

2011–2012

Language Arts

Math



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Credit Recovery Catalog

English I (E)

In this credit recovery course, students learn about modern forms of communication and the media, with a focus on the Internet. They also explore elements of fiction and expository texts, build their vocabulary, and develop their language skills through reading and writing assignments. Vocabulary lists and definitions are provided in both English and Spanish. Tools to improve study skills are embedded throughout the course; threaded discussions, rubrics, and study guides help students absorb and proactively respond to the course content. Because the course is designed specifically for credit recovery students, content is appropriately grouped into smaller topics to increase retention and expand opportunities for assessment.

English II (E)

In English II Credit Recovery, students conduct an in-depth survey of literature. They read literary works from a variety of genres and cultures and examine both classic and modern periods. In the process, students learn about literary techniques and the effectiveness and purposes of common literary devices. The course stresses critical thinking skills; assignments include speaking and writing projects to help students develop these skills. Students continue to build their vocabulary in this course; as in English I (E), vocabulary lists and definitions are provided in English and Spanish. Interactive questions and games allow students to check their understanding before taking assessments.

English III (E)

This credit recovery course helps students understand how the reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills they have been developing in high school can be applied to work they may do in college courses and in their future careers. In English III, students use an online literature anthology to continue their study of literature. Course content progresses chronologically through the periods of American literature, from Native American oral traditions through contemporary works of poetry, fiction, drama, and nonfiction. Each unit focuses on a literary movement through the lens of an overlying theme. Students continue to work on their vocabulary skills and supplement their learning with multiple-choice games, self-check activities, and writing projects.

English IV (E)

English IV Credit Recovery is a condensed version of the English IV Foundations course. Its format and length makes it a great fit for summer programs and other contexts in which instructional time and teacher time may be limited. In this course, students read and analyze classic, modern, and contemporary literary works. Reading selections, which are contained in an online literary anthology, include plays, short stories, poetry, essays, and novels. Students think critically about the complex issues posed in the readings and express their interpretations of these issues in essays, research papers, journals, and oral presentations. Students learn about the validity of sources as they complete their writing assignments.

Algebra I (E)

This credit recovery course is designed to allow students to gain mastery in working with and evaluating mathematical expressions, equations, and graphs and performing other algebraic tasks. In Algebra I, students learn about real numbers, simplifying real number expressions with and without variables, solving linear equations and inequalities, solving quadratic equations, graphing linear and quadratic equations, polynomials, factoring, linear patterns, linear systems of equality and inequality, simple matrices, sequences, and radicals. They also learn about basic statistics, including measures of central tendencies and box plots. Organized in nine units, the instructional material includes auditory readings to help auditory learners engage with the content.

Algebra II

Algebra II Credit Recovery expands on the mathematical content of Algebra I and Geometry and serves as a foundation for the material presented in subsequent mathematics courses (for example, Trigonometry and Calculus). In this course, the emphasis is on functions and using algebraic solutions to solve various types of problems. Students are encouraged to develop their abstract thinking skills as well as their computational skills. The two-semester course covers the following topics: linear and quadratic

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functions, radical functions, rational functions, exponential and logarithmic functions, trigonometric functions, systems of equality, geometry, conic sections, statistics and probability.

Geometry (E)

Geometry Credit Recovery is a comprehensive course featuring geometric terms and processes, logic, and problem solving. The course begins by giving students an immediate connection to the content and concepts they have learned in their Algebra courses. (Building on prior knowledge helps students absorb new content.) Students go on to learn about parallel line and planes; rays and angles; congruent triangles; inequalities; quadrilaterals; circles; polygons; perimeter, area, and volume; inductive and deductive reasoning; and translations, reflections, and rotations. They study various forms of proofs and develop their reasoning and problem-solving skills by studying similarity, areas, volumes, circles, and coordinate geometry.

Biology (E)

This credit recovery course is an introduction to biology, which is the branch of knowledge that deals with living organisms and vital processes. In Biology, students learn about the processes of scientific inquiry (the diverse ways in which scientists study the natural world and propose explanations based on the evidence derived from their work). They also learn about the fundamental principles of living organisms, including physical and chemical properties of life, cellular organization and function, and the transfer of energy. The course also addresses cellular reproduction, the classification of living things, and the six kingdoms of life. Students explore ecology and ecosystems and conclude the course with a unit on human biology and populations.

Earth Science (E)

Earth Science is the study of the body of knowledge and facts accumulated over time from people's observations of the earth and the skies. This credit recovery course begins with an in-depth study of geology (the study of the history of the earth and the life forms that populate it, especially as recorded in fossilized rock). It continues with units on hydrology and oceanography (the study of the earth's waters), meteorology (the study of the earth's atmosphere), and astronomy (the study of the universe beyond earth). Using careful observation and experimentation, students learn to analyze and evaluate the earth's natural phenomena and their causes as well as the earth's relationship to the universe.

Physical Science (E)

This credit recovery course is an introductory course to high school science courses. In Physical Science (E), students expand on their middle school science experiences to prepare for subsequent courses in Biology, Chemistry, and Physics. The course emphasizes scientific thinking as a way of understanding the natural phenomena that surround us. It includes real and virtual lab exercises and gives students the skills to discuss a number of scientific topics, understand how science is used in their daily lives, and become comfortable with solving simple algebraic expressions that support scientific laws. Built with the credit recovery student in mind, the course content is grouped into smaller topics to increase retention and expand opportunities for assessment.

American Government* (E)

This one-semester credit recovery course covers the historical backgrounds, governing principles, and institutions of the government of the United States. The focus is on the principles and beliefs that the United States was founded on and on the structure, functions, and powers of government at the national, state, and local levels. In American Government, students examine the principles of popular sovereignty, separation of powers, checks and balances, republicanism, federalism, and individual rights. They also learn about the roles of individuals and groups in the American political system. Students compare the American system of government with other modern systems and assess the strengths and problems associated with the American version.

American History (E)

This credit recovery course gives students a basic understanding of American history. The course begins with the settling of America and continues through present-day domestic and foreign issues that affect American society. In this course, students analyze influential documents and learn about significant individuals who contributed to the nation's development. They study the causes and effects of the various wars in which Americans have fought, and they use critical thinking and problem-solving skills as they take part in interactive discussions and complete a variety of assignments. By the end of the course, students have the knowledge to discuss the characteristics that define the United States as a world power.

Science

Social Studies

Social Studies

Economics* (E)

In this one-semester credit recovery course, students gain a basic understanding of economics. The course uses real-world economic applications to help students better grasp a range of economic concepts, including macro- and microeconomic concepts. The course covers the American free enterprise system and addresses how this system affects the global economy. Students learn how to think like economists as they study economic principles and different economic systems. They analyze and interpret data to understand the laws of supply and demand. Examining the world of business, money, banking, and finance helps students understand how economics is applied both domestically and globally.

Geography (E)

Designed for credit recovery students, this course examines a broad range of geographical perspectives covering all of the major regions of the world. Each region is reviewed in a similar structure so that students can clearly see the similarities and differences between regions. Specifically, the course explores where each region is located, along with its physical characteristics, including absolute and relative location, climate, and significant geographical features. The course then examines each region from a cultural, economic, and political perspective, closely examining the human impact on the region from these perspectives as well as how human activities affect the environments of the region.

World History (E)

World History Credit Recovery is a survey of world history from prehistoric to contemporary times. Students learn about the socioeconomic, political, and ideological conditions of various time periods as they study historical events, cultural achievements, and world regions. Using primary and secondary sources, they employ critical thinking and problem-solving skills as they conduct inquiry-based research, participate in interactive discussions, and complete assignments establishing real-world connections. By the end of the course, students can articulate the relationship between historical occurrences and contemporary situations. They can also predict how contemporary issues will affect future generations, based on historical evidence.

Health* (E)

This one-semester credit recovery course provides students with information that will help them live a more healthy and productive life. The emphasis is on making healthy personal decisions and in getting the information needed to make those choices. The course addresses both mental and physical health. Students learn about nutrition, including food guidelines and types of food; eating disorders are also covered. Students learn about first aid and CPR, substance abuse, and human sexuality. The course also covers consumer health resources, including government resources, nonprofit resources, and health insurance. Students learn how technology is influencing health care, and they examine the benefits of frequent physical exercise.

Physical Education

Through this one-semester credit recovery course, students learn a wide variety of fitness concepts that they will be able to use in their everyday life. The course addresses the fundamentals of physical fitness, including goal setting and target heart rate. Students learn about how their body works by studying static and dynamic balance, linear and rotary motion, anatomy, and biomechanics. They are introduced to a variety of lifetime activities, including tennis, golf, Frisbee, and orienteering. They also learn about activities to promote cardiorespiratory fitness, including kickboxing, hip hop dance, fitness walking, and cycling. Pilates, yoga, and breathing exercises that help promote physical and emotional wellness are addressed as well.

Spanish I

This credit recovery course provides students with instruction in the basics of learning the language of Spanish. Content includes topics such as greetings, time, dates, colors, clothing, numbers, weather, family, houses, sports, food and drink, and school. The course also introduces basic and stem-changing verbs and their formation and use in the present tense. Students also learn about interrogatives, question formation, and adjectives and their form and use, in addition to possessives, prepositions, and other grammatical structures. Finally, students become acquainted with the Spanish-speaking countries of the world and their cultures, and they learn practical information, such as restaurant vocabulary and expressions of invitation.

* = .5 credit course

(E) = ELL-supported content (English language learners)

Electives