as various entrepreneurship opportunities.

#### **Public Speaking**

The art of public speaking is one that underpins the very foundations of Western society. This course examines those foundations in both Aristotle and Cicero's views of rhetoric and then traces those foundations into the modern world. Students will learn not just the theory, but also the practice of effective public speaking, including how to analyze the speeches of others, build a strong argument, and speak with confidence and flair. By the end of this course, students will know exactly what makes a truly successful speech and will be able to put that knowledge to practical use.

#### Social Media: Our Connected World

If you thought social media platforms were just a place to keep track of friends and share personal photos, this course will show you how to use these resources in much more powerful ways. Learning how to interact on social media platforms is crucial to surviving and thriving in this age of digital communication. In Introduction to Social Media, you'll learn the ins and outs of social media platforms, like Facebook, Twitter, Pinterest, Google+, and more and how to use them for your benefit—personally, academically, and eventually professionally.

#### **Sports and Entertainment Marketing**

If you've ever wondered about how things work behind the scenes of a major sporting event such as the Super Bowl or even entertained the idea of playing a role in such an event, then this course will introduce you to the fundamentals of such a career. In this course, you'll have the opportunity to explore basic marketing principles and delve deeper into the multi-billion-dollar sports and entertainment marketing industry. You'll learn about how professional athletes, sports teams, and well-known entertainers are marketed as commodities and how some of them become billionaires as a result.

#### **Creative Writing & Photography**

**CLUB** | Students discover and engage in real world publishing experiences as members of the Creative Writing and Photography Club. Students are considered staff writers, photographers and editors with the culmination of the annual publication of the Laurel Springs Vision and Voices Magazine published at the end of each year. This club is for students who enjoy writing and reading poetry, fiction and non-fiction, and submitting photography to be published. Members improve, enhance, and build on their talent for creativity through peer editing and teacher guidance. Student editors lead a lively monthly meeting to share their creative passions. This club is open to students in grades 7-12.

#### Photography

**CLUB |** Members in the Photography Club have a unique and creative eye capturing images around them. Members submit their varied images of landscapes, people, abstracts, and then share with other members. Some topics are driven by a specific theme or period of time. The shared interest is a love for documenting our amazing world through photography. Members also hone their craft by exploring topics like framing the photos; cropping, filters, creativity, well-known photographers and so much more. This club open to students in grades K-8.





# VISUAL ARTS

Individuals who specialize in Visual Arts tap into their creativity to make products and services come alive. Careers in advertising, forensic investigation, cinema, 3D modeling, game design, and other disciplines are prospective paths for visual artists.



# **Career Pathway: Animator**



Animators create the extensive series of images that comprise animated movies, television series, video games, and commercials. They usually have an area of specialty, like characters, scenery, or background design; some animators specialize in very specific work, such as how hair, trees, or water looks on a windy day. Animators are usually good artists, and also rely on software to do their work. They often collaborate with other animators as part of a larger project team. Animators can produce 2D or 3D work, and must be able to keep up with the latest technology and industry developments.



#### **Colleges & Universities to Consider**

California Institute of the Arts | Carnegie Mellon University | Columbia College Chicago | Pratt Institute Rhode Island School of Design | Ringling College of Art and Design | Rochester Institute of Technology Savannah College of Art and Design | School of Visual Arts | University of Southern California

\$72,520
MEDIAN ANNUAL SALARY

\$43,000
AVERAGE STARTING SALARY

+4% GROWTH BY 2028



# **Career Pathway: Graphic Designer**



Graphic designers create images (by hand or with software) to communicate ideas. They combine art and technology to design logos, develop websites, plan magazine layouts, and produce brochures. The field of graphic design includes both text and images, so graphic designers must be comfortable with font specifications as well as the nuances involved with photography and color. Graphic designers are experts at finding ways to communicate complex information in a visually accessible way, through infographics, diagrams, and charts. They work in all industries, most frequently in advertising and marketing.



## **Colleges & Universities to Consider**

Boston University | Chapman University | Maryland Institute College of Art
North Carolina State University | Northeastern University | Rhode Island School of Design
Texas Christian University | The New School (Parsons School of Design) | University of Pennsylvania

\$50,370 MEDIAN ANNUAL SALARY \$40,000 AVERAGE STARTING SALARY **+3%**GROWTH BY 2028



# **Career Pathway: Fashion Designer**



Fashion designers create prototypes for clothing, shoes, and accessories. They research fashion trends, collaborate with a design team to produce collections, work with manufacturers regarding fabric samples and production timelines, and market their designs to clothing retailers. Most fashion designers are expected to have sewing skills, knowledge of sewing patterns and fabrics, and familiarity with design software. The fashion design field is highly competitive.



## **Colleges & Universities to Consider**

Central Saint Martins | Cornell University | Drexel University | ESMOD International Fashion Institute of Design & Merchandising | Fashion Institute of Techology | Kent State University London College of Fashion | Savannah College of Art and Design | The New School (Parsons School of Design)

**\$72,720**MEDIAN ANNUAL SALARY

\$35,000
AVERAGE STARTING SALARY

**+1%**GROWTH BY 2028



# **Laurel Springs Core Course Offerings**

#### **African American History**

How have African Americans shaped the culture of the United States throughout history? Tracing the accomplishments and obstacles of African Americans from the slave trade through emancipation, and to the modern African diaspora, you will learn about the political, economic, social, religious, and cultural factors that have influenced African American life. In African American History, you'll come face to face with individuals who changed the course of history and learn more about slavery, racism, and the Civil Rights Movement. You will also explore how the history of African Americans influences current events today.

#### **AP English Language & Composition**

AP English Language and Composition prepares students to become skilled readers of prose written in a variety of periods, disciplines, and rhetorical contexts. The reading and writing assignments in this course will make students aware of the interactions among a writer's purposes, audience expectations, and subjects as well as how language choice contributes to the effectiveness of a piece of written work. At the end of the course, they will be prepared not only for the AP exam in English Language and Composition, but any situation requiring critical thinking, clear communication, and analysis of multiple - and sometimes conflicting - viewpoints.

Prerequisite: Junior or senior standing; A or B in English

## **AP English Literature & Composition**

In AP English Literature and Composition, students will read, analyze, write, rewrite, and discuss creations by world-renowned authors. With intensive concentration on composition skills and on authors' narrative techniques, this experience equips students with recipes for success in college, career, and the AP exam in English Literature and Composition.

Prerequisite: Junior or senior standing; A or B in English

#### **AP European History**

The Advanced Placement course in European History is designed to provide students with the factual knowledge and analytical skills necessary to understand and evaluate the evolution of European history from approximately 1450 to the present. The course is divided into units that focus on the intellectual and cultural, political and diplomatic, and social and economic developments in Europe. The significance of varying viewpoints and interpretations of a variety of episodes and issues will introduce students to historiography and the evaluation of historical evidence. Students will be required to analyze, synthesize, and evaluate primary and secondary historical sources, in addition to comprehending, memorizing, and applying facts.

#### **AP Human Geography**

The AP Human Geography course is designed to provide college level instruction on the patterns and processes that impact the way humans understand, use, and change Earth's surface. Students use geographic models, methods, and tools to examine human social organization and its effect on the world in which we live. Students are challenged to use maps and geographical data to examine spatial patterns and analyze the changing interconnections among people and places.

#### **AP Psychology**

Advanced Placement Psychology is a college level course providing students with an overview of the development of human behaviors and thoughts. Along with preparation for the AP Psychology exam, the goals of this course are to immerse students in modern psychological investigation techniques, to accentuate the ethics and morality of human and animal research, and to emphasize scientific critical thinking skills in application to the social sciences.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Biology

#### **Drama Literature**

Drama in Literature begins with a look at the origins of drama in the western world. Students learn about the theatre of ancient Greece, reading two key tragedies, Oedipus Rex and Antigone. Students visit Shakespearean England and learn about the playwright himself, the era in which he wrote and about the Globe Theatre, reading The Tempest. Victorian England is the next stop, where Oscar Wilde takes the stage. Students study Wilde's writing in the context of his complicated life. Students visit the Existentialist theatre, again focusing on the social context and philosophical underpinnings of the drama; they learn about the absurdist movement.

#### **Philosophy & Ethics**

Students examine in-depth the role of philosophy past, present and future. Upon completion of the course, students can expect to better understand the basic history of the various schools of thought, appreciate various methods for understanding and challenging logical and analytical arguments, and personally explore their own philosophical orientation on many current topics.



# **VISUAL ARTS**

# **Laurel Springs Core Course Offerings**

#### **Psychology**

This course will provide a solid foundation for success in later psychology courses. The concepts discussed here will help you know yourself better; understand your family members, friends, and people you encounter; and improve your relationships. Students will learn how psychologists develop and validate theories and will examine how hereditary, social, and cultural factors help form an individual's behavior and attitudes. Students will also evaluate the effectiveness of different types of psychological counseling and therapy. Highly interactive content includes online discussions that help develop critical thinking skills.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Biology

#### Shakespearean Literature

Students will read a variety of the works of William Shakespeare. They will learn about the literary, historical, and biographical contexts of Shakespeare's works. Students will understand the plots and themes presented in the readings, as well as their implications for both Shakespeare's time and the present day. Background information on the history of Elizabethan times and the theatre provides guidance and a foundation as students progress through the course.

#### Sociology 1 & 2

The Sociology course takes a fresh and accessible theoretical approach appropriate to our contemporary world. While the course emphasizes the interactionist perspective, students learn a range of theoretical thought, including postmodernism. Students will put into practice what they are learning through innovative methodological exercises in each chapter. This course will allow students to make profound analytic connections between their individual lives and the structure of their society.

#### **World Cultures**

In World Geography, students will learn the six essentials of geography: spatial terms, places and regions, physical systems, human systems, environment and society, and uses of geography. After a broad survey of Earth's structure, hydrosphere and climates, the focus of each Unit narrows to a particular region of the world. By examining the physical geography of each region, including water resources, climate, vegetation, and natural resources, students will understand the influence of geography on economic activities, human culture, and history. In addition, students will investigate the impact of human activity on the environment, including pollution and development, and consider the implications.



# **Laurel Springs Elective Course Offerings**

#### **Animation**

Do you have an eye for drawing, technology, and timing? 2D animation creates movement in a two-dimensional artistic space and will give you the tools to conceptualize and bring your animation dreams to life! Design, define and complete a variety of digital design projects including creating your website.

#### **Art History 1**

Interpreting the origins of art gives students a unique perspective on their work. In Art History I, students will analyze various art forms including painting, sculpture, and architecture over the changing periods. Beginning with the study of the earliest cave paintings, students will create art to immerse themselves in the content and study various movements.

#### **Art History 2**

Appreciating the cultural context of art in the modern era relies on analyzing artistic principles, abstract symbolism, and design techniques. Students in Art History II will explore trends from Post-Impressionism to street art and understand the formal and conceptual issues that foster changes in art throughout history.

#### **Arts Explorations**

Arts Explorations encourages students to experience each of the modern art disciplines including Visual Arts, Theatre, Music, Media Arts, and Dance. Students will also be able to identify areas of special interest where they would like continued study and ways that the arts can be a part of their career paths.

# Digital Photography I: Creating Images with Impact

Digital Photography I focuses on the basics of photography including aperture, shutter speed, lighting, and composition. Students are introduced to the history of photography and basic camera functions. Students use the basic techniques of composition and camera functions to build a portfolio of images with various subjects including people, landscapes, close-up photos, and action shots.

# Digital Photography II: Discovering Your Creative Potential

In this course, we will examine various aspects of professional photography, including the ethics of the profession, and examine some of the areas that professional photographers may choose to specialize in, such as wedding photography and product photography. We will also learn more about some of the most

respected professional photographers in history and we will learn how to critique photographs to better understand what creates eyecatching photography.

#### **Explorations in Arts Careers**

For every Broadway dancer, every television star, and every pop singer, there are countless people behind the scenes helping to make it happen. Explorations in Arts Careers introduces students to the skills that are part of many fascinating careers in the arts. Studying the arts creates independent and innovative thinkers and many doors are open to an artist with the proper training.

#### **Explorations in Media Arts**

From television to video games, media is everywhere. In Explorations in Media Arts, students will study the art behind the media, how it is created, the history of media, and the legal and ethical issues that arise while creating media arts. Students will apply critical thinking skills to creating web, video, animation, and graphic media projects.

#### **Explorations in Studio Arts**

Drawing and painting are two of the most basic forms of self-expression. In Explorations in Studio Arts, students will elevate those skills and develop an understanding of colors, shapes, composition, and design. By studying renowned artists and their styles, students will investigate their forms of expression and build a vocabulary of tools and materials to enhance their creativity.

#### Introduction to Digital Photography

Understanding the tools available opens up the possibilities to create images with impact. In Introduction to Digital Photography, students will study the history of photography as well as the basic operation of a digital camera. As they are introduced to different styles of photography and photographers, students will begin to develop artistic skills as well as their voice through their photographs.

#### **Photo Manipulation**

By using accessible software tools and applications including Photoshop, students in Photo Manipulation will learn strategies for creating complex imagery. Students will incorporate the principles of design while creating unique new concepts in their art.



# **VISUAL ARTS**

## **Laurel Springs Elective Course Offerings**

#### Studio Arts I: Techniques and Tool

With the right foundation, creativity can flourish. In Studio Arts I, students build the groundwork for their art by practicing unique exercises to develop drawing, painting and mixed media skills. Incorporating their understanding of composition, design, colors, and forms, students will use the appropriate materials and tools to work from realism to abstract.

#### **Studio Arts II: Concepts and Expressions**

Developing a unique personal style and creating complex imagery is possible for any artist. Students in Studio Arts II will engage in techniques that take their work to a more sophisticated level. Analyzing other artists and their works will help students find deeper meaning and new interpretations.

#### Art

**CLUB** | Monet, Matisse, Picasso, and contemporary artists are revealed and explored by members in the Art Club. Students gain inspiration from artists across the globe and varying eras. Members also share their own artistic expressions and endeavors culminating in a virtual art club portfolio distributed school wide. Art Club advisors share their passion of art and creative expression while students lead the meetings and share their artistic expressions. This club is open to students in grades 7-12.

#### **Photography**

**CLUB |** Members in the Photography Club have a unique and creative eye capturing images around them. Members submit their varied images of landscapes, people, abstracts, and then share with other members. Some topics are driven by a specific theme or period of time. The shared interest is a love for documenting our amazing world through photography. Members also hone their craft by exploring topics like framing the photos; cropping, filters, creativity, well-known photographers and so much more. This club open to students in grades K-8.