

ONLINE AND HYBRID COURSES

Choate's online courses seek to introduce students to the essential skills and strategies of online learning, encouraging academic autonomy and an independent work ethic while broadening our curricular offerings. Online courses promote flexibility in a student's program of study, providing time and space for the focused and sustained pursuit of both academic and extracurricular passions. At the same time, these courses offer opportunities for belonging to virtual communities of learners who work together on shared tasks and connect through common interests.

BEGINNING ARABIC

Year; 3 course credits
AR120

Beginning Arabic is a team-taught online class that integrates synchronous and asynchronous web tools in teaching and learning. Students work with a variety of online media to master the Arabic alphabet and sounds, build vocabulary, develop speaking and listening skills, and acquire grammar concepts at the basic level. Students learn how to speak about themselves, their families and their environment, to initiate and sustain conversations, and to compose several paragraphs related to their daily routine. Students also read authentic short texts on familiar topics and discuss their main ideas. This course focuses on Modern Standard Arabic with an exposure to Levantine colloquial Arabic through music, songs, and short videos. By the end of the course, students gain a solid command of linguistic structures and skills in Modern Standard Arabic at the basic level as well as a deeper understanding and appreciation of Arab culture and art. Students' progress is assessed through performance on weekly assignments and projects. This course is offered by the Eight Schools Association and is taught by a teacher from Choate Rosemary Hall and another from Deerfield Academy. Open to fourth, fifth, and sixth formers, with permission of the Language department.

Note: AR120 does not prepare students to enter Second Year Arabic, Honors (AR250HO).

ACCELERATED GREEK SEQUENCE

Fall term; 1 course credit or Year; 3 course credits
GR100

Beginning Attic Greek is a collaborative online class which employs both synchronous and asynchronous web tools in teaching and learning. This course not only introduces the vocabulary, forms, and syntax of Attic Greek, but also the thoughts, feelings, and actions that characterized Greek culture. When we say "Attic Greek," we mean the Greek of Periclean Athens, when the civilization was at its apex. We use a mixture of online modules to provide grammatical and syntactical lessons along with textbook work to supply grammatical practice and readings in authentic Greek. Additionally, we use a suite of web-enhanced tools and applications to connect students at peer institutions in their endeavor to learn Attic Greek together. The course features project-based and collaborative assessments, using both translation and composition. Students

submit weekly work for assessment and self-evaluation to chart their own progress. The course also includes some self-directed research projects which allow students to explore individual interests. This course is offered by the Eight Schools Association and is taught by a teacher from Phillips Academy. ESA students may take the course for the first term or for the full year. Open to all Choate students, with permission of the Language department.

THE DESTRUCTION OF AMERICAN SLAVERY

Winter term; 1 course credit
HI414AD

This online course considers how the Republican Party dealt with issues of slavery and race from 1850–1870. Students examine a wide variety of primary source documents in the course of each week and engage with the scholarship of Lincoln Prize-winning historian James Oakes. The discussions strive to place the Republicans in the context of their day, offering particular attention to the often-complicated legal arguments that preceded the formal abolition of slavery in 1865. At the center of the course is the much debated question of "who freed the slaves?" Discussions and student collaboration occur online during the week; other assessments include papers and tests. This course is offered by the Eight Schools Association and is taught by a teacher from Lawrenceville and is open to fifth and sixth formers.

THEATER HISTORY

Spring term; 1 course credit
TA320

Through this online class, students explore the history of the theater from the ancient to the modern world. Through an analysis of significant productions – from *The Bacchae* at the Theater of Dionysus in 405 B.C. Athens, to the Noh theater in the *Shogun* court of 14th century Japan, to *Show Boat* on Broadway in 1927 – the course introduces students to key moments and movements in theater history. Students investigate developments in stage architecture, the shifting "place" of the stage within culture, and the changing styles and methods of production. Students examine materials ranging from set designs and costume sketches, to historical diaries, photographs, newspaper reviews, and dramatic texts. Students are required to participate with their teacher and classmates in online discussions, write a series of reaction pieces, design a theater-of-the-future independent project, and produce a significant independent project pursuing advanced exploration of a single figure, production or moment in theater history. This course is offered by the Eight Schools Association (ESA) and taught by a teacher from Choate Rosemary Hall. Open to all Choate students.

WATER AND HUMANITY, HONORS

Winter and Spring terms; 2 course credits
MD461HO

Water and Humanity examines the dynamic and tenuous relationship between water resources and human development. Exploring water from a multidisciplinary, project-driven perspective, students think critically about the central role water has played and must continue to play in the viability and vitality of all civilizations, as well as the many challenges that people face in sustaining, protecting, and gaining access to usable fresh water. Students encounter diverse materials, use holistic approaches,

and engage in innovative project planning to consider, understand, and propose solutions to complex water issues. This fully online course involves using Canvas, online video-conferencing, web-based communications technologies, as well as field research and project development. This course focuses on the value of water and on the issues that water scarcity presents within the contexts of such elements as religious belief and practice, the human-water relationship in fine art and architecture, national and imperial infrastructure, and industrial development. Students also think about the place of water in their own local, regional, and global communities, while researching and proposing their own solutions to complex multidisciplinary water issues. Through collaborative projects with opportunities for innovation and a final capstone, students enjoy the advantages of this online and interdisciplinary platform, which enables them to engage in dialogue and collaboration across the Eight Schools Association, with the goal of furthering thinking and conclusions about water's central dilemmas. This course is offered by the Eight Schools Association and is taught by a teacher from Lawrenceville. Open to sixth formers.

In addition to the online courses listed, the following hybrid learning opportunity is available. Hybrid courses combine online work and synchronous online meetings with in-person interaction among participating students and teachers.

DEMOCRACY, MEDIA, AND POLITICS

Spring term; 1 course credit

PS4.33AD

All politics are now mediated. Print media, radio, television, the Internet, and social media infuse our culture and transform the presentation of issues, candidates, and the daily practice of politics. To understand politics, one must understand the role of media in politics. This course is taught both online and blended to promote student-directed investigations and conclusions to the questions posed at the start of the course that guide the term's work. For example, in spring 2017 the course questions were: Why did Donald Trump win the 2016 Presidential election? How did the media influence the outcome, if at all? How did the media's role change in the 2016 election, if at all? In spring 2018, students will work on the staff of the fictitious Spin Media Corporation producing actual news shows for broadcast. Each year, the central focus of the course reflects the current relationship between politics and the media. This course is offered as a hybrid course in order to include students from other schools in the Eight Schools Association (ESA). Open to all students from the ESA schools; at Choate, open to fifth and sixth formers, and fourth formers with the permission of the HPRSS department.