UPPER SCHOOL COURSE GUIDE

UPPER SCHOOL COURSE GUIDE

At Brownell Talbot, our Upper School program combines academic rigor with student choice. Our graduation requirements — the highest among Nebraska secondary schools — include:

- 250 total credit hours
- 40 credits each in history, English, and mathematics
- 30 credits in science
- 20 credits in a single world language
- Healthy Living course and three semesters of physical education
- Fine arts each academic year

Students must maintain minimum annual credit loads:

- Freshmen through juniors: 65 credits
- Seniors: 55 credits

This structure ensures both academic excellence and balanced course selection throughout the Upper School journey.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT / DUAL ENROLLMENT

For students who wish to obtain advanced standing in college through the College Board, 22 Advanced Placement courses are offered: English (2), world languages (2), fine arts (4), history (2), mathematics (4), science (7), computer science (1). AP courses prepare students for the AP exams. **Students enrolled in AP courses are required to take the corresponding AP exams.**

Brownell Talbot Upper School students enrolled in approved courses may earn college credit through dual enrollment programs with the University of Nebraska at Omaha or Nebraska Wesleyan University. Students and parents receive information regarding this option at the beginning of each semester from UNO and NWU. The following courses are currently eligible for dual enrollment:

AP English Language and Composition (NWU)	3 credits per year
AP English Literature and Composition (NWU)	3 credits per year
AP Biology (UNO)	4 credits per year
AP Chemistry (UNO)	4 credits per year
AP Environmental Science (UNO)	4 credits per year
AP Physics C (UNO)	4 credits per year
AP Physics 1/2 (UNO)	4 credits per year
AP Calculus BC (UNO)	9 credits per year
AP Calculus AB (UNO)	5 credits per year
AP Statistics (UNO)	3 credits per year
AP French Language and Culture (UNO)	3 credits per year
AP Spanish Language and Culture (UNO)	3 credits per year

Students who have exhausted all course options within a particular department of study may be allowed to enroll in courses not offered at Brownell Talbot. This may be accomplished through the Malone Schools Online Network (see below), local colleges/universities, or approved online courses. College/university and online courses will require an additional fee. Prior approval is required for any student seeking to take classes at other institutions that would affect the sequence of their coursework at BT. See the Dean of Upper School for more information.

MALONE SCHOOLS ONLINE NETWORK (MSON)

MSON provides upper level students at registered Malone Schools with a variety of superior online courses that enhance each member school's existing curriculum. These courses promote the values of the Malone Family Foundation and are conducted by teaching professionals who are experts in their fields, have experience with independent school education, and share a commitment to excellence, small class sizes, and personal relationships. Course offerings target the most talented high school students who demonstrate sufficient independence and commitment to succeed in a virtual discussion seminar setting.

Each course takes a blended approach, combining synchronous instruction — real-time video conferencing seminars — with asynchronous instruction including recorded lectures and exercises that students complete outside of the class. Each course has a maximum of 16 students, allowing for a virtual discussion seminar, and is delivered in high-definition classroom setups that allow students and teachers to see one another, interact throughout class, and form meaningful relationships.

The MSON Course Guide is shared with students each spring semester as soon as it is made available by the directors of the program. Students request admission to the MSON program and desired classes through Brownell Talbot's MSON liaison.

ADVANCED COURSE LIMIT POLICY

Brownell Talbot advanced course offerings include AP classes, select MSON classes, and Multivariable Calculus. Sophomores may take one advanced class. Juniors and seniors may take three advanced classes per year. This limit may be appealed if the student's course choices are restricted due to their standing in a particular subject — for example, if an AP course is the next progression in the sequence of math or language.

ENGLISH

The English program challenges students to be critical thinkers, effective communicators, and insightful contributors in all circumstances — personal, academic, creative, professional, political, and more. Readings span the deep history and global reach of human cultural expression, and include instruction on a wide range of modes and media. Following Brownell Talbot's Standards of Excellence, all stages of the writing process are emphasized in each course, documented in a digital writing portfolio that maps student proficiency in academic, reflective, and creative writing. Four years of English are required, culminating in an ambitious Capstone project that asks students to develop and sustain a research project on a timely topic with which they have a strong personal connection.

English 9: Foundations (Critical Reading and Writing)

Ninth grade (required)
Prerequisite: none
Year-long course: 5 credits per semester

A primary objective of this class is for students to engage the foundational texts of human civilization, including the Homeric epics, Greek tragedy, *The Bhagavad Gita*, and sacred texts from around the world. This course also serves as an introduction to academic writing, with an emphasis on rhetorical analysis, while further reinforcing essential skills in grammar, usage, and vocabulary. A world literature anthology grants access to college-level translations of poetry, drama, and prose spanning 4,000 years of human cultural production.

English 10: Connections (Literature, World, and Self)

Tenth grade (required)
Prerequisite: English 9
Year-long course: 5 credits per semester

Building on the foundations established in English 9, this class seeks to solidify student understanding of their place in the world and the infinite connections sustained through text and discourse. Frequent writing assignments include daily critical thinking responses, informative essays, literary analysis, and an argumentative research essay. Course readings — a selection of contemporary novels, short stories, and poetry — reinforce literature as a global phenomenon that has influenced culture and identity in all corners of the world.

English 11: Explorations I (Personal Essay and Memoir)

Eleventh grade (required) or twelfth grade (elective)*
Prerequisite: English 10
Year-long course: 5 credits per semester

This junior year English class explores how the stories we tell and the words we write are the ultimate form of empowerment. Through the reading and writing of a wide range of

mediums and genres stressing agency and self-actualization, coursework pushes students to develop original interpretations of assigned texts. Close reading, careful annotation, and vocabulary study contribute to preparation for college entrance exams, and an emphasis on the personal essay genre anticipates the written component of the college admission process.

*This course, English 11: Explorations II (Creative Writing), or AP English: Language and Composition may be taken to satisfy the eleventh grade English requirement.

English 11: Explorations II (Creative Writing)

Eleventh grade (required) or twelfth grade (elective)*
Prerequisite: English 10
Year-long course: 5 credits per semester

This workshop-based course explores how poetry, drama, narrative fiction, and creative nonfiction not only enable unique expressions of ideas and emotions, but also help to develop proficiency in a wide range of communicative tasks students will encounter in high school, college, the workplace, and their personal lives. Students develop a portfolio of creative work to be submitted at the end of each semester, and may also pursue occasions for sharing their work in BT publications and in external contests, competitions, and publications.

*This course, English 11: Explorations I (Personal Essay and Memoir), or AP English Language and Composition may be taken to satisfy the eleventh grade English requirement.

AP English Language and Composition

Eleventh (required) or twelfth grade (elective)*
Prerequisite: English 9, English 10, an overall GPA in English classes of a B (3.0)
Year-long course: 5 credits per semester

In this college-level writing course, students develop essential communicative skills that are used in a wide range of academic and professional discourses; a primary focus is on mastering the writing process, from brainstorming to publication, and enhancing proficiency in those modes most commonly encountered in post-secondary contexts: analysis, argument, research, and advocacy. Coursework prepares students for the AP Exam in the spring, while also granting room for autonomous exploration of occasions for writing and areas of study that are of most interest to each individual student.

Dual Enrollment with Nebraska Wesleyan University (English 1010: Writing and Language) allows students to receive 3 semester hours of college credit at a significantly reduced rate, while also satisfying the freshman writing requirement for many colleges and universities; dual-enrolled students are provided free access to NWU ACT Prep Workshops, as well as all resources available through NWU's Cochrane-Woods Library.

*This course, English 11: Explorations in Creative Writing, or English 11: Explorations in Personal Essay and Memoir may be taken to satisfy the eleventh grade English requirement.

English 12: Capstone

Twelfth grade (required)*
Prerequisite: English 11 or AP Language and Composition
Year-long course: 5 credits per semester

The final year of English study amplifies concepts and competencies developed in previous courses and empowers students to actualize core elements of BT's Mission and Portrait of a Graduate. Alongside challenging readings across a variety of genres, a sustained research project entailing multiple stages of development, drafting, and revision — led by English faculty with emphasis placed on interdisciplinary collaboration — accounts for a majority of coursework. An additional requirement asks students to extend their project beyond the classroom, which might include participating in service learning, engaging with community partners, and / or completing relevant fieldwork off campus. Successful completion of the course also includes contributing to a symposium in which students share projects with the school community.

AP English Literature and Composition

Eleventh or twelfth grade (elective)
Prerequisite: Maintain an overall GPA in English classes of a B (3.0)
Year-long course: 3 credits per semester

By examining increasingly sophisticated literary works, students in this college-level seminar refine analytical and critical reading skills and sharpen written and verbal abilities. Assignments include daily writing and discussion exercises, oral presentations, essays, and literary critiques.

The class covers novels, plays, poems, and short stories that are chosen based on their ability to challenge students' interpretive skills, as well as

expand both understanding of and appreciation for the highest levels of literary writing. Students will read from a class anthology, select and read at least one independent novel, and participate in reading circles.

Dual Enrollment with Nebraska Wesleyan University (English 1020: Writing and Literature) allows students to receive 3 semester hours of college credit at a significantly reduced rate, while also satisfying the freshman writing requirement for many colleges and universities; dual-enrolled students are provided free access to NWU ACT Prep Workshops, as well as all resources available through NWU's Cochrane-Woods Library.

FINE ARTS

Fine arts courses enrich a traditional college preparatory education by broadening perspectives and developing 21st century skills: collaboration, communication, creativity, and critical thinking. Classes focus on methods and techniques, establishing the background necessary for individual expression. The teaching of the arts is discipline-based, stressing history, appreciation, criticism, and creative projects. All courses are electives, and Upper School students are required to take at least one semester in the fine arts each year.

All courses in this department may be used to fulfill the Fine Arts requirement, and they may be repeated.

MUSIC

Upper School Band

Ninth, tenth, eleventh, or twelfth grade (elective)
Prerequisite: passing grade in Eighth Grade Band or audition with the director
Year-long course: 2.5-5 credits per semester depending on schedule availability
This course may be repeated

This course is designed to develop the instrumental skills necessary to perform high school-level jazz combo music of a variety of periods and styles, with an emphasis on improvisation. Students registering must read music notation and play a traditional jazz instrument. The Upper School Band performs each year at two school concerts, District Music Contest, two jazz festivals, and numerous athletic pep band performances. Students also have the opportunity to perform solo or small ensemble works at chapel, contests, and Rally for the Arts.

Upper School Choir

Ninth, tenth, eleventh, or twelfth grade (elective)
Prerequisite: passing grade in Music 8 or audition with the director
Year-long course: 2.5-5 credits per semester depending on schedule availability
This course may be repeated

This course is designed to develop the vocal skills necessary to perform high school-level choral music of a variety of periods and styles. Students registering must be able to match pitch at an audible volume. The Upper School Choir gives annual performances at the Homecoming football game, Veterans Day assembly, Holiday Program, District Music Contest, Spring Concert, and other events. Students also have the opportunity to perform solo or small ensemble works at chapel, contests, and Rally for the Arts.

Upper School Strings

Ninth, tenth, eleventh, or twelfth grade (elective)
Prerequisite: passing grade in Eighth Grade Strings or audition with the director
Year-long course: 2.5-5 credits per semester depending on schedule availability
This course may be repeated

This course is designed to develop the instrumental skills necessary to perform high school -level string orchestra music from a variety of periods and styles. Students must perform on a traditional orchestral string instrument (violin, viola, cello, or double bass). Emphasis is placed on developing left and right hand skills, playing posture, music reading, and aural skills through performance in large ensemble, small ensemble, and solo settings. Students will perform in at least 2 school concerts, District Music Contest, and numerous community performances. Students are also expected to audition for honor orchestras, like All-State, and participate in solo and small ensemble events. Students also have the opportunity to perform solo or small ensemble works at chapel, contests, and Rally for the Arts.

Music Theory I

Ninth, tenth, eleventh, or twelfth grade (elective)
Prerequisite: Teacher approval
Year-long course: 2.5-5 credits per semester depending on schedule availability.
This course explores the building blocks of music, including basic notation, rhythm, scales, key signatures, and chord construction. Students will develop essential listening, reading, and analytical skills while composing simple melodies and harmonies. No prior musical experience is required, making it the perfect starting point for anyone eager to understand the language of music.

Music Theory II

Tenth, eleventh, or twelfth grade (elective)
Prerequisite: successful completion of Music Theory I (defined as earning a B or higher) or passing an entrance exam.
Year-long course: 2.5-5 credits per semester depending on schedule availability.

Take your musical knowledge to the next level with Music Theory II. Building on the foundation of Music Theory I, this course delves into advanced concepts such as secondary dominants, modulation, and non-chord tones. Students will explore complex harmonic progressions, analyze classical and modern compositions, and engage in creative projects like composing short pieces and arranging music. Designed for those with a solid grasp of basic theory, this course bridges the gap between introductory concepts and college-level music studies.

AP Music Theory

Tenth, eleventh, or twelfth grade (elective)
Prerequisite: successful completion of Music Theory I (defined as earning a B or higher) or passing an entrance exam. Instructor approval is required.
Year-long course: 2.5-5 credits per semester depending on schedule availability.

AP Music Theory, is a college-level course for students serious about mastering music analysis, composition, and aural skills. This intensive program covers advanced topics, including figured bass, part-writing, sight-singing, and melodic dictation, while preparing students for the AP Music Theory exam. Whether aspiring to a career in music or seeking to enhance their performance and understanding, students will gain a comprehensive skill set that opens doors to further musical study. A strong foundation in music theory is recommended.

THEATRE

Acting

Ninth, tenth, eleventh, or twelfth grade (elective)
Prerequisite: none
Spring semester only
Semester course: 5 credits
This course may be repeated

The course focuses on the tools of the actor, character development, pantomime, improvisation, master acting teachers, monologues, duet scenes, auditioning, staging, giving and receiving constructive criticism, and the actor's role in theatrical production. Students have an opportunity to participate as actors or crew in all school productions. As students progress through the levels of Acting, they are asked to take on larger leadership roles and to work with more complex scripts and techniques. The more advanced students are expected to take responsibility for their own learning goals and outcomes through independent and directed projects. Students will also explore auditioning techniques, and they will create a theatre resume, portfolio, and website.

Directing

Eleventh or twelfth grade (elective)
Prerequisite: Technical Theatre, Acting, or teacher approval
Semester or year-long course: 2.5-5 credits per semester depending on schedule availability

This course is designed for the advanced theatre student. They will learn all aspects of the processes that go into directing and producing, including how to choose a show, the director's vision, staging a show, working with actors, casting a production, managing a production budget, working with the technical side of a production, setting a rehearsal schedule, and more. Students will work on mainstage productions and may be offered opportunities to direct productions for younger students.

Repertory Theatre

Ninth, tenth, eleventh, or twelfth grade (elective)
Fall semester or year-long course
Semester course: 5 credits
This course may be repeated

In this class performers and technicians will work together to produce a one-act play each semester during class time. The class may participate in the Frontier Conference and District One-Act Play Production events in the fall semester or create their own theatrical touring production. Students will collaborate to envision, design, reflect, revise, perform, and connect with each other and the community. Guided by the teacher, students will design and implement all technical aspects of the productions including lighting, sound, sets, costumes, hair and makeup, stage management, and house management.

Technical Theatre

Ninth, tenth, eleventh, or twelfth grade (elective)
Year-long course: 2.5-5 credits per semester depending on schedule availability
This course may be repeated

This course encompasses all aspects of technical theatre: theatre safety, the design process, set construction and design, property design and implementation, light design, sound design and implementation, costume design and construction, makeup/hair design and application, stage

management, house management, marketing, and box office. Students will collaborate, connect, reflect, revise, synthesize, and cooperate with others to create examples of the design process in their respective areas, and execute their plan for production through their final product. Students will set goals for their learning opportunities with more advanced students able to create independent and self-directed projects.

VISUAL ART

AP Portfolio (AP 2D-Design, AP 3D-Design, AP Drawing)*

Eleventh or twelfth grade (Elective)
Prerequisite: Successful completion of at least two Upper School visual art courses with a grade of A or B, or teacher recommendation.
Year-long course, 5 credits per semester
This course is repeatable but students must select a new portfolio focus each time (2D Design, 3D Design, or Drawing).

This rigorous course is designed for advanced visual art students to develop self-directed portfolios, with guidance from the teacher. Students choose a portfolio focus—2D Design, 3D Design, or Drawing—based on prior coursework. Each portfolio includes three key components:

1. **Sourcebook**
2. **Sustained Investigation** (completed in the first semester)
3. **Selected Works** (finalized in the second semester, showcasing the five strongest pieces)

Students must meet high standards in concept development, technical skill, critical thinking, and composition. The AP Portfolio requires significant work outside of class. High-quality pieces created independently may be included, provided they align with the portfolio guidelines.

Portfolios are submitted for scoring in May. Students will also present their work to peers and participate in an exhibition. Those pursuing the AP designation should consult the teacher for additional requirements.

Applied Design

Ninth, tenth, eleventh, or twelfth grade (elective)
Prerequisite: Completion of Drawing (recommended), Art 8, or portfolio review with teacher approval
Semester course, 5 credits
This course is repeatable
Applied Design expands on foundational concepts introduced in Drawing and introduces students to various aspects of applied and product design. Projects may include exploring techniques in 3D printing and fabrication, printmaking, weaving, jewelry making, and other hands-on methods to create functional and decorative works of art.

Students will also engage with the principles of product design, including form, function, and aesthetics, to develop items such as wearable art, packaging, home goods, and prototypes for small-scale production. Emphasis is placed on problem-solving, material experimentation, and the iterative design process.

This course challenges students to think critically and creatively, enhancing their technical skills while preparing them to conceptualize and produce art that blends practicality with artistry. Students will leave the course with a deeper understanding of how art and design intersect in real-world applications. The course culminates in the finishing of a portfolio.

Drawing

Ninth, tenth, eleventh, or twelfth grade (elective)
Semester course, 5 credits
This course is repeatable
Drawing serves as the foundation of visual art, emphasizing fundamental techniques and skills. Students will develop core abilities such as accurately observing and depicting proportion, creating the illusion of three-dimensional form through an understanding of structure and value, and adding movement and expression to their work through gesture drawing.

The course begins with foundational exercises and gradually progresses to more complex assignments, enabling students to build confidence and refine their skills. Projects are designed to foster creative problem-solving and critical thinking, encouraging students to apply their learning in innovative and meaningful ways.

Whether students are new to art or building on prior experience, this course provides a comprehensive introduction to drawing while supporting individual artistic growth. The course culminates in the finishing of a portfolio.

Painting

Ninth, tenth, eleventh, or twelfth grade (elective)
Prerequisite: Drawing (recommended), Art 8, or portfolio review with teacher approval
Semester course, 5 credits
This course may be repeated.
Painting builds on the foundational concepts introduced in Drawing and introduces students to a variety of mediums, including oil-based paint, watercolor, acrylic, and potentially chalk or oil pastel. The course begins with an

exploration of essential materials and techniques, helping students establish a solid technical foundation.

Through progressive exercises, students will refine their skills and apply them to more advanced assignments. Projects focus on solving artistic challenges within four historical genres of painting: still life, portraiture, figure painting, and landscape painting. Emphasis is placed on developing technical proficiency, creative problem-solving, and an understanding of composition, color theory, and visual storytelling.

Students without prior experience in *Drawing* must receive teacher approval to enroll. This course offers opportunities for both beginning and advanced painters to expand their artistic abilities while exploring their creative potential. The course culminates in the finishing of a portfolio.

Photography

Ninth, tenth, eleventh, or twelfth grade (elective)
Semester course, 2.5 credits (depending on scheduling availability)
This course is repeatable.

This course introduces students to the fundamentals of digital photography, focusing on four key areas: understanding how cameras work, mastering composition, utilizing lighting effectively, and editing images with photo editing software.

Students will begin with foundational instruction, demonstrations, and examples of desired outcomes. They will then apply these skills by completing photography assignments, often working outside the classroom to capture images based on specific learning objectives. Classroom critiques play a central role, allowing students to review and analyze their work, identify successful techniques, and learn from challenges.

The course culminates in the creation of a digital portfolio or website as a final capstone project, showcasing each student's growth and best work. Photography is designed for beginners and repeat students alike, offering opportunities to develop technical skills, refine artistic vision, and explore the creative possibilities of photography. The course culminates in the finishing of a portfolio.

Pottery

Ninth, tenth, eleventh, or twelfth grade (elective)
Semester course, 5 credits
Repeatable: Yes

Pottery introduces students to the art of working with clay to create functional and sculptural works of art. The course emphasizes skill development through a combination of structured exercises and assignments that evolve in complexity as students progress. Techniques include both hand-building methods and wheel-throwing practices.

Early assignments focus on mastering foundational techniques, while later projects encourage creativity and individual expression. Throughout the course, students will engage in critical thinking and creative problem-solving, exploring the artistic process from concept to finished piece.

Pottery provides a dynamic and hands-on experience, offering opportunities for students of all skill levels to develop technical proficiency and explore their artistic potential. The course culminates in the finishing of a portfolio.

Portfolio

Tenth, eleventh, or twelfth grade (elective)
Prerequisite: Passing grade in Art 8 or demonstration of skill for teacher approval; passing two upper school art classes is recommended.
Semester or year-long course, 5 credits per semester
This course is repeatable with a different portfolio focus each time. Transcript can reflect the focus area of each term with instructor approval.

Portfolio is a self-directed course designed for students to develop a personalized body of work in their chosen focus area, such as 2D design, 3D design, drawing, or photography. Students will explore a theme of their own interest, with guidance and input from the teacher, and will develop their portfolio through three key components:

1. **Sustained Investigation (SI):** A focused exploration of a theme or idea.
2. **Materials, Processes, and Ideas (MPI)/Sourcebook:** Documentation of artistic research, experimentation, and concept development.
3. **Final Portfolio:** A curated collection of work demonstrating technical skill, creativity, and growth.

High-quality work completed outside class may be included if it adheres to the stated guidelines. Throughout the course, students will emphasize concept development, technical proficiency, critical thinking, and compositional strength, particularly within the Sourcebook.

Students submit their completed portfolios at the end of each semester, present their work to peers, and participate in an exhibition of their artwork. This course is ideal for students seeking a comprehensive survey in visual art or wishing to further develop their skills in drawing, pottery, sculpture, or painting without creating a College Board AP submission.

Printmaking

Tenth, eleventh, or twelfth grade (elective)
Prerequisite: Passing grade in Drawing or demonstration of skill for teacher approval; Semester or year-long course, 5 credits per semester. This course is repeatable with a different printmaking focus each time.

Printmaking is an exploratory, hands-on course designed for students to create a personalized body of work using diverse printmaking techniques, including plexiglass engraving, linoleum block carving, and styrofoam relief printing. Students will develop technical skills in printmaking processes, experiment with different materials, and refine their conceptual ideas through three key components:

- **Sustained Investigation (SI):** Students will explore a central theme or concept of personal interest and develop prints that delve into this idea across multiple projects.
- **Materials, Processes, and Ideas (MPI)/ Sourcebook:** Students will document their artistic research, experimentations, and conceptual development in a sourcebook. This will include sketches, material testing, process notes, and reflective entries to track their progress and creative growth.
- **Final Print Collection:** Students will curate a cohesive collection of prints showcasing their technical skill, creative exploration, and conceptual growth.

Students will gain proficiency in:

- Engraving, carving, and relief printing techniques.
- Inking and printing processes using hand tools, brayers, and printing presses.
- Layering colors and textures to create dynamic compositions.
- Developing unique editions and one-of-a-kind prints.

Students are expected to complete a series of prints, participate in group critiques, and submit their work for a final semester exhibition. High-quality prints completed outside of class may be included in the final collection if they adhere to course standards.

This course emphasizes critical thinking, technical skill development, and creative problem-solving. It is ideal for students seeking a comprehensive introduction to printmaking or looking to enhance their artistic repertoire with specialized techniques.

Sculpture

Ninth, tenth, eleventh, or twelfth grade (elective)
Semester course, 5 credits
This course is repeatable

Sculpture provides students with a strong foundation in basic sculptural techniques, emphasizing creativity, technical skill, and problem-solving. Students will begin by exploring essential materials and methods, gradually advancing through progressively more complex assignments.

The course covers a variety of sculptural approaches, that could include modeling with oil-based clay, casting, carving, and assemblage. Students who have taken *Pottery 1* may incorporate wheel-throwing into their sculptural projects and further develop their clay-working skills in advanced assignments.

Through hands-on projects, students will engage with three historical genres of sculpture while learning to balance conceptual development with craftsmanship. The course culminates in the portfolio.

This course is designed for both beginners and returning students, offering opportunities to explore new materials, refine techniques, and express individual creativity.

WORLD LANGUAGES

The world languages curriculum, which includes courses of study in French, Latin, and Spanish, provides students with the means to explore various cultures and to master other languages. A minimum of two years of one world language is required in grades 9-12. World language courses must be taken in sequence unless prior approval is given by the Dean of Upper School and the department chair. Many students elect to study more than one world language during Upper School.

French I

Prerequisite: None
Year-long course: 5 credits per semester

This course begins the study of the French language with emphasis on basic vocabulary acquisition and comprehension of fundamental grammar and structure of the language. Students

reinforce grammar and vocabulary through input and oral expression and development of rudimentary skills in reading and writing in the target language. In addition, students explore the French-speaking world through readings, class discussions, and other supplementary materials. Successful completion of French I is the first key step as students advance through the sequence of classes that culminate with AP French and college-level French work.

French II

Prerequisite: French I or French 1A and French 1B
Year-long course: 5 credits per semester

This course resumes the study of the French language with continued emphasis on vocabulary acquisition through input and oral expression and fundamental grammar and structure. In addition, students continue to develop skills in listening comprehension of fluent French and reading comprehension of level-appropriate texts. French II students begin to write short essays that feature appropriate use of vocabulary and structures addressed in the textbook. Students explore the French-speaking world through selected readings, class discussions, internet research, video shorts, films, music, and other opportunities.

French III

Prerequisite: French I, II
Year-long course: 5 credits per semester

French III continues with conversational and written expression in context augmented by more technical understanding of grammar. At the end of the course, students have had exposure to all of the fundamental structures in French. The student's basic vocabulary benefits from more complex idiomatic expression, and students are expected to perform 3-5 minute oral presentations with prior preparation. Students complete short essay assignments where they respond to simple writing prompts with essays that show developing proficiency in grammatical accuracy, use of appropriate vocabulary, and fluent expression of ideas. Students continue to develop reading skills through a full-length novel, extensive textbook readings, and electronic resources. Listening comprehension skills are reinforced through in-class exercises. Students continue the study of culture and civilization with a special focus on contemporary social issues in the Francophone world. All French III students will take the AAPPL test of oral proficiency in order to gain a better understanding of individual progress in speaking ability.

French IV

Prerequisite: French I, II, III with a B (3.0) average
Year-long course: 5 credits per semester

This course serves as a review of the grammar introduced in French I-III with more attention given to depth and detail. The primary grammatical focus is to complete and reinforce the verbs system and all tenses, in order to help students recall and apply these structures with facility in spoken and written French. Vocabulary study moves beyond basic needs and simple situations to enhance comprehension and expression in fluent French. Writing assignments move from assigned topics to timed, in-class essays with no prior prompt. Students perform several 3-5 minute oral presentations on a variety of topics. Listening comprehension skills are reinforced through classroom exercises and internet generated activities. Students read a full-length novel and a variety of other readings in French.

AP French

Prerequisite: French I, II, III, IV with a B (3.0) average
Year-long course: 5 credits per semester

This course resumes the study of the French language with continued emphasis on skills in speaking, understanding, reading, and writing the target language. Students explore the French-speaking world through oral presentations, readings, class discussions, films, etc. Successful completion of this class prepares students for the rigors of the AP French exam and college-level French work. There is a special focus on the free-response speaking and writing sections of the exam, but the dominant objective is to direct students on a path to fluency in French. All students taking this class are required to take the AP exam in the spring. All AP French students will take the AAPPL test of oral proficiency in order to gain a better understanding of individual progress in speaking ability.

This class is eligible for 3 college credits through UNO dual enrollment.

Latin III

Prerequisite: Latin I, II
Year-long course: 5 credits per semester

Latin III completes the study of all Latin grammar, syntax, and the translation of the stories dealing with the life of Horace. Students continue to delve deeper into derivatives, mythology, Roman life, history, and culture.

Latin IV

Prerequisite: Latin I, II, III with a B (3.0) average
Year-long course: 5 credits per semester

Latin IV introduces students to reading sustained prose passages in the original Latin from various authors and genres across a vast span of time and being able to delineate authors' styles and vocabulary. Authors include Eutropius, Caesar, Cicero, and Cornelius Nepos among others, even progressing into selections from the Latin Vulgate (the Latin translation of the Scriptures) and Medieval Latin. Students will also spend a good deal of time learning to compose sustained passages in Latin prose taking into consideration stylistic traits of the authors read in class.

Latin V

Prerequisite: Latin I, II, III, IV with a B (3.0) average
Year-long course: 5 credits per semester

This course exposes the students to an in-depth study of the Roman epic genre in general, learning its meter and its inner workings. Students will learn to read aloud in meter. Authors include Vergil, Ovid, Catullus, Statius, Ennius, Claudian and even some of the Christian Epic of Prudentius. Students will read and translate the selections as literally as possible, but they will learn to make their translations idiomatic as well. Students will spend much time on refining the renderings from Latin into English and comparing various translations already published to determine their pros and cons. Students will be encouraged, but not required, to render English passages into epic meter.

Spanish I

Prerequisite: None
Year-long course: 5 credits per semester

Spanish I emphasizes vocabulary, pronunciation, and basic grammar. Instruction is presented with emphasis on active learning through contextual usage of basic Spanish. The textbook includes a video series, internet exercises to supplement the text and classwork, and level-appropriate readings that reinforce traditional studies and appreciation of Hispanic culture. Emphasis is on basic, practical expression and conjugation.

Spanish II

Prerequisite: Spanish I or Spanish 1A and Spanish 1B
Year-long course: 5 credits per semester

This course continues the study of Spanish, developing skills in listening, reading, writing, and speaking the target language. Students explore the Spanish-speaking world through readings, class discussions, video clips, films, and other opportunities.

Spanish III

Prerequisite: Spanish I, II
Year-long course: 5 credits per semester

This course continues the study of Spanish, developing skills in listening, reading, writing, and speaking the target language. Students develop conversational skills and are expected to perform 3-5 minute oral presentations with prior preparation. Students complete short essay assignments. Students read and discuss authentic literature. Students continue the study of culture and civilization of the Spanish-speaking world. All Spanish III students will take the AAPPL test of oral proficiency in order to gain a better understanding of individual progress in speaking ability.

Spanish IV

Prerequisite: Spanish I, II, III with a B (3.0) average.
10 credits Year-long course: 5 credits per semester

This course continues the study of Spanish, developing skills in listening, reading, writing, and speaking the target language. Students are expected to speak only Spanish in class. Students perform oral presentations. Students complete short essay assignments and timed writings. Students read and discuss authentic literature. Students continue the study of culture and civilization of the Spanish-speaking world.

AP Spanish

Prerequisite: Spanish I, II, III, IV with a B (3.0) average
Year-long course: 5 credits per semester

This course reviews grammar studied in Spanish I-IV. Vocabulary and grammar are studied in conjunction with reading and analyzing authentic literature and studying history, culture, and people of the Spanish-speaking world. Students converse in Spanish and perform oral presentations. Students complete short essay assignments and timed writings. All students taking this class are required to take the AP exam in the spring. All AP Spanish students will take the AAPPL test of oral proficiency in order to gain a better understanding of individual progress in speaking ability.

This class is eligible for 3 college credits through UNO dual enrollment.

HISTORY

Through the study of geography, history, government, and economics, students learn the meaning of citizenship, the origin and nature

of cultures and governments, and the premises upon which the United States was founded. In addition, students develop a global historical perspective that makes it possible to understand the past while preparing for the future. The use of primary and secondary sources, the compilation and analysis of data, and the formulation of oral and written arguments are all part of the program.

World History: Ancient to Renaissance

Ninth grade (required)
Prerequisite: none
Year-long course: 5 credits per semester

This course introduces social, economic, scientific, and intellectual developments from prehistoric times through the Renaissance. Continuity and change are evaluated within a framework of historical fact, cultural awareness, and reflection on how the past still affects modern day realities. Cooperative research and student presentations are stressed.

World History: Reformation to Modern

Tenth grade (required)*
Prerequisite: none
Year-long course: 5 credits per semester

This course covers the political, economic, and cultural events that have shaped the world from the Reformation to the present. Important topics include the age of populist revolutions, imperialism, and the two world wars. Contemporary issues and events are also addressed. Assignments include group projects and activities as well as traditional essays.

*World History: Reformation to Modern *or* AP European History fulfills the second year of the World History graduation requirement.

AP European History

Tenth (required) or eleventh, twelfth grade (elective)*

Prerequisite: World History: Ancient to Renaissance, Maintain a minimum GPA in previous history courses of a B (3.0) or higher ***and*** *departmental approval*

Year-long course: 5 credits per semester

The history of Europe from the time of the Renaissance to the present day is taught through research, evaluation, class discussion, and lecture. Major movements in politics, demographics, economics, and sociology are analyzed. All students taking this class are required to take the AP exam in the spring.

*World History: Reformation to Modern *or* AP European History fulfills the second year of the World History graduation requirement.

United States History

Eleventh grade (required)*
Prerequisite: none
Year-long course: 5 credits per semester

United States History concentrates on social, political, and economic issues, with special emphasis on modern times. Curriculum for this course will focus on the 20th century to the present. The course cultivates the capacity for balanced judgment and informed understanding about American society by holding up to the present the mirror and measuring rod that is the past.

*United States History or AP United States History will fulfill the United States History requirement.

AP United States History

Eleventh (required) or twelfth grade (elective)*
Prerequisite: Maintain a minimum GPA in previous history courses of a B (3.0) or higher and departmental approval
Fulfills United States History graduation requirement
Year-long course: 5 credits per semester

The history of the United States from early European exploration and settlement to the present is taught through research, evaluation, class discussion, and lecture. Major movements in politics, demographics, and economics are analyzed. All students taking this class are required to take the AP exam in the spring.

*United States History or AP United States History will fulfill the United States History requirement.

Economics

Twelfth grade (required)
Prerequisite: none
Semester course: 5 credits

This course examines the forces and conditions that have shaped modern capitalism. Microeconomic principles are first mastered. Learned concepts are then expanded to the macroeconomic level as students relate general trends in economics to national and global economic policies.

United States Government

Twelfth grade (required)
Prerequisite: none
Semester course: 5 credits

The study of the United States government's history and functions is designed to familiarize students with the current structure and

processes of our government. Students will be required to regularly analyze and discuss current political issues. The course is designed to provide students with knowledge necessary for them to perform their responsibilities as informed citizens in our participatory form of government.

Dictators: Past & Present - Lessons Learned, Legacies & Impact

Ninth, tenth, eleventh or twelfth grade (elective)
Prerequisite: none; Semester courses: 5 credits

This seminar course will examine the nature of dictatorships of the early 20th century and how the eerie parallels in the 21st century. Students will also explore how writers and intellectuals discussed the ramifications of the legacies of the earlier dictatorships and envisioned what they might look like in the future in the literature of the post-WWI and post-WWII worlds.

Street Law: An Introduction to Law

Ninth, tenth, eleventh or twelfth grade (elective)
Prerequisite: none; Semester courses: 5 credits

This seminar course serves as an introductory course to law and legal systems in the United States. Units will include Introduction to Law, Constitutional Law, Criminal Law and the Criminal Justice Process, and Civil Law (Torts, Contracts, and Family Law). Like any introductory course, Street Law is a survey. The course touches on broad and specific legal topics to give students a better understanding of law and how it affects people in real life. We will use case studies, individual research, group discussion and debate, guest speakers, and mock trials throughout the course. When possible we will also venture out into the Omaha community to see law in action. Dueling opinions and lively debate should be the norm in this course, making the class fun, enriching, and meaningful.

MATHEMATICS

Mathematics classes from a sequential course of study are designed to develop logical and analytical thought, build proficiency in fundamental skills, and expand students' appreciation for mathematical systems and applications. Calculator and computer applications are integrated into the curriculum. Four years of mathematics are required in grades 9-12. Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II must be completed prior to subsequent math courses.

Students desiring to advance a level in math by taking a course during the summer must obtain prior approval of the math department. Students accelerating this sequence must have a B+ average on all prior math courses. If approved in advance, the student must still pass Brownell Talbot's final for the corresponding course in order to skip a course level.

Algebra I

Prerequisite: Pre-Algebra or Elements of Algebra
Year-long course: 5 credits per semester

Algebra I introduces students to basic algebraic concepts. Coursework promotes logical patterns of thought and improves problem-solving skills. Studies include the structure and the properties of the real number system, first and second degree equations, inequalities, graphing techniques, function notation, radical expressions, polynomials, and problem solving.

Geometry

Prerequisite: Algebra I

Year-long course: 5 credits per semester

This course, which further develops logical thought patterns, places special emphasis on geometric proofs, mathematical methods, and problem-solving skills. Topics include lines, angle relationships, planes, trigonometry, area, volume, coordinate geometry, and polygons.

Algebra II

Prerequisite: Algebra I and Geometry
Year-long course: 5 credits per semester

Algebra II builds on the principles introduced in Algebra I and places increased emphasis on reasoning and problem solving. Topics include systems of real numbers, polynomial expressions and functions, analytical geometry, linear functions, algebraic fractions, quadratic functions, logarithms, combinations and permutations, trigonometry, and conics.

Precalculus

Prerequisite: Completion of Algebra II.
Year-long course: 5 credits per semester

Precalculus is a comprehensive course that bridges the gap between Algebra II and Calculus, preparing students for success in advanced mathematics. Topics include: polynomial and rational functions, exponential and logarithmic functions, trigonometry, polar and parametric functions, sequences and series, and vectors. Emphasis is placed on mastery of algebraic manipulation, graphing, problem-solving, and application.

AP Precalculus

Prerequisites: Students should have earned an A average in Algebra II.
Year-long course: 5 credits per semester

AP Precalculus is a rigorous course designed for students planning to take AP Calculus AB or AP Calculus BC the following year. Topics include: polynomial and rational functions, exponential and logarithmic functions, trigonometric and polar functions, and functions involving parameters, vectors, and matrices. Emphasis is placed on developing procedural and symbolic fluency, translating mathematical information across graphical, numerical, analytical, and verbal forms, and effectively communicating conclusions using precise language and clear reasoning. All students taking this class are required to take the AP exam in the spring.

Statistics

Prerequisite: Algebra II
Year-long course: 5 credits per semester

This is a general, introductory statistics course based on the investigation of real world data. It is not taught at the AP level and therefore does not require the completion of the AP exam in the spring. This class uses a concept-driven approach and places more emphasis on why statistics is important in the real world and less emphasis on probability than does AP Statistics. The class has the following components: how to produce data to provide answers to properly posed questions to appreciate how probability helps one understand randomness in real life, how to choose appropriate descriptive and inferential methods for analyzing data and drawing conclusions, how to communicate the conclusions of statistical analyses clearly, and how to understand the limitations of most research.

AP Statistics

Prerequisite: Algebra II and departmental approval
Year-long course: 5 credits per semester

AP Statistics offers the basic statistical methods and prepares the student to take the AP test. Strict statistical analysis is used. Topics covered are exploring data, planning a study (deciding what and how to measure), anticipating patterns (using probability and simulation) and statistical inference (confirming models). All students taking this class are required to take the AP exam in the spring.

This class is eligible for 3 college credits through UNO dual enrollment.

AP Calculus AB

Prerequisite: Precalculus and departmental approval
Year-long course: 5 credits per semester

Studies in calculus concentrate on three areas: formal differentiation, formal integration, and their applications. Topics include limits, the definition of the derivative, continuity, Newton's Method, maxima and minima problems, points of inflection, the Mean Value Theorem, the area under the curve, surface areas on a rotated curve about an axis, and derivation and integration of trigonometric functions. Students solve problems numerically, graphically, and analytically. All students taking this class are required to take the AP exam in the spring.

This class is eligible for 5 college credits through UNO dual enrollment.

AP Calculus BC

Prerequisite: Precalculus and departmental approval
Year-long course: 5 credits per semester

AP Calculus BC includes all of the concepts for AP Calculus AB, but also includes the following topics: l' Hopital's rule, integration by parts, Series and Taylor Polynomials, differentials, and parametric, polar, and vector functions. Students should have earned an A average in both Algebra II and Precalculus classes. All students taking this class are required to take the AP exam in the spring.

This class is eligible for 9 college credits through UNO dual enrollment.

Multivariable Calculus

Prerequisite: AP Calculus BC and departmental approval

The mathematics of three dimensions is the emphasis of this college-level course. Multivariable Calculus will explore the geometry of three-dimensional space, including vector arithmetic. It will also explore three-dimensional surfaces, using the tools of derivatives and integrals expanded into multiple dimensions. A robust unit on differential equations will allow students to review the topics of single-variable calculus. The emphasis throughout the course will be on problem-solving and on real-world applications of the tools students learn in fields such as economics, astronomy, physics, engineering, and medicine.

Competition Math

Ninth, tenth, eleventh, twelfth (elective)
Prerequisites: advanced math placement and departmental approval
Year-long course: 1 credit per semester

This course is open to students who want to learn higher level mathematics, the tricks that

help in competitions, and concepts that are not covered in a traditional mathematics class. The basics of mathematics courses are reviewed, and then the following topics are considered: number theory, set theory, transformations, counting principles, and induction. Students also prepare for upcoming competitions. All students are expected to participate in as many competitions as possible and are required to take part in UNL's Math Day and the AMC Test.

This class will be listed on the official transcript as pass/fail, meaning it will not factor into the student's GPA.

TECHNOLOGY & COMPUTER SCIENCE

Technology is an integral part of modern life and education. Introductory courses familiarize students with the capabilities of computers in a wide range of practical applications. Programming courses stress computer logic and problem-solving techniques. Digital Media allows for real-world application of design, storytelling, and social media presence. Students in the Digital Media classes collaborate with the athletic and communications departments by filming and live streaming games, widening our game audiences immensely. Engineering courses introduce students to problem-solving skills and applications from an engineering mindset. Multiple opportunities for collaboration are available as students in the engineering classes work with students in the theater on set design and construction.

Technology: Upper School Orientation

Ninth grade (required)
Year-long course: 1 credit per semester

This introductory course develops students' abilities to analyze, evaluate, and react upon technologies such as computer hardware, computer software, networking, and security. Students will learn the fundamentals of programming, build computational thinking skills, and reflect on the impact of computing on society.

AP Computer Science A

Recommended grade: Tenth Grade (elective)
Prerequisite: Computer Science 1 and Algebra 1
Year-long course: 5 credits per semester

AP Computer Science A introduces students to computer science through programming. Fundamental topics in this course 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.

Engineering I

Recommended ninth grade (elective)
Prerequisite: Algebra 1
Semester course: 5 credits

In this course students apply basic engineering principles including mechanical principles to understand the design process. Students use the design process to create solutions to problems while investigating different areas of engineering careers.

Engineering II

Recommended tenth, eleventh, or twelfth grade (elective)
Prerequisite: Recommended Algebra II and Engineering I, or departmental approval
Semester course: 5 credits

In this course students experience opportunities to utilize skills in math, science, and engineering to design solutions for a variety of real-world problems through open-ended projects. Students work both independently and in teams to develop and document design solutions and learn technical representation using current 3D modeling software.

Engineering III

Recommended eleventh or twelfth grade (elective)
Prerequisite: Recommended Algebra II, Engineering I, Engineering II, or departmental approval
Semester course: 5 credits
This course may be repeated

Engineering III is a student-driven, research-based engineering course with practical application. Students choose a real problem and prototype engineering solutions to that problem. With help from faculty and mentors in the community, the students work to find solutions to real world problems.

Computer Science I

Ninth, tenth, eleventh, or twelfth grade (elective)
Prerequisite: Algebra 1
Year-long course: 5 credits per semester

The course utilizes a blended classroom approach. The content is fully web-based, with students writing and running code in the browser. Teachers utilize tools and resources provided by CodeHS to leverage time in the classroom and give focused 1-on-1 attention

to students. Each unit of the course is broken down into lessons. Lessons consist of video tutorials, short quizzes, example programs to explore, and written programming exercises, adding up to over 100 hours of hands-on programming practice in total. Each unit ends with a comprehensive unit test that assesses students' mastery of the material from that unit.

Computer Science II (coding with Python)

Ninth, tenth, eleventh, or twelfth grade (elective)
Prerequisite: Computer Science I
Year-long course: 5 credits per semester

Introduction to Python Programming introduces students to the fundamentals of computer programming, with an emphasis on helping students develop logical thinking and problem-solving skills. Students begin by learning to design, code, and test their programs while applying mathematical concepts. Students then move to more advanced programming concepts and learn to create more powerful programs using functions, strings, data structures, le i/o operations, and objects.

Digital Design

Ninth, tenth, eleventh, or twelfth grade, after school (elective)
Semester course: 2.5 credits, may be repeated

Students enrolled in Digital Design work to create content and perform administrative tasks on the BT App. Students are responsible for all aspects of running the app, and learn valuable skills in content creation, promotions, team management, and fundraising. This course requires time and commitment outside of class time.

At time of registration, students can choose to take Digital Design for a letter grade or as a pass/fail class (pass/fail means that it will count toward the credit requirements for graduation, but will not impact the GPA).

Robotics I

Ninth or tenth grade, after school (elective)
Year-long course: 5 credits per semester

This introduction to robotics course allows students to explore the current and future use of automation technology and everyday use through the VEX Robotics Competition Program as an extracurricular activity. Students work collaboratively to problem solve and design a functional robot that will design, build, program and drive a robot that will compete in the assigned game for each year. Students document and discuss all aspects of the challenge with judges and other competitors.

This course will be pass/fail, meaning credits earned do not factor into the GPA. This class/these credits can be taken once during the freshman or sophomore year.

Robotics II

Eleventh or twelfth grade, after school (elective)
Year-long course: 5 credits per semester

This advanced robotics course is designed as the continuation of studying robotic systems and the subsystems that comprise them while engaging in a robotics platform through the VEX Robotics Competition Program as an extracurricular activity. This course provides further exploration for students who have an interest in Engineering, Manufacturing, Programming, or other Computer Sciences.

This course will be pass/fail, meaning credits earned do not factor into the GPA. This class/these credits can be taken once during the junior or senior year.

Web Design

Ninth, tenth, eleventh, or twelfth grade (elective)
Semester course: 5 credits
This course may be repeated

This course gives an overview of design elements of websites including layout, schemes, and html coding. Students create websites with a variety of purposes and learn to create pages that reach a target audience.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

The philosophy of the Physical Education Department at Brownell Talbot is that activity is critical to the development and maintenance of good health. The goal of the Physical Education Department is to develop physically educated individuals who have the knowledge, skills, and confidence to enjoy a lifetime of healthful physical activity. Regular physical activity in childhood and adolescence is essential for promoting lifelong health and well-being and preventing various health conditions. The school follows the Nebraska Physical Education Standards and the National Health Education Standards.

Healthy Living

Ninth grade (required)
Year-long course: 2.5 credits per semester

This course is designed to introduce students to a variety of contemporary health issues.

Topics include stress management, sexuality, healthy relationships, alcohol/tobacco/drug use, personal safety, introduction to driving, nutrition, fitness, and mental health.

Strength and Conditioning

Ninth, tenth, eleventh, or twelfth grade (elective)
Year-long course: 5 credits per semester
This course may be repeated

This course is designed to introduce students to strength training and conditioning. They'll learn safe techniques for training with free weights. This includes a variety of lower and upper body movements, jumping and landing techniques, and mobility exercises. This course is designed to help students understand training, why certain movements are performed, and how to train for their goals. Students will build a foundation for a lifetime of safe and effective training.

Swimming

Ninth, tenth, eleventh, or twelfth grade (elective)
2.5 credits
This course may be repeated

Students will be provided a guided swimming workout program and must complete a minimum of 40 hours of supervised swimming to earn PE credit. *This is NOT a "learn to swim" class. Students may complete their pool hours during any approved swim times posted by the aquatics director, including outside of normal school hours.

Team and Individual Sports

Tenth, eleventh, or twelfth grade (elective)
Semester course: 2.5 - 5 credits depending on scheduling availability
This course may be repeated

This course focuses on teaching the skills and rules of various team sports and officiating techniques coinciding with the varsity sports offered as part of the Brownell Talbot athletic program (football, volleyball, basketball, golf, and tennis). Skill development in these team sports are also addressed. NSAA rules and regulations of certain sports are covered in the classroom.

Yoga

Ninth, tenth, eleventh, or twelfth grade (elective)
Semester course: 2.5 - 5 credits, depending on scheduling availability
This course may be repeated

The course incorporates strength-building and flexibility-enhancing exercises that have both physical and mental benefits. Breathing exercises, meditations, and stress reduction techniques are also practiced.

Athletic Competition

Tenth, eleventh, or twelfth grade (elective)
Semester course: 4 credits

Students may earn one physical education credit by successfully completing a full athletic season at Brownell Talbot or with a Brownell Talbot cooperative team. Mandatory attendance at practices and competitions will be monitored.

This class will be listed on the official transcript as pass/fail, meaning it will count toward the PE graduation requirement but not factor into the student's GPA.

Summer PE Credit

Ninth, tenth, eleventh, twelfth grade (elective)
30 hours participate = 2 credits
45 hours participate = 3 credits
This course may be repeated

Students can earn one semester of PE credit over the summer months. Course options include **Fitness for Life** and **Swimming**. Students will be provided guided workout programs and must complete a minimum of 40 hours of supervised fitness activity to earn PE credit. Information regarding the opportunity to obtain PE credit during the summer will be shared in the spring. Students must **register and pay for either summer course** by the last day of the spring semester.

This course will be listed on the student transcript as pass/fail meaning it will count toward the PE graduation requirement but not factor into the student's GPA.

American Red Cross Lifeguard Training Class

Ninth, tenth, eleventh, twelfth grade (elective)
Prerequisite: Students must pass the American Red Cross swim test prior to beginning class and be 15 years old by the completion of the course. An additional course fee (Red Cross fees) is required for this class.
2.5 credits

Using an integrated curriculum of emergency skills, students are trained to protect life or prevent further injury until EMS arrives. American Safety & Health Institute CPR/AED Pro for the Professional Rescuer, Basic First Aid, Bloodborne Pathogens, and Emergency Oxygen are built into this course. The course consists of an online self-study course and teacher-led water sessions and competency assessment. Students successfully completing this course through an outside, local agency may petition

for credit by contacting the Dean of Students.

This course will be listed on the student transcript as pass/fail meaning it will count toward the PE graduation requirement but not factor into the student's GPA.

SCIENCE

Science courses promote an understanding of the physical world and scientific inquiry. Students benefit from concrete learning experiences to reinforce abstract science concepts. Laboratory work, an important part of all classes, provides training in scientific processes such as asking questions, measuring, formulating hypotheses, drawing conclusions, and analyzing results. Problem solving, critical thinking, and reinforcement of math skills are important components of each course. A minimum of 30 credits of science is required in grades 9-12. All Upper School students must complete the cycle of the basic sciences of Physics, Chemistry, and Biology.

Recognizing our students have different goals and aspirations for college and beyond, the Science Department offers these recommendations for taking science electives:

Students interested in pursuing careers in medicine should take, at a minimum, AP Biology and AP Chemistry. Students interested in pursuing careers in engineering should take AP Physics and AP Chemistry or AP Biology. These students should also have coursework with a heavy emphasis in math.

Physics 9

Ninth grade (required)
Year-long course: 5 credits per semester

All ninth grade students will take our introductory Physics course. Physics is the study of energy and motion. The first semester centers on classical physics - motion, forces, and energy. The second semester will focus on modern physics, including sound, light, and electricity. While math will be used frequently, concepts will be taught along the way to ensure that all students are able to follow along. In addition to physical science concepts, students will also cover important topics in scientific writing and laboratory design and analysis.

Chemistry

Tenth grade (required)
Year-long course: 5 credits per semester

Chemistry is a course designed to cover the basic topics of introductory inorganic chemistry. Throughout the year the course makes extensive use of laboratory investigations where students work cooperatively to design and implement experiments, analyze results, and communicate findings. Particle models of increasing complexity will be used to answer questions about how we view matter, how it behaves, and how energy is involved in the changes matter undergoes. Mathematical applications in problem solving will also be utilized throughout this course. The first semester focuses on the particle nature of matter, kinetic molecular theory, and phases of matter. In the second semester, students learn about the structure of matter, chemical reactions, and stoichiometry. There is a heavy emphasis on scientific writing in this course, including a research project during the second semester.

AP Chemistry

Eleventh or twelfth grade (elective)
Prerequisite: B+ average or better in Chemistry (both semesters) and Algebra II
Year-long course: 5 credits per semester

AP Chemistry covers the first 2 semesters of a standard college chemistry curriculum while preparing students for the AP Chemistry examination. It is an extremely fast-paced course that builds on concepts and lab skills addressed in Chemistry. The course includes a deeper study of the topics covered in Chemistry and introduces new topics in thermodynamics, bonding, structure, quantitative kinetics, equilibrium applications, and electrochemistry. The lab work emphasizes experiments of longer duration, greater student independence, and extensive writing/pre-lab work. This course is dual-enrolled through UNO and is a great choice for students interested in pursuing medicine or other STEM-based careers. All students taking this class are required to take the AP exam in the spring.

Biology 11/12*

Eleventh or twelfth grade (required)*
Year-long course: 5 credits per semester
Prerequisite: None

This course is intended as an introductory course to the scientific study of life. Students will study organisms, their evolution, the processes that keep them alive, and the molecules that compose them. Like any field of science, biology relies on important methods of inquiry: questioning, hypothesizing, making inferences, testing and controlling variables, collecting, synthesizing, and communicating data. Activities in the class will range from traditional

lectures to cooperative group activities, laboratory exercises, and independent projects and assessment preparation.

*This course or AP Biology may be taken to satisfy the Biology requirement. Students may take both courses if desired.

AP Biology*

Eleventh or twelfth grade (elective)
Prerequisite: B+ average or better in Chemistry both semesters; or a B in both Biology and Chemistry
Year-long course: 5 credits per semester

The AP Biology course is designed to be the equivalent of a college Biology course and thus covers the topics identified by the College Board. Students in AP Biology will be given the opportunity to learn and experience Biology. This course is designed to challenge students to improve their skills in all areas of scientific inquiry - experimental design, data collection and analysis, synthesis and communication of results - within the context of various fields of the life sciences ranging from molecular biology to evolution to ecology and many others in between.

This course is dual-enrolled through UNO and is a great choice for students interested in pursuing medicine or other STEM-based careers. All students taking this class are required to take the AP exam in the spring.

*This course or Biology may be taken to satisfy the Biology requirement. Students may take both courses if desired.

AP Environmental Science

Eleventh or twelfth grade (elective)
Prerequisite: Biology or AP Biology (can be concurrent) and Chemistry
Year-long course: 5 credits per semester

The AP Environmental Science course is designed to engage students with the scientific principles, concepts, and methodologies required to understand the interrelationships within the natural world. The course requires that students identify and analyze natural and anthropogenic environmental problems, evaluate the relative risks associated with these problems, and examine alternative solutions for resolving or preventing them. Environmental science is interdisciplinary, embracing topics from geology, biology, environmental studies, chemistry, and geography. All students taking this class are required to take the AP exam in the spring.

This course will be dual-enrolled through UNO.

AP Physics 1 and 2

Tenth, eleventh or twelfth grade (elective)
Prerequisite: Co-enrollment in Precalculus
Year-long course, 5 credits per semester

This algebra-based, college-level physics class will give students a deeper understanding of physics, including both additional topics and more rigorous math than our introductory physics course. Based on the College Board's AP Physics 1 and AP Physics 2 curricula, the course covers a wide range of topics within both mechanics (such as motion, force, energy, and momentum) and electricity and magnetism (including circuits, electrostatic forces, and magnetism). This course is dual-enrolled through UNO and is a great choice for students interested in pursuing medicine or other STEM-based careers. All students taking this class are required to take the AP exam in the spring.

AP Physics C

Tenth, eleventh or twelfth grade (elective)
Prerequisite: AP Calculus AB or Co-enrollment in AP Calculus BC
Year-long course, 5 credits per semester

This calculus-based, college-level physics class provides the most rigorous, in-depth study of physics on campus. Based on the College Board's AP Physics C: Mechanics and AP Physics C: Electricity & Magnetism curricula, the course offers a detailed, abstract approach to topics in both classical and modern physics, including motion, forces, energy, electromagnetism, and Gauss' Law. This course is dual-enrolled through UNO and is most appropriate for students interested in pursuing engineering or other mathematical fields.All students taking this class are required to take the AP exam in the spring.

Introduction to Epidemiology

Eleventh or twelfth grade (elective)
Prerequisites: Physics 9 and Chemistry (completed); Biology or AP Biology (completed or concurrent)
Semester course: 5 credits

This course offers an opportunity to step into the shoes of disease detectives and unravel the mysteries of how diseases emerge, spread, and devastate populations. Through interactive outbreak simulations and real-world case studies this introductory course provides students with the opportunity to identify core investigative tools used by epidemiologists to collect data, identify transmission patterns, track

disease spread, and implement containment measures. Whether discussing the latest science around evolving pathogens, the social and ethical considerations that arise in response to epidemics, or careers in medicine and public health, students will come away with a deeper understanding of infectious disease transmission principles and how we can work together as informed citizens to protect community health.

Introduction to Forensic Science

Tenth, eleventh, or twelfth grade (elective)
Prerequisite: Physics 9 and Chemistry (Chemistry may be concurrent)
Semester course: 5 credits

This course integrates concepts from physics, chemistry and biology to develop scientific reasoning and observation skills relevant to the study of forensic science. Through case-studies, hands-on lab activities, and crime scene analysis students will learn techniques used in forensic investigations. The students in class will drive the content, choosing topics such as fingerprints, ballistics, DNA analysis, blood spatter, arson, toxicology, entomology and forensic anthropology. Students will strengthen their individual skill in scientific reasoning and observation to evaluate crime scene evidence, understand its limitations, and communicate findings.

Introduction to Materials Science

Eleventh or twelfth grade (elective)
Prerequisite: Physics 9 and Chemistry
Semester course: 5 credits

This course will bring together ideas from physics and chemistry to help students understand the reasons behind various material properties and how those properties impact our uses of those materials. We will cover both naturally occurring and man-made materials, with a heavy focus on hands-on laboratory work.

Science Olympiad

Ninth, tenth, eleventh, or twelfth grade (elective)
Prerequisite: none
Year-long course: 1 credit per semester for each day the class meets weekly; may be repeated

This class will be devoted to practice and preparation for the State (and hopefully National) Science Olympiad competition. Students in this class will need to commit to the announced date of the regional competition, which tends to be in April. Students will choose their events (23 to choose from) in September and spend the remainder of the year preparing for the competition by building devices, investigating lab techniques, and gathering information. There will be optional invitational competitions in February and March. For a list of past events or information about the organization go to www.soinc.org and click on the B/C events tab. (High School is C division)

This course will be pass/fail, meaning credits earned do not factor into the GPA.

Independent Science Research

Tenth, eleventh, or twelfth grade (elective)
Prerequisite: Permission of Science Department Chair
1-5 credits per semester, dependent on verifiable time logged in the laboratory

The purpose of this course is to provide students with opportunities for in-depth exploration of an area of interest in science. Students conduct research and experimentation and prepare a project to be presented at the Metro Science and Engineering Fair or the Greater Nebraska Science and Engineering Fair. Students meet independently with their assigned mentors to develop plans for completing the project.

This course will be listed on the student transcript as pass/fail.

INTERDISCIPLINARY COURSES

Academic Decathlon

Tenth, eleventh, or twelfth grade (elective)
Prerequisite: none
Year-long course: 2.5 - 5 credits per semester depending on schedule availability
This course may be repeated

The Academic Decathlon class prepares students to compete in 10 disciplines revolving around an overall topic, which changes from year to year. The language arts segment focuses on critical reading of novels, plays, poems, and short passages. It also includes an analytical essay, impromptu speeches, and an interview. The social studies SuperQuiz segment stresses the historical study of the era of time of the overall topic. Mathematics study covers basic math through trigonometry. Economics deals with basic principles, investing, and market conditions under varying economies, macro and microeconomic theories. The art and music segments examine different works and genres while Science explores a specific topic in that field related to the overall topic of the year.

This course will be pass/fail, meaning credits earned do not factor into the GPA.

Dance for the Stage: The Evolution of Musical Theatre Dance!

Ninth through twelfth grade (elective)
Prerequisite: none
Semester course: 5 credits
This course may be repeated

In this course, students explore the history of musical theatre choreography, its origin and evolution, and its varied musical styles. Students will learn how to discern different genres of musical theatre and perform and choreograph in various styles to suit each genre. There will be both a written component and a performance/creative project component in this course.

This course may be used to fulfill the fine art requirement **or** the PE requirement (but not both simultaneously).

Digital Media

Ninth, tenth, eleventh, or twelfth grade (elective)
Semester course: 5 credits
This course may be repeated

This course focuses on creating and editing digital video recordings. Students learn recording and editing techniques to create video projects. Projects include video and photography for the school-wide digital signage boards and ScoreVision scoreboards in the gym. Students begin with how to properly record events, scenes, and interviews, and they continue with publishing and presenting their productions.

This course may be used to fulfill the fine arts requirement.

Emerging Technologies and the Future of Work

Eleventh or twelfth grade (elective)
Prerequisite: none
One semester course: 5 credits

This course explores various new technologies that are reshaping the US labor landscape, including artificial intelligence (AI), large language models (LLMs), robotics, and the gig economy. We will start with understanding the mechanics and applications of these technologies, followed by an in-depth analysis of their influence on employment patterns and strategies to enhance career adaptability. The program includes educational field trips and guest lectures from pioneers in the industry, offering firsthand perspectives on technological trends and professional guidance for today's learners. This course will be at the college level and requires reading outside of the classroom.

Journalism

Ninth through twelfth grade (elective)
Prerequisite: None
Year-long course: 2.5 credits per semester
This course may be repeated

This course provides instruction in the fundamental skills of journalism, including reporting, interviewing, feature writing, layout, design, photography, digital imagery, and desktop publishing. Journalism students are expected to contribute to the production of the student newspaper, Verbatim.

This course may be used to fulfill the Fine Arts requirement.

Introduction to Philosophy

Ninth through twelfth grade (elective)
Prerequisite: None
Year-long course: 2.5-5 credits per semester depending on schedule availability

This is a course designed to introduce the fundamental questions of human existence. What is philosophy, and what is its purpose? At its core, philosophy seeks to understand how we should live as human beings, constantly probing the "why" behind our existence and our actions. This course will delve into the key concepts and historical developments of philosophical thought, examining the ideas of influential thinkers from diverse cultures and time periods. We will journey from the cradle of Western philosophy in ancient Greece to the mystical traditions of China and the Near East, from the rigorous intellectualism of German philosophy to the more nuanced approaches of French thought.

Music Technology I

Ninth, tenth, eleventh, or twelfth grade (elective)
Prerequisite: none
Year-long course: 2.5-5 credits per semester depending on schedule availability

Explore the exciting world of digital sound creation in Music Technology I. This course introduces students to the fundamentals of music production, including audio recording, editing, live sound reinforcement, and mixing using industry-standard software. Students will learn about MIDI, synthesizers, and digital audio workstations while creating their own tracks and experimenting with sound design. Students will also gain hands-on experience using audio equipment to assist with theatre

and music performances. Perfect for aspiring producers, composers, or anyone curious about the technical side of sound and music, this course provides the skills to bring creative ideas to life.

This course may be used to fulfill the Fine Arts requirement.

Music Technology II (Music Production)

Tenth, eleventh, or twelfth grade (elective)
Prerequisite: Teacher approval or successful completion of Music Technology I (defined as earning a B or higher).
Year-long course: 2.5-5 credits per semester depending on schedule availability

Build on your music production skills with Music Technology II, a course that takes a deeper dive into advanced recording techniques, sound engineering, and electronic composition. There is a heavier emphasis on performance and creating music than in level 1. Students will explore topics like sampling, effects processing, mastering, and collaborative production workflows. By the end of the course, students will have a portfolio of original projects showcasing their abilities in creating, arranging, and producing professional-quality tracks. Prior experience with music technology or completion of Music Technology I is strongly recommended.

This course may be used to fulfill the Fine Arts requirement.

Yearbook I

Ninth through twelfth grade (elective)
Prerequisite: none
Year-long course: 5 credits per semester
This course may be repeated

This course provides the production staff for the school yearbook, The Triangle. Students enrolled in the class use editing, writing, photography, design, and layout skills to produce the yearbook, The Triangle.

This course may be used to fulfill the Fine Arts requirement.

Yearbook II

Eleventh or twelfth grade (elective)
Prerequisite: Yearbook I and English Department Approval
Year-long course: 2.5 credits per semester
This course may be repeated

This course provides the leadership team for the school yearbook, The Triangle. Students who have successfully completed Yearbook I may apply for leadership and editor roles in the production staff for the school yearbook.

This course may be used to fulfill the Fine Arts requirement.

COLLEGE COUNSELING

The college counseling curriculum is designed to help each student take full advantage of the educational, extracurricular, and personal opportunities afforded by the school. With solid college counseling, each student will be ready at the appropriate time to seek out and apply to colleges of good fit that will fulfill their personal and intellectual goals. Throughout the Upper School program, students are alerted to the long-term impact of early educational decisions, and they are encouraged to keep all their educational options open until they are ready to make an informed choice.

In Upper School, students meet with college counselors in regularly scheduled small groups to discuss topics appropriate to the students' needs at each grade level.

CC-9 Academics and Extracurricular Involvement: Upper School Orientation

Ninth grade (required)
Year-long seminar: no credit, alternating days with Technology: Upper School Orientation

Upper School orientation reinforces the importance of academics and extracurricular involvement in order to have a successful Upper School career. Students become familiar with the Upper School curriculum and the impact of cumulative and semester GPAs, academic rigor, and course selection on the college application process. Class discussions focus on leadership and highlight extracurricular and community involvement. Freshmen are introduced to Scoir and begin utilizing the software program to research colleges; we also discuss summer enrichment programs and scholarships. Through individual and small group activities, students recognize their strengths and challenges in the areas of academics and extracurricular involvement and develop ways to achieve their goals throughout their Upper School career.

CC-10 Career and Personal Development

Tenth grade (required)
Second semester seminar: No credit

This course provides an introduction to career planning and interest exploration in preparation

for college. Students take a practice PSAT in preparation for the College Board PSAT/NMSQT© and the American College Testing (ACT) Program examinations, with explanations of how to use the results of these tests in personal educational and career planning. In addition, students navigate *Scoir* to explore careers, majors, and colleges and to learn about their aptitudes and interests.. The course includes a variety of interest and personality assessments to help students start thinking about the career paths that may fit them best. The curriculum emphasizes extracurricular exploration and methods to complete online college and career research. One of the highlights of this course is the Career Speaker Series, when students learn from community volunteers about their career path and advice.

CC-11 College Exploration and Preparation

Eleventh grade (required)
Year-long seminar: No credit

Throughout the school year, weekly group activities guide students through the process of college inquiry, application, and choice. Topics include self-assessment, goal setting and decision-making, post-secondary options and institutions, compilation and evaluation of online information and resources, factors influencing a college list, college entrance examinations, college applications and essays, resumé writing, visits and interviews, factors in the admission decision, paying for college, and elements of college life. By the end of this course, students will have drafted multiple college essays and will have started their college application. A highlight of this course is the junior family meetings, where students and families meet with their college counselor to discuss their college list, testing strategy, and their personal next steps in the college process.

CC-12 College Choice

Twelfth grade (required)
First semester seminar: No credit

During the final year of Upper School, small group activities continue throughout the first semester. Classroom activities include narrowing your college list, preparing a personal statement and college essays, completing and submitting college applications, and polishing resumés. The emphasis shifts to personal contact and personal action. Together, the student, family, and college counselors work through the process of application for admission and scholarships, making a final decision, and initiating a successful transition from secondary to higher education. One of the many highlights of this course is the Adulting 101 series, when volunteer professionals and alums speak to the seniors about various aspects of the college transition.

Supplemental Activities

A variety of additional activities supplement these courses each year:

Test Preparation/Testing

All freshmen and sophomores take the PreACT test. Sophomores and juniors take the College Board PSAT/NMSQT©. These exams are offered at Brownell Talbot during the school day. Juniors and seniors take the SAT Reasoning© and/or the ACT© at an offsite location on the date of their choosing during their junior year.

BT provides numerous opportunities to prepare for standardized testing throughout the upper school years within the college counseling curriculum in collaboration with faculty content area experts.

College Representatives visiting Brownell Talbot

Upper school students are encouraged to take advantage of opportunities to meet with admission counselors from colleges and universities across the nation who visit Brownell Talbot each year to speak with students and explain programs and requirements. College counselors also publicize local college fairs, which provide added opportunities to meet with representatives from a wide range of institutions and programs.

College Visits

Visits to a student's primary college choices can be an important part of the decision-making process. Students and their parents are encouraged to visit college campuses beginning the spring semester of their eleventh grade year and continuing through their twelfth grade year. Juniors and seniors will be granted reasonable excused absences from school for scheduled college visits in accordance with the absence policy in the Student/Parent Handbook. A two-week notice is requested prior to missing school for a college visit.

College Planning Workshops

Evening workshops for parents and students are scheduled throughout the Upper School curriculum. Topics include college exploration and planning, Scoir training, college application process, Upper School curriculum, and financial

aid and scholarships. In addition to yearly grade-level parent workshops, the college counseling department has hosted additional programming including alumni insight panels, mock college application review, mock interviews, mini college fair, and college admission panels.

The entire college preparatory milieu of Brownell Talbot is itself an exceptionally valuable resource, serving to enhance and reinforce the goals of the college counseling program beginning even in the earliest grades. Brownell Talbot enrolls students with a wide range of interests, talents, and financial resources. The institutions that best meet the needs of each, that offer the most hope of a successful and fulfilling college experience, will vary greatly. Parents are encouraged to participate with their students in helping them explore options and set challenging and realistic goals. The college admission process is educational in itself. Through it, young people move toward independence. They learn to look at themselves, to evaluate options, to make decisions, to take appropriate risks, and to set goals. Brownell Talbot offers the college counseling program as the culmination of the college preparatory education.

POLICIES AND INFORMATION

Course Drop/Add Policy

Brownell Talbot School offers a wide variety of course options for all students. The goal of the school is to appropriately challenge every student through various required classes and elective course offerings. Implementation of this goal requires communication between the school and the student's home. Students, advisors, and parents plan together to choose courses that best meet the needs and desires of the student, while fulfilling the graduation requirements of the school. In some circumstances, students may begin a class and realize the situation is not appropriate for their desired educational plan at the school. Students should immediately begin a dialogue with their advisor and parents regarding possible resolutions to the situation. This may include dropping a class and/or adding a replacement class to students' schedules.

Students must obtain a "Drop/Add Form" from the main office. The Drop/Add Form provides detailed instructions for the student to complete the form and return it to the Dean of Upper School. Please note that strict deadlines will be enforced in the Drop/Add process at Brownell Talbot.

Drop

First semester deadline for dropping a course is the 25th day of the semester.

No grade is issued for the course.

The course is not reflected on official transcripts.

Any course dropped after the deadline IS reflected on official transcripts with "W" to indicate a withdrawal.

Second semester deadline for dropping a course is the fifth day of the semester (although not encouraged, as most classes are year-long).

Semester one grades are reported on official transcripts.

No grade is issued for semester two of the course.

The second semester is not reflected on official transcripts.

Any course dropped after the deadline IS reflected on official transcripts with "W" to indicate a withdrawal.

Add

The deadline for adding a class is the 10th class day of each semester unless transferring within the same academic area (e.g. AP U.S. History to U.S. History).

Advanced Placement Exam Registration Policy

AP exam prices are set by the College Board; after November 15, students are charged an additional $40 on top of their exam fee, due to College Board's late registration policy/fee structure.

Students are responsible for registering for their AP exams by using the AP Classroom join codes for each of their AP classes within their College Board student accounts.

AP exam dates are set by the College Board, and are posted in advance of each academic year. If a situation arises where a student needs to miss the scheduled AP exam (in a circumstance that is not related to a school-sponsored activity or illness documented by a doctor's note), the student will be billed an additional $100 to cover the cost of staffing a late exam opportunity.

If a grade 10-12 student is interested in pursuing an AP exam for a course that is not offered at Brownell Talbot, the student is required to meet with the Dean of Upper School and counselor to discuss the following items in order to secure approval for BT to be a host site for that exam:

- The student's intellectual curiosity and interest in the subject matter.
- The student's study plan/AP class information to prepare for the exam.
- The student's goal and intent for taking the exam.

This meeting must be scheduled by the end of September of the academic year in which the test will be completed. Please note:

- The school may limit the number of AP exams they will host for a student in the interest of balance
- Students must have permission from their parents to register for additional AP exams, and will be charged all applicable College Board fees for any additional exams hosted at BT.

Independent Study Coursework

If a student's interests extend beyond the published course offerings, the student should discuss additional opportunities with the Dean of Upper School or counselor, including independent study, community programs, or coursework at nearby colleges. Approval is required before registering if the course or program may affect Brownell Talbot course load or sequencing.

Service Learning

All Upper School students are expected to be involved in service to the community. The expectation of the school is that students will volunteer 10 hours per school year in service to the community. Community service may be completed during the entire year including the summer months with proper verification. Service learning is a vital component of a complete Brownell Talbot education, and students have many opportunities to complete their service commitment.

Three specific service learning opportunities exist within the school. Each of the following opportunities earns hours toward the 10-hour service learning requirement.

Cross-Age Helping

The cross-age helper program is administered through the National Honor Society and its advisor. Teachers at all levels are given the opportunity to have Upper School students aid them with their classes. Upper School students work in centers, one-on-one, read with the younger students, and play games.

Office Aide

Students serving as office aides work with the administrative support team in the front office. Students make deliveries on campus during a non-academic free period or study hall. Students earn up to six service hours for office aide.

Student Ambassadors

Student Ambassadors provide outreach to prospective students and their families. They give campus tours while discussing school, its history and traditions, and its offerings for quality education.

HOUSE SYSTEM

The House System is designed to encourage closer relationships between the students of the House and the House Dean (faculty advisor), as well as increase school spirit across campus. Each House has a leader selected from the senior class. Houses earn points throughout the year through participation, contests, service, and the House Olympics. The House Cup is awarded to the House that earned the most points at the end of the year.

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Athletics

Brownell Talbot is dedicated to its tradition of excellence in all school programs. This tradition of excellence is the basis for our athletic philosophy. Development of the strong student athlete is in keeping with our dedication to enhancing the minds, bodies, and spirits of students. A successful athletic program is important to the life of the school in the building of community and school spirit among the students, alumni, and the wider community.

Competition and the pursuit of excellence influence the athletic program. Brownell Talbot provides a well-rounded program of interscholastic athletics affording opportunity for all students. Opportunities for participation in the athletic program vary according to the sport and level of competition. At the non-varsity levels, emphasis is on skills development and participation. At the varsity level, performance and team success become primary objectives.

Students benefit from the development of physical fitness, leadership, teamwork, good

sportsmanship, self-discipline, respect, and integrity. Brownell Talbot's athletic program provides competitive opportunities for the development of the student's athletic capabilities while promoting these ideals of athletic excellence.

Brownell Talbot is a member of the Frontier Conference. The conference comprises eight other schools that vary from Class C1 to D2. Sports offered include:

Fall

**Boys Tennis – Class B
*Cross-Country (boys/girls) – Class B
Volleyball – Class C1
*****Football – Class C1
Girls Golf – Class C
******Softball - Class B
Cheerleading

Winter

Basketball (boys/girls) – Class C1 for girls / C2 for boys
***Swimming (boys/girls) – Class A
Powerlifting

Spring

Track (boys/girls) – Class C
****Baseball – Class B
**Girls Soccer – Class B
**Boys Soccer – Class B
**Girls Tennis – Class B
Boys Golf – Class C

* Indicates cooperative team with Roncalli Catholic High School.
** Indicates cooperative team with Concordia Lutheran High School.
*** Indicates cooperative team with Roncalli Catholic High School, Concordia Lutheran High School, and Mercy High School.
**** Indicates cooperative team with Concordia Lutheran High School and Omaha Christian Academy
*****Indicates a cooperative team with Cornerstone Christian School and Quest Forward Academy
******Indicates a cooperative team with Mercy High School

Activities

Activities Banquet
Baccalaureate and Commencement
Career Shadowing
Clubs (varies by year and interest–current clubs include Board Games, Crafts, Culture, GSA-Gender & Sexuality Alliance, Politics, Science Olympiad, Fellowship of Christian Athletes and Sports Clubs)
Fall Musical
Rally for the Arts
Homecoming: Crowning King and Queen
One Act Play
Robotics
Science and Art Fair
Service Learning Project
"Pirate Radio" Pop A Cappella Ensemble
Spring Prom Dinner and Dance
Spring Play
Winter Dance

Honor Societies

National Honor Society
International Thespian Society
National Art Honor Society

Inter-School Activities

Academic Decathlon Competitions
Art Contests
Math Competitions
Metro Science Fair
Music Clinics/Contests
Science Olympiad
Speech Competitions
Quiz Bowl

Student Government

Head of School Advisory Council
Upper School Honor Council
Upper School Student Council

BROWNELL TALBOT GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Brownell Talbot School requires students to earn a minimum of 250 credits to graduate. Following is a list of minimum requirements / required courses by department.

College Counseling	• 9: Academics and Extracurricular Involvement • 10: Career and Personal Development • 11: College Exploration and Preparation • 12: College Choice
English - 40 credits required	• English 9 • English 10 • English 11 **or** AP Language and Composition • English 12: Capstone
Fine Arts - 4 courses required	• One Fine Arts class is required each year
History - 40 credits required	• Ancient History • World History: Reformation to Modern or AP European History • United States History or AP United States History • Economics and United States Government
Math - 40 credits required	• Four years of math instruction taken in the Upper School
Physical Education - 4 courses	• Healthy Living • Three additional semesters
Science - 30 credits	• Physics 9 • Chemistry • Biology or AP Biology
Technology	• Technology: Upper School Orientation
World Languages - 20 credits required	• Two consecutive years in the same world language taken in Upper School

SAMPLE SCHEDULE

Ninth Grade

English 9

World History: Ancient to Renaissance

Physics 9

Math Class

World Language Class

Fine Art Class

Healthy Living

College Counseling 9/Technology: Upper School Orientation

Other Elective Classes (recommend to take at least 1 semester of PE)

Tenth Grade

English 10

World History: Reformation to Modern **or** AP European History

Chemistry

Math Class

World Language Class

Fine Art Class

College Counseling 10

Other Elective Classes (recommend to take at least 1 semester of PE)

Eleventh Grade

English 11 Explorations **or** AP English Language and Composition

United States History **or** AP United States History

Biology **or** AP Biology

Math Class

World Language Class (elective in grades 11 and 12)

Fine Art Class

College Counseling 11

Other Elective Classes (recommend to complete PE graduation requirement this year)

Twelfth Grade

English 12: Capstone

Economics/United States Government

Math Class

Science Class (elective in grade 12)

World Language Class (elective in grade 12)

Fine Art Class

College Counseling 12

Other Elective Classes

Brownell Talbot College Preparatory School

400 N. Happy Hollow Blvd.
Omaha, NE • 68132-2198

Phone 402.556.3772 • Fax 402.553.2994

brownell.edu