

The first semester of the course is preparation for Academic Decathlon, a 10-event competition that examines student knowledge across seven academic disciplines, as well as three disciplines of a subjective nature.

## **The topic for the 2025-26 school year is “The Roaring ‘20s”**

The second semester of the course will have our team members preparing for Region (and hopefully State) Decathlon and our non-team members will choose a UIL academic event to prepare for until district competition. The fourth nine weeks will have a major grade project that students will work on in groups.

**SCIENCE:** The science topic will be an introduction to electricity and magnetism.

**LITERATURE:** The literature curriculum will present an introduction to the literature of the Jazz Age and will include critical reading, one long work of literature, and selected shorter works. The long work of literature will be *The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald.

**ART:** The art curriculum will offer an introduction to the art of the Jazz Age. There will be art pieces provided for analysis.

**MUSIC:** Some music theory basics, and the music curriculum will focus on the music of the Jazz Age.

**SOCIAL SCIENCE:** The social science topic will be the Roaring Twenties.

**ECONOMICS:** The economics curriculum will cover fundamental economic concepts, microeconomics, and macroeconomics and will include a thematic section on the U.S. economy in the 1920s.

**MATHEMATICS:** For 2025-26, the math curriculum will focus on algebra and trigonometry.

➔ At competitions, the seven academic events are 30-minute multiple choice tests.

- **ESSAY:** A 50-minute paper focused on a prompt chosen by the student from a list of three prompts.
- **INTERVIEW:** Students will receive instruction and practice on basic interviewing etiquette.
- **SPEECH:** Students will develop a prepared speech that is between 3.5 and 4 minutes and will receive instruction and practice on delivering an impromptu speech that is between 1.5 and 2 minutes.

Students are placed into three academic categories based on their grades in coursework in core and AP subjects in previous years. Grades are calculated by semester on a 4.0 scale. There is a spot for all achievement levels, provided you work hard! A decathlon team is composed of three honors, three scholastic and three varsity students.

- HONORS—3.800 to 4.000 GPA
- SCHOLASTIC—3.200 to 3.799 GPA
- VARSITY—less than 3.200 GPA

The course awards **Pre-AP credit for 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> graders** and **AP Credit for 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> graders**.

**Classification for 9<sup>th</sup> graders is based on grades for S1 and S2 in core and AP courses for 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade**

**Classification for 10<sup>th</sup> graders is based on grades for S1 and S2 in core and AP courses for 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade.**

**Classification for 11<sup>th</sup> graders is based on grades for S1 and S2 in core and AP courses for 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grade.**

**Classification for 12<sup>th</sup> graders is based on grades for S1 and S2 in core and AP courses for 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> grade.**

The curriculum is provided by USAD (United States Academic Decathlon)

Contact Mr. Corrington at [William.corrington@fortbendisd.gov](mailto:William.corrington@fortbendisd.gov) for more details, as I am the teacher of record this year for the course. Ms. Bonnie Bonnette is the co-sponsor for Academic Decathlon and will be present at any competitions that we attend.