The Adelson School

Focus Areas and Courses

High School 2025-2026

This guide presents elective courses being offered during the 2025-2026 school year and previews courses offered in other years.

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Focus Areas, PSAT/SAT Prep, and Notes

Electives are organized into Focus Areas to allow students opportunities to explore thematic areas of interest in high school: Biomedical Science (MED); Legal Studies, Ethics, and Policy (LAW); ARTS (ART); Technology (TECH); and Business (BIZ). Students may also take a mentored course in Jewish Studies (JS).

Focus Area Scope and Sequence
Each Focus Area course is one year in duration. ***All high schoolers' schedules include two elective choices. Additionally, juniors and seniors will be assigned to a period that will be one semester of College Counseling (fall for seniors, spring for juniors) and one semester of study hall/test prep.*** A study hall is granted under specific circumstances (such as providing study time for a student with two or more AP courses, or facilitating an internship) and requires parental request. Unlike magnet programs, students are not required to remain in the same Focus Areas throughout high school. Some courses may be repeated for credit. Admittance to some courses may require an interview. Course signups are on a first-come, first-served basis.

Course Levels (All courses)
Adelson courses are offered at different levels including College Prep, Honors, Advanced Placement (AP)/Advanced Topic (AT). Some courses at the College Prep level may be elevated to the Honors level via an Honors Enrichment contract in which the instructor delineates the additional work products the student will produce. Students taking an AP course are required to take the associated end-of-year AP exam. Some courses are offered as combined Honors/AP with the Honors version not requiring AP preparation and students not sitting for the AP exam. Course quality points (GPA weighting) are adjusted accordingly. AT courses are the same difficulty level as AP courses and earn the same course quality points as AP courses, but there is no culminating AP exam. For each AP/AT course, students and their parents are required to sign an AP/AT contract delineating the performance requirements; students not performing at the expected level may be releveled at any time to the Honors level.

PSAT/SAT Prep – Back-to-School Boot Camp Week
Strongly encouraged for: Grades 10, 11 & 12; Grade 9 invited

The Adelson School invests significant resources in preparing high school students for the PSAT and SAT college entrance exams. While college admissions criteria continue to evolve, students strengthen their applications through high SAT scores and may win substantial scholarship monies by attaining PSAT Commended or National Merit Scholar status. As such, high schoolers at The Adelson School are strongly encouraged to take an ***optional*** **Bullseye PSAT/SAT boot camp provided by the school on campus at the end of the summer, from August 4-8**. ***Space is limited.*** If seats remain available as the start date approaches, freshmen may enroll for the boot camp as well. Boot campers are expected to attend daily and fulfill all requirements including outside work beyond class hours. Attentive participation is expected – students behaving inappropriately may be asked to leave the boot camp. Details regarding the PSAT/SAT Prep Boot Camp are available from our College Counselor. Additional PSAT/SAT Prep will also be conducted during advisory periods throughout the school year.

Notes Regarding Arts Credits, Health, and World Languages

During high school, all students must engage in the equivalent of two semesters of an **arts** credit. This can be fulfilled through any year-long Arts Focus Area course or through participation in two ACT (Adelson Community Theater) productions.

During high school, all students must obtain a one-semester credit of **Health**. This course is not offered at Adelson. It may be fulfilled from prior course engagement in middle school, or else it must be taken from an outside provider such as BYU Online. Students should confer with our College Counselor to ensure they are on track to complete this requirement by the end of semester one during their senior year.

Students have several options regarding the fulfillment of their **world language** requirement:

- Starting with the Class of 2029, Hebrew will be required during freshman, sophomore, and junior years. Spanish and Mandarin will still be offered as elective courses, but they will not fulfill the world language requirement.
- Members of the Class of 2028 and earlier are not required to take Hebrew and may continue taking Spanish or Chinese as their world language.
- Three years of a World Language are required and must be taken in consecutive years.
- Level III and IV Hebrew and Mandarin, and Level III, IV, and AP Spanish are offered in Block 7 and/or Block 8.

Biomedical Science (MED)

The Biomedical Science focus area addresses the integrative study of biology and medicine. Topics of study include physiology, anatomy, epidemiology, immunology, molecular biology, and microbiology. Students experience these topics through project-based learning, hands-on laboratory experiences, and research projects. Future possible careers include medicine, veterinary science, nursing, dentistry, public health, and biology. **Students participating in Biomedical Science courses are expected to prepare for and compete in HOSA - Future Health Professionals competition (held off site).** Biomed students can further enhance their knowledge and deepen their experience by participating in the following:

Organizations and Competitions: *Science National Honor Society, Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA-HS), Science Fair*

Courses

AP Biology

Open to: Grades 11 & 12
Prerequisites: Honors Biology and Honors Chemistry with a grade of a B+ or higher
The AP Biology course is designed to offer students a solid foundation in introductory college-level biology. The course addresses key foundational themes in biology structured around four Big Ideas: Evolution, Energy Processes, Information, and Interactions. Students will develop an appreciation for the study of life and an understanding of the unifying principles within a diverse biological world.

AP Chemistry

Open to: Grades 11 & 12
Prerequisites: Honors Chemistry with a grade of B+ or higher
The AP Chemistry course is a rigorous college-level course that provides students with a foundational understanding of chemical principles and processes. The course teaches scientific inquiry, problem-solving, and analytical skills through laboratory experiments and theoretical studies. Topics covered include atomic structure, chemical bonding, kinetics, thermodynamics, and equilibrium. Students will learn how to apply quantitative and qualitative analysis to solve complex chemical problems. Successfully completing the course and the AP exam can earn students college credit.

Human Body Systems - Honors

Open to: Grades 9 & 10
Prerequisite/corequisite: Biology
Students examine the interactions of body systems in this Project Lead The Way course exploring identity, communication, power, movement, protection, and homeostasis. Working with Maniken skeletons all year, students investigate the structures and functions of the human body by "building" an entire human in a novel, highly dynamic version of the classic anatomy and physiology course!

Kinesiology - Honors

Open to: Grades 9-12 (All High School Block)
Prerequisite/corequisite: Biology
Notes: Lowerclassmen (freshmen and sophomores) have priority enrollment; upperclassmen seeking a biomedical science elective should prioritize AP Chemistry as their course choice.
Kinesiology offers a comprehensive introduction to the principles of human movement, anatomy, and physiology, providing a solid foundation for understanding the mechanics of the human body. Through engaging lectures, hands-on labs, and practical activities, students will explore the interplay among muscles, bones, and joints, and learn how this knowledge applies to fields such as sports medicine and physical therapy. The curriculum includes detailed studies of biomechanics, muscle function, injury prevention and injury treatment and rehabilitation, equipping students with the skills necessary for careers in health and fitness industries. Additionally, this course prepares students for HOSA competition (required of all students), emphasizing teamwork, leadership, and critical thinking in healthcare scenarios.

Principles of Biomedical Science - Honors

Open to: Grades 9 & 10
Prerequisite/corequisite: Biology
In this Project Lead The Way course, students will, "analyze evidence at a crime scene to help the medical examiner uncover clues left on a body to solve a mystery; question, diagnose, and "treat" patients in a family medical practice; track the source of an outbreak at a local hospital; access and stabilize a patient during an emergency and prepare for mobile medical care and surgery; and collaborate with professionals in other fields to innovate and design solutions to local and global medical problems." Our future doctors will get a jumpstart on their career with units including, "Master the Morgue," "Emergency Response," and "Nosocomial Nightmare!"

Jewish Studies (JS)

The Jewish Studies Department of the Adelson Educational Campus offers a pluralistic academic setting and engaging coursework for all its students. While all students take Jewish Studies courses as part of their required curriculum, this focus area provides interested students a deeper, mentored exploration of Judaism. Students can design their own path to foster a true connection to Jewish beliefs and practices through a critical examination of Jewish history, *halakhah*, ethics, and philosophy. Students who wish to concentrate in this focus area can enhance their experience by participating in related organizations, Moot Beit Din competition, in-school services, and community work.

Organizations and Competitions: *Kabbalat Shabbat Planning Committee, Tzofim, Moot Beit Din Competition*

Course

Foundations of Torah Shebe'al Peh: The Oral Tradition of Judaism
Open to: Grades 11 & 12
This engaging and accessible course offers an in-depth introduction to Torah Shebe'al Peh, the Oral Torah, exploring its origins, transmission, and development throughout Jewish history. Students will examine the structure and content of key texts such as the Mishnah, Talmud, and Midrash. Through guided study and discussion of classical sources and rabbinic commentaries, we will trace how the Oral Torah shapes halachic discourse and Jewish thought and how it continues to guide Jewish practice and values today—highlighting its central role in preserving and interpreting the Torah across generations.

Mentored Jewish Studies - Honors
Open to: Grades 9-12
Options: May be taken multiple times
Students may choose to conduct an independent, mentored course in Jewish Studies, addressing in depth a subject of interest throughout the year. Topics may include exploration of foundational Jewish texts; examination of Jewish values and essential questions through multiple philosophical perspectives; research of Jewish history, geography, and culture; development of the state of Israel; or any other theme that the student seeks to investigate deeply. A student who enrolls in this course will collaborate with his or her mentor to develop a course plan which delineates a schedule of learning and a culminating work product demonstrative of consistent investment in, and growth through, the mentored experience.

Legal Studies, Ethics, & Policy (LAW)

The Law Focus Area addresses studies of law, government, history, Jewish studies, ethics, and political science. Topics are addressed through both secular and Jewish law (*halakhah*) lenses. At the high school level, the emphases of the Law Focus Area focus predominantly on constitutional and case law, argumentation, ethics, and policymaking. Students will experience these topics through research, debate, and competition-based learning. Possible future careers include attorney, civil servant, criminologist, educator, judge, and homeland security specialist. Students who wish to concentrate in this Focus Area can enhance their knowledge and deepen their experience by participating in related organizations, competitions, and volunteer work.

Organizations and Competitions: *Jewish Model United Nations, Moot Beit Din*
Extracurricular Opportunities: *NV Youth Legislature, US Senate Youth Program*

Course

Ethics – Honors
This year-long course explores the predominant ethical traditions from ancient Greece to early 20th century Germany through four key figures: Aristotle, Maimonides, Kant, and the Kantian Salomo Friedlaender. Students will engage two central texts, Aristotle's *Nicomachean Ethics* and Kant's *Metaphysics of Morals*, while examining how these foundational works influenced, and were reinterpreted by, Maimonides and Friedlaender.

Law I, II, III, IV (Jewish Model United Nations) - Honors
Open to: Grades 9 & 10 and Grades 11 & 12 (Two sections)
Option: May be taken multiple times
Law students hone skills in policy-making through Jewish Model United Nations (JMUN) – a simulation in which students debate global issues, mirroring the real-world United Nations. Delegates (students) represent countries and join committees where they research and develop positions based on their assigned country's policies and Jewish ethics. Delegates engage in rigorous debates, draft resolutions, and negotiate with allies and adversaries to resolve conflicts and address international issues. This competition not only enhances students' understanding of international relations and diplomacy but also integrates Jewish values and teachings, fostering a distinctive educational experience. JMUN grows leadership skills and an appreciation for the relevance of Jewish thought to contemporary global issues. ***Students enrolled in Law are required to engage in the Jewish Model UN competition (off site).***

Club

Moot Beit Din Competition Club
Open to: Grades 9-12
Options: May be taken multiple times
Moot Beit Din competition engages students in rabbinic argumentation and decision-making. Participants are presented with a contemporary ethical or legal issue, and they must apply traditional Jewish legal texts to craft a well-reasoned response in a written brief. Teams then defend their interpretations and solutions before a panel of judges, typically composed of rabbis and Jewish scholars, in a simulated courtroom setting. This competition both deepens students' understanding of Jewish law and ethics and also enhances their analytical thinking, writing, and

public speaking skills. Moot Beit Din fosters a unique blend of religious study, legal analysis, and communal debate. ***Students participating in this club may choose to participate in the national Moot Beit Din competition (off site).***

Arts (ART)

The Arts focus area consists of visual arts, media production, performing arts, publications, journalism, and writing. Confidence in creating publications, performances, artworks, and media presentations is vital in communication arts careers and for anyone wanting to express themselves through literary, performance, design, and media. ART demands creativity, ingenuity, design prowess, and passion, leading to possible future careers in public relations, broadcasting, journalism, marketing, music, arts performance, and media production. Students who wish to explore this focus area can deepen their experience by participating in related organizations, competitions, publications, exhibitions, and festivals.

HS Organizations and Competitions: *Scholastic Art and Writing Competition, film festivals, UPstage productions, Brett Fonfa Writing Competition, Adelson Literary Magazine, student newspaper*

Courses

Adelson Ensemble
Open to: Grades 9-12 (All High School Block)
Option: May be taken multiple times
Explore the art of musical collaboration in our ensemble class, where students come together to create harmonious melodies and dynamic rhythms. Students will develop their musical proficiency while learning the importance of teamwork and communication. From more traditional to contemporary genres, this course offers a diverse, student driven repertoire to challenge and inspire students of all levels. Participants will delve into the nuances of ensemble playing, refining their technique and musical expression. Join us and experience the joy of making music together in a supportive and creative environment!

Advanced Art Honors
Open to: Grades 11 & 12
Prerequisite: Studio Art or Drawing and Painting, and teacher recommendation
Course may be repeated two times
Advanced Art Honors extends the depth and expertise of the art student, from concept to finished craft. This course is intended for students with a strong interest and aptitude in visual arts, building upon essential foundational skills to explore more complex techniques, concepts, and personal artistic expression. Fundamental skills have been developed in Studio Art/Drawing and Painting, and the student has received a teacher recommendation for the course. Advanced Art Honors students will refine and expand their knowledge of art principles, techniques, and media, moving beyond exercises to more challenging projects. Students will learn to analyze art critically, both their own work and that of others, developing a deeper understanding of art history, theory, and context. Students will engage in long-term assignments that require in-depth research, experimentation, and self-directed learning. Creative expression, and artistic risk-taking are cultivated and celebrated in Advanced Art Honors. Students will build a strong portfolio of work, which can be used for college applications or to showcase their skills and talent. The course may serve as preparation for Advanced Placement (AP) art courses and can be repeated two times. Students will participate in school art exhibitions.

AP Art and Design
Open to: Grades 11 & 12
Prerequisite: Studio Art/Drawing and Painting, Advanced Studio Art
AP Art and Design course is designed to help students develop a mastery of art and design skills. The goal of AP Art and Design is to complete a portfolio that achieves the rigorous criteria of a college-level course. Students will produce an AP Art and Design portfolio consisting of work that meets or exceeds the requirements for the two sections: Selected Works (Quality) and Sustained Investigation (Concentration). Students will develop mastery in concept, composition,
and execution of 2D design elements and principles using a variety of concepts and approaches to demonstrate ideas and abilities. AP Art and Design students work with diverse media, styles, subjects, and content. Students will engage in long-term assignments that require in-depth research, experimentation, and self-directed learning. This course is for a serious artist who will make the time to work diligently in and out of class all year long. As this is a portfolio driven course the student's grade will be based on progress and completion of the AP portfolio.

Debate
Open to: Grades 9 & 10
This class will provide an introduction to the art of crafting and executing a debate surrounding issues of ethics or public policy. Students will learn the rules and format of National Speech and Debate Association (NSDA) debates in Lincoln-Douglas and Public Forum. They will also develop valuable skills in research, teamwork, presentation etiquette, and respectful public discourse. This is goals of the class are the creation of the Adelson debate team and to develop articulate debaters who can participate in NSDA competitions in the future.

Drawing and Painting
Open to: Grades 9 & 10
This Drawing and Painting course offers students the opportunity to explore various artistic techniques and mediums, within the scope of drawing and painting. Many different mediums will be explored including graphite, charcoal, watercolor, acrylic, acrylic pouring, and oil. Through hands-on projects and guided instruction, students develop their drawing skills, understanding of composition, and color theory. The course emphasizes skill building and strategies, teaching fundamental principles of art, such as shading, perspective, and texture. With the repertoire of techniques students will feel confident in their painting skills while enjoying their own voice, choice, creativity and self-expression. Students will also have the chance to study famous artists and art history, gaining inspiration from different styles and periods. This course will lay the foundation for future art courses, developing skills and art appreciation while maintaining a fun and supportive learning environment. By the end of the course, students will have a portfolio of their work and a deeper appreciation for visual arts. Students will have opportunities to participate in art exhibits in school.

Film Appreciation
Open to: Grades 11 & 12
This course takes a creative and holistic approach to Film Appreciation, covering performance, as well as behind-the-scenes elements. Students will learn about the Film industry's terminology, history, styles, and techniques, as well as its most influential figures, past and

present. Through creative assignments and film screenings, individual and group projects will focus on acting, writing, designing, and directing existing and original works for the screen.

Independent Music Performance
Open to: Grades 9 & 10
This independent study music performance course is designed for high school students in grades 9 and 10 who are passionate about developing their performance skills on their chosen instrument or voice. Students will work independently to select and prepare a repertoire that aligns with their musical interests and goals, with guidance from a teacher. The course will focus on building technical proficiency, musical interpretation, and stage presence through regular practice and self-assessment. Students will have opportunities to perform in front of peers to refine their skills and gain valuable feedback. Throughout the course, students will also engage in reflective practices to track their progress and set new performance goals, fostering both personal growth and musical excellence.

Intro to Technical Theatre
Open to: Grades 9 & 10
This introductory course provides students with a foundational understanding of technical theatre, preparing them for more advanced study in the field. Emphasizing both theoretical knowledge and practical application, students will learn essential theatre terminology, industry standards, and the fundamental principles of design. The course covers key aspects of production, including script analysis for technical design, the process of building a theatrical production, and the critical evaluation of design choices. Additionally, students will receive instruction in theatrical safety protocols, proper tool use, and construction techniques. As part of their hands-on experience, students will apply their skills by serving in various crew positions for the fall and spring productions, gaining real-world experience in a collaborative theatre environment.

Music Theory Honors
Open to: Grades 11 & 12
Prerequisite: Some prior music experience and some basic music theory knowledge is expected
This course gives students a deep dive into the complexities of music composition and analysis. It covers a range of topics including pitch and rhythmic notation, melodic and harmonic progressions, and the development of musical forms and structures. Students engage in ear training exercises, sight singing practices, and the study of various musical scores to understand and apply theoretical concepts. By course end, students will have gained a comprehensive understanding of the elements that form the foundation of music, enhancing their ability to perform, compose, and appreciate music at an advanced level.

Student Publications – Yearbook and Literary Magazine
Open to: Grades 9-12
Option: May be taken multiple times
Special Note: Requires admissions interview with instructor
Student publications document the creative minds of the Adelson School community to produce the school yearbook and literary magazine. Members of each student publication staff are mentored by the course instructors. Students in this course are expected to have a high level of maturity and the ability to work independently and collaboratively. Students will be responsible for designing the theme, writing copy, gathering written and artistic works from other students, laying out spreads,

photographing, producing, proofing, and publishing. This production-based course requires time both in class and occasionally at school events or during lunch. Members of the team exercise their creativity while developing new skills in writing, design, copywriting, and project management.

Studio Art
Open to: Grades 9-12 (All High School Block)
In Studio Art, students will explore a range of techniques and media, including drawing, painting, printmaking, collage and sculpture. Students will advance their observational and technical drawing skills in various works including the creation of a still life and one point perspective. By developing many artistic skills and techniques students will have a vast repertoire to garner from in the development of their own personal style. Emphasis will be placed on creative expression, conceptual development, and foundational art principles such as composition, color theory, and material handling. Through hands-on projects, critiques, and collaborative sessions, participants will enhance their ability to interpret and convey artistic ideas effectively. Studio art will lay the foundation for future art courses, developing skills and art appreciation while maintaining a fun and supportive learning environment. By the end of the year, students will compile a portfolio of their work, showcasing their growth and readiness for further artistic endeavors. Students will have opportunities to participate in art exhibits in school.

Technical Theater
Open to: Grades 9-12
Option: May be taken multiple times
This course offers students an in-depth exploration of the behind-the-scenes aspects of theatrical production. Through project-based learning, students will reinforce and expand their knowledge of set construction, prop design, lighting and sound programming, and costume construction. Emphasizing both technical precision and creative problem-solving, the course provides hands-on experience through practical projects and live performance support. Students will apply their skills in real-world theater settings, gaining expertise in industry-standard tools, techniques, and collaborative production processes. By the end of the course, students will have developed a comprehensive understanding of the technical elements required for stage productions and the ability to adapt their skills to various theatrical environments.

HS Theatre Arts
Open to: Grades 9-12
Option: May be taken multiple times
This course takes a creative and holistic approach to Theatre Arts, covering performance, as well as behind-the-scenes elements. Students will learn industry terminology, history, styles, and techniques. Through games, activities, and screenings, individual and group projects will focus on acting, writing, designing, and directing existing and original works for the stage.

Technology (TECH)

The Technology (TECH) focus invites high school students with interests in this dynamic and lucrative field to develop in-demand skills and pursue authentic work in Adelson's state-of-the-art Startup Incubator. Students can grow skills in web design, app dev, IT, and more. Future careers include app developer, cybersecurity expert, engineer, programmer, or product designer. Students in this focus area can enhance the experience by participating in related organizations and competitions. Competition (offsite) is required in most courses.

Organizations and Competitions: *Congressional App Challenge, CyberPatriots, FIRST Tech Challenge Robotics*

Courses

AP Computer Science A (Java)

Open to: Grades 11 & 12
Prerequisite: AP CS Principles, Cybersecurity H, or coding experience; Algebra I & Geometry
Corequisite: Algebra II or higher-level math
AP Computer Science A is an introductory college-level computing course that teaches fundamental concepts in computer science through programming. Topics include the design of solutions to problems, the use of data structures to organize large sets of data, the development and implementation of algorithms to process data and discover new information, the analysis of potential solutions, and the ethical and social implications of computing systems. The course emphasizes object-oriented programming and design using the Java programming language.

AP Computer Science Principles

Open to: Grades 9 & 10
Prerequisite: Algebra I
Corequisite: Geometry or higher-level math
AP Computer Science Principles is an introductory college-level computing course that introduces students to the big ideas of computer science, solving problems by developing algorithms and writing computer programs (coding) in JavaScript. Students learn and apply the concept of abstraction as well as how to collect, store, and access data for use in a wide range of applications. Students also explore how computing innovations and computing systems – such as the Internet – operate, while simultaneously exploring the social and ethical impacts of computing in our world. The AP Exam for AP CSP consists of multiple-choice questions and a performance task (the creation and submission of a digital artifact and accompanying code).

AT Swift App Development

AP CS Principles, Cybersecurity H, or coding experience; Algebra I & Geometry
Corequisite: Algebra II or higher-level math
The Swift App Development course, designed around Apple's comprehensive curriculum, introduces students to the essentials of creating applications for iOS using Swift, Apple's powerful and intuitive programming language. Through a series of practical projects and hands-on labs, students will learn to leverage Swift and the Xcode development environment to build, test, and refine applications. The curriculum covers user interface design, data

management, networking, and the integration of core iOS features such as location services and notifications. By the end of the course, participants will have developed several fully functional apps and gained a deep understanding of iOS app development workflows. This course prepares students for further study in computer science or a career in app development by providing real-world skills and a portfolio of completed projects. This course receives Advanced Topic (AP equivalent) credit but does not entail an AP exam.

Cybersecurity - Honors
Open to: Grades 9 & 10
This course introduces students to the world of digital security, emphasizing hands-on learning and real-world challenges. Specifically, students explore how to protect computer systems, networks, and data from cyber threats and breaches. Through simulations and cybersecurity tools, they learn about encryption, firewall configuration, ethical hacking, and digital forensics. ***The curriculum features team projects and competitions, such as CyberPatriot competition (onsite, during school)*** and Capture the Flag to foster problem-solving skills and teamwork. Participants will build a solid foundation in cybersecurity principles and practices, equipping them for careers in the rapidly evolving field of cybersecurity.

Introduction to Java Programming
Open to: Grades 9 & 10
The *Intro to Java* course offers a solid foundation for high school students stepping into the world of computer science. Through a well-paced and structured curriculum, students learn the fundamentals of Java programming, object-oriented design, and algorithmic thinking. The course is hands-on, with a strong emphasis on coding from the start, helping students build confidence and fluency through engaging exercises and projects. Topics such as variables, control structures, loops, functions, classes, and arrays will be covered, allowing you to develop a deep understanding of core programming principles. Regular quizzes and coding challenges reinforce learning, while larger projects encourage creativity and critical thinking. Whether students are brand new to coding or looking to strengthen their Java skills, this course provides the right mix of guidance, challenge, and real-world application to foster both skill development and a love for computer science.

Robotics – High School FIRST Competition - Honors
Open to: Grades 9-12 (All High School Block)
Options: May be taken multiple times
Special Note: Requires admissions interview with instructor
This course engages students in hands-on engineering as they plan, design, construct and operate a robot with the goal of competing against other schools in FIRST Robotics competitions. Using a reusable kit of parts, the team operates within a common set of rules to play an exciting field game to complete the specific season challenge. The robot game changes every season and is always a blast! Students are invited to bring any skills they already have, such as programming, electronics, metalworking, graphic design, coding, public speaking, videography, and many others. ***Students are required to compete as part of our Adelson Robotics Crew (ARC) team. Preparation for competition requires some afternoon and weekend meetings. FIRST Competitions are held offsite (4-7 competitions per year).***

Business (BIZ)

The Business focus area affords interested students the opportunity to learn about entrepreneurship and business best practices, while also getting practical knowledge planning, launching, and nurturing their own start-ups in Adelson's state-of-the-art Startup Incubator. Students in this focus area will gain valuable experience in public speaking, collaborative teamwork, financial mathematics, and strategic planning – skills which will serve them well in a variety of business-related careers. They can enhance the experience by participating in related organizations and competitions. Competition (offsite) is required in most courses.

Organizations and Competitions: *DECA*

Courses

Advanced Business Principles - Honors

Open to: Grade 10

In Advanced Business Principles - Honors, students will expand and grow their exploration of exciting topics in business, entrepreneurship, and finance, working at a more advanced level than their prerequisite course. ***This course will also coach students to compete at a higher level and in more challenging categories at the Nevada DECA State Career Development Conference (SCDC), a required competition that occurs offsite.*** At this annual conference, individuals and teams compete in a wide range of business events where they can win prestigious awards. The goal of Advanced Business Principles students is to work more independently on longer-term projects of greater complexity, striving for advancement to the DECA International Career Development Conference (ICDC), and creating a portfolio that demonstrates a high level of excellence and focus as students move toward college application.

Advanced Entrepreneurship - Honors

Open to: Grade 12

Advanced Entrepreneurship students continue the work started in Entrepreneurship, refining their products or services, pitching investors, locating manufacturing facilities, expanding their customer base, ensuring legal compliance, obtaining brand protections, and growing their fledgling companies. ***Students also prepare for and compete in DECA SCDC competition (required; offsite) and, if applicable, execute their duties as statewide officers.***

Business Principles - Honors

Open to: Grade 9

In Business Principles, ***students will explore exciting topics in business, entrepreneurship, and finance and prepare to compete (required) in the offsite Nevada DECA State Career Development Conference (SCDC)***, a competition that occurs offsite. At this annual conference, individuals and teams compete in events including Financial Literacy, Marketing, Hospitality and Tourism, Business Plan, Stock Market Games, Virtual Business Challenge in Fashion, and many other categories where they can win awards and accolades for college admissions.

Entrepreneurship - Honors

Open to: Grade 11
This course is for any kid who built a lemonade stand and dreamed of creating the "next big thing." Entrepreneurship develops the foundational, practical concepts that help you turn an idea into a successful business. Learn how to identify a need or refine an existing product or service to carve out your own niche in the marketplace. Find out how to prototype and validate concepts through experimentation and testing. Gain the tools for creating a business strategy, including raising capital, marketing, and pricing. Get started with in-school microbusinesses from vending machine sales to T-shirt design and marketing – then launch your own business! ***Students also prepare for and compete in DECA SCDC (required; offsite).***

Winning Pitch - Honors

Open to: Grades 9-12 (All High School Block)
Options: May be taken multiple times
In this course, students break into pods to explore business topics including accounting, finance, management, and marketing via the BusinessU online platform. ***Winning Pitch coaches students to compete in Nevada DECA SCDC (required; offsite)***, specifically focusing on creating projects to compete in DECA written competitions – Business Operations Research, Project Management, Entrepreneurship, and Integrated Marketing. Working individually or in teams, students brainstorm, research, develop, perform financial analysis, write reports, and create professional presentations for delivery at SCDC.