#### Onslow Virtual Academy Course Offerings 2021-2022 School Year

The Onslow Virtual Academy is an option that is offered to 9–12 graders in Onslow County Schools. Enrollment in the academy is completed through an application and lottery process. Once students are selected, it is expected that they will take at least 1 online class each year. Students enrolled in the Onslow Virtual Academy may take their online classes on the school campus or at home at no cost. Flexibility and individualization is a cornerstone of this program.

**Onslow Virtual Academy Application** 

For more information, please contact the Onslow Virtual Academy at 910–455–2211 extension 20234, or by email at vikki.childress@onslow.k12.nc.us

Below are the current classes offered through the Onslow Virtual Academy

#### **CTE**

Principles of Business, Marketing and Finance - BF102X0CVA

Entrepreneurship I - ME112X0CVA

Health Sciences I (Regular or Honors) - HU402X0CVA or HU405X0CVA

Health Sciences II - HU422X0CVA or HU425X0CVA

## **English**

English I (Regular and Honors) -10212X0CVA or 10215X0CVA

English II (Regular and Honors) - 10222X0CVA or 10225X0CVA

English III (Regular and Honors) 10232X0CVA or 10235X0CVA

English IV (Regular and Honors) -10242X0CVA or 10242X0CVA seniors enrolled in the academy have the option of completing the graduation project online or at their face to face school

AP English IV (English Literature and Composition) - 1A017X0CVA

Introduction to Social Media 10252X01VA

Mythology, Folklore and Gothic Literature - 10252X02VA

#### Fine Arts:

Art History (Non AP) - 54635X0CVA

Digital Photography I - 54622X0CVA

Digital Photography II - 54635X0CVA

Music Appreciation - 52162X0CVA

Audio Visual Production 1 -

Audio Visual Production 2

Audio Visual Production 3

#### Foreign Language:

Spanish 1 - 11412X0CVA

Spanish II - 11422X0CVA

Spanish III - 11435X0CVA

AP Spanish - 1A087X0CVA

French 1 - 11012X0CVA

French II - 11022X0CVA

AP French

### **Health and Fitness**

Health and PE - 60492X0CVA

Advanced PE - 60292X0CVA

Fitness Fundamentals - 60392X01VA

Group and Individual Sports - 60392X02VA

Health Careers and First Aid - 60392X03VA

HOPE - 60392X04VA

Coaching and Officiating - 60392X05VA

#### Personal Training - 60392X06VA

#### Math -

Math I - 21092X0CVA

Math II regular and honors - 22092X0CVA or 22095X0CVA

Math III regular and honors - 23092X0CVA or 23095X0CVA

AFM regular and honors - 24002X0CVA and 24005X0CVA

Pre Calculus regular and honors - 24032XOCVA and 24035X0CVA

AP Calculus AB - 2A007X0CVA

#### Science -

AP Chemistry - 3A017X0CVA

AP Biology - 3A007X0CVA

Earth and Environmental regular and honors - 35012XOCVA and  $35015\mbox{X0CVA}$ 

Physical Science - 34102X0CVA

Chemistry regular and honors - 34202X0CVA and 34205X0CVA

Forensic Science honors and regular - 30202X01VA and 30205X01VA

Great Minds in Science - 30202X02VA

Astronomy - 35402X0CVA

Biology honors and regular 33202XOCVA and 33205X0CVA

Physics standard and honors - 34302X0CVA and 34305X0CVA

Anatomy and Physiology standard and honors - 33302X0CVA AND 33305X0CVA

Introduction to Robotics - 30202X03VA

Introduction to Veterinary Science - 30202X04VA

#### Social Studies -

AP US History - 4A077X0CVA

American History I regular and honors - 43042X0CVA and 43045XOCVA

American History II regular and honors - 43052XOCVA and 43055X0CVA

American History: Founding Principles and Civics & Economics regular and honors - 42092X0CVA and 42095XOCVA

Intro to Criminology - 48012X03VA

Intro to Anthropology- 48012X01VA

Intro to Archeology - 48012X02VA

Law and Order - 48012X04VA

Native American History - 46022X0CVA

Psychology regular and honors - 44032XOCVA and 44035X0CVA

Social Problems: A World in Crisis - 48012X05VA

Sociology regular and honors- 44002XOCVA and 44005X0CVA

World History regular and honors - 43032X0CVA and 43035XOCVA

All OVA courses have 2 parts – part A and Part B. We operate on a 9 weeks calendar, not a 6 week calendar.

# **Course descriptions:**

**Advanced PE** — **60292X0CVA** Part A - This course guides students through an in-depth examination of the effects of exercise on the body. Students learn how to exercise efficiently and properly, while participating in physical activities and applying principles they've learned. Basic anatomy, biomechanics, physiology, and sports nutrition are all integral parts of this course. Throughout this course students participate in a weekly fitness program involving elements of cardio, strength, and flexibility.

Part B - In this course students will explore the anatomy or structure of the human body. In addition to learning anatomical terminology, students will study and the main systems of the body- including integumentary, skeletal, muscular, circulatory, respiratory, digestive, reproductive, and nervous systems. In addition to identifying the bones, muscles, and organs, students will study the structure of cells and tissues within the body

# Anatomy and Physiology - 33302X0CVA AND 33305X0CVA

(Standard and Regular)

Part A – Anatomy - In this course students will explore the anatomy or structure of the human body. In addition to learning anatomical terminology, students will study and the main systems of the body-including integumentary, skeletal, muscular, circulatory, respiratory, digestive, reproductive, and nervous systems. In addition to identifying the bones, muscles, and organs, students will study the structure of cells and tissues within the body.

Part B — Physiology - In this course, students will examine the functions of the body's biological systems-including skeletal, muscular, circulatory, respiratory, digestive, nervous, and reproductive systems. In addition to understanding the function of each system, students will learn the function of cells, blood, and sensory organs, as well as study DNA, immunity, and metabolic systems.

# Art History - (Non AP) - 54635X0CVA

Part A - This course explores the main concepts of art, expression, and creativity as it helps students answer questions such as what is art; what is creativity; and how and why people respond to art. It covers essential design principles such as emphasis, balance, and unity. Units include: Art, History, and Culture; Western and World Art Appreciation; and Art and the Modern World.

Part B — Art in World Cultures - Who is the greatest artist of all time? Is it Leonardo daVinci? Claude Monet? Michelangelo? Pablo Picasso? Is the greatest artist of all time someone whose name has been lost to history? You will learn about some of the greatest artists while also creating art of your own, including digital art. We will explore the basic principles and elements of art, learn how to critique art, and examine some of the traditional art of the Americas, Africa, and Oceania in addition to the development of Western art.

**Audio Visual Production 1 – (Not a CTE Course)-** This course is designed to enable all students at the high school level to learn the basics of audio video production. The course will help the students develop an understanding of the industry with a focus on pre-production, production, and post-production audio and video activities. The course is based on Career and Technical Education (CTE) standards designed to help students develop technical knowledge and skills needed for success in the audio video production industry.

**Audio Visual Production 2 – (Not a CTE Course) -** This course is designed to enable students at high school level to develop the knowledge and skills related to audio video techniques that they can use in their careers. This course discusses the elements of audio video production, preproduction activities, media production techniques, and postproduction activities. The course is based on Career Technical Education (CTE) standards designed to help students develop technical knowledge and skills needed for success in the audio video production industry.

**Audio Visual Production 3 – (Not a CTE Course)** - This course is designed to enable all students at the high school level to students understand the basic concepts in audio video manufacturing. Students will learn about preproduction techniques, advanced production techniques, mastering production techniques, special effects and animation, careers, and audio video production laws. The course is based on Career Technical Education (CTE) standards designed to help students prepare for entry into a wide range of careers in audio video production

## Coaching and Officiating - 60392X05VA

Part A - Intro to Coaching - This course focuses on the various responsibilities of a coach and the skills needed to successfully fill this important position. Throughout the course, students will explore various coaching models and leadership styles, sports nutrition and sports psychology, as well as safety, conditioning, and cross-training. Students will learn effective communication, problem-solving, and decision making skills. The course will also introduce students to game strategy, tactical strategy, skills-based training, and coaching ethics.

Part B - Sports Officiating - In this course, students will learn the rules, game play, and guidelines for a variety of sports, including soccer, baseball, softball, basketball, volleyball, football, and tennis. In addition, they will learn the officiating calls and hand signals for each sport, as well as the role a sport official plays in maintaining fair play

# Digital Photography 1 – 54622X0CVA

Part 1- Digital **Photography** I focuses on the basics of photography, including building an understanding of aperture, shutter speed, lighting, and composition. Students will be introduced to the history of photography and basic camera functions. Students use basic techniques of composition and camera functions to build a personal portfolio of images, capturing people, landscapes, close-ups, and action photographs. **Part 2** - In this course, we examine various aspects of professional photography, including the ethics of the profession, and examine some of the areas in which professional photographers may choose to specialize, such as wedding photography and product photography. Students also learn about some of the most respected professional photographers in history and how to critique photographs in order to better understand what creates an eye-catching photograph.

# Digital Photography II - 54635X0CVA

Few recent technical innovations have changed an industry as fundamentally as digital photography has changed everything about the way we capture our lives in the way we take, edit, store, and share pictures. Digital Photography provides you with the flexibility to not only use it as an independent individual course or as a group or class course, but to also easily customize the course to the unique needs of your situation. The course combines 15 lessons with online discussions that promote the development of critical thinking skills as your students explore digital photography as an enriching activity or a career.

## Fitness Fundamentals - 60392X01VA

Fitness Fundamentals part A - This course is designed to provide students with the basic skills and information needed to begin a personalized exercise program and maintain an active and healthy lifestyle. Students participate in pre- and post fitness assessments in which they measure and analyze their own levels of fitness based on the five components of physical fitness: muscular strength, endurance, cardiovascular fitness, flexibility, and body composition. In this course, students research the

benefits of physical activity, as well as the techniques, principles, and guidelines of exercise to keep them safe and healthy. Throughout this course students participate in a weekly fitness program involving elements of cardio, strength, and flexibility training.

Fitness Fundamentals part B - This course takes a more in-depth look at the five components of physical fitness touched on in Fitness Fundamentals 1: muscular strength, endurance, cardiovascular health, flexibility, and body composition. This course allows students to discover new interests as they experiment with a variety of exercises in a non-competitive atmosphere. By targeting different areas of fitness, students increase their understanding of health habits and practices and improve their overall fitness level. Students take a pre- and post-fitness assessment. Throughout this course students also participate in a weekly fitness program involving elements of cardio, strength, and flexibility

#### Forensic Science - 30202X01VA

**Part A – Secrets of the Dead** - In this unit, students are introduced to forensic science. We discuss what forensic science consists of and how the field developed through history. Topics covered include some of the responsibilities of forensic scientists and about some of the specialty areas that forensic scientists may work in. Objective and critical thinking questions are combined with lab activities to introduce students to analyzing the crime scene, a wide variety of physical evidence such as firearm and explosion evidence, and DNA evidence.

Part B – More Secrets of the Dead - Although the crime scene is the first step in solving crimes through forensic science, the crime laboratory plays a critical role in the analysis of evidence. This course focuses on the analysis of evidence and testing that takes place within the lab. It examines some of the basic scientific principles and knowledge that guide forensic laboratory processes, such as those testing DNA, toxicology, and material analysis. Techniques such as microscopy, chromatography, odontology, mineralogy, and spectroscopy will be examined.

#### **Great Minds in Science - 30202X02VA**

**Part A – Great Minds in Science** - Is there life on other planets? What extremes can the human body endure? Can we solve the problem of global warming? Today, scientists, explorers, and writers are working to answer all of these questions. Like Edison, Einstein, Curie, and Newton, scientists of today are asking questions and working on problems that may revolutionize our lives and world. This course focuses on 10 of today's greatest scientific minds. Each unit takes an in-depth look at one of these individuals and shows how their ideas may help to shape tomorrow's world.

**Part B - Revolutionary Ideas in Science** is a course with 15 lessons that cover the discoveries and inventions in science from pre-historic to present times. This course covers subject areas such as: prehistoric science, technology, ancient and medieval science, the scientific revolution, thermodynamics and electricity, and many more.

## Group and Individual Sports - 60392X02VA

Part A Group Sports - This course provides students with an overview of group sports. Students learn about a variety of sports, yet do an in-depth study of soccer, basketball, baseball/softball, and volleyball. Students learn not only the history, rules, and guidelines of each sport, but practice specific skills related to each sport. Students also learn about sportsmanship and teamwork. In addition, students study elements of personal fitness, goal setting, sport safety, and sports nutrition. Students conduct fitness assessments and participate in regular weekly physical activity.

Part B Individual Sports - This course provides students with an overview of individual sports. Students learn about a variety of sports, yet do an in-depth study of running, walking, hiking, yoga, dance, swimming, biking, and cross-training. Students learn not only the history, rules, and guidelines of each sport, but practice specific skills related to each sport. Students also learn about the components of fitness, the FITT principles, benefits of fitness, safety and technique, and good nutrition. Students conduct fitness assessments and participate in weekly physical activity.

#### Health Careers and First Aid - 60392X03VA

Part 1 Health Careers - In this course, students explore a variety of career options related to the health care field, including medicine, nursing, physical therapy, pharmacy, dental careers, sports medicine, personal training, social work, psychology, and more. Students will learn about various options within each field, what each of these jobs entails, and the education and knowledge required to be successful. In addition, they will focus on basic job skills and information that would aid them in health care and other career paths.

Part 2 – First Aid - First Aid & Safety - In this course, students learn and practice first aid procedures for a variety of common conditions, including muscular, skeletal, and soft tissue injuries. In addition, students learn how to appropriately respond to a variety of emergency situations. They also learn the procedures for choking and CPR for infants, children, and adults. In addition to emergency response, students will explore personal, household, and outdoor safety, and disaster preparedness.

#### **HOPE** - 60392X04VA

This comprehensive health and PE course provides students with essential knowledge and decision-making skills for a healthy lifestyle. Students will analyze aspects of emotional, social, and physical health and how these realms of health influence each other. Students will apply principles of health and wellness to their own lives. In addition, they will study behavior change and set goals to work on throughout the course. Other topics of study include substance abuse, safety and injury prevention, environmental health, and consumer health.

## Introduction to Anthropology - 48012X01VA

**Part A - Uncovering Human Mysteries** - Anthropology uses a broad approach to give students an understanding of our past, present, and future, and also addresses the problems humans face in biological, social, and cultural life. This course explores the evolution, similarity, and diversity of humankind through time. It looks at how we have evolved from a biologically and culturally weak

species to one that has the ability to cause catastrophic change. Exciting online video journeys are just one of the powerful learning tools utilized in this course.

Part B – More Human Mysteries Uncovered - This course continues the study of global cultures and the ways that humans have made sense of their world. It examines ways that cultures have understood and given meaning to different stages of life and death. The course also examines the creation of art within cultures and how cultures evolve and change over time. Finally, students apply the concepts and insights learned from the study of anthropology to several cultures found in the world today.

# Introduction to Archeology - 48012X02VA

**Part A – Introduction to Archeology** - Introduction to Archaeology is a one-semester course with 14 lessons that discuss the work and techniques involved in archaeology, and the prospects of an archaeologist. This course covers subject areas such as: history of modern archaeology, discoveries in archaeology, careers in archaeology, research techniques, evidence, site excavation, and many more.

Part B – Detectives of the past - The field of archaeology helps us better understand the events and societies of the past that have helped to shape the modern world. This course focuses on the techniques, methods, and theories that guide the study of the past. Students learn how archaeological research is conducted and interpreted, as well as how artifacts are located and preserved. Finally, students learn about the relationship of material items to culture and what we can learn about past societies from these items.

# Introduction to Astronomy - 35402X0CVA

**Part A** - **Intro to Astronomy** – This course covers a wide range of topics, such as the solar system, planets, stars, asteroids, comets, galaxies, space exploration, and theories of cosmology. The target audience for this course is high school students.

Part B – Exploring the Universe: Why do stars twinkle? Is it possible to fall into a black hole? Will the sun ever stop shining? Since the first glimpse of the night sky, humans have been fascinated with the stars, planets, and universe that surrounds us. This course will introduce students to the study of astronomy, including its history and development, basic scientific laws of motion and gravity, the concepts of modern astronomy, and the methods used by astronomers to learn more about the universe. Additional topics include the solar system, the Milky Way and other galaxies, and the sun and stars. Using online tools, students will examine the life cycle of stars, the properties of planets, and the exploration of space.

# Introduction to Criminology - 48012X03VA

**Part A** - **Introduction to Criminology** is a course with 14 lessons that cover the theories related to criminology. The target audience for this course is high school students. This course covers subject areas such as: classical theory, positivist theory, punishing offenders, routine activity theory, labeling theory, social disorganization theory, peacemaking criminology, and many more.

**Part B Criminology** – Inside the Criminal Mind - Crime and deviant behavior rank at or near the top of many people's concerns. This course looks at possible explanations for crime from the standpoint of

psychological, biological and sociological perspectives, explore the categories and social consequences of crime, and investigate how the criminal justice system handles not only criminals, but also their crimes. Why do some individuals commit crimes and others do not? What aspects in our culture and society promote crime and deviance? Why are different punishments given for the same crime? What factors shape the criminal case process?

#### Introduction to Robotics –

NOT A CTE COURSE – DOES NOT FULFILL ANY CTE PATHWAY REQUIREMENT – Science Elective - This course is focused on the concepts related to robots and how to construct a robot. Students will learn about the history and applications of robotics. Students will learn about the job opportunities and employability skills in the field of robotics. Students will also learn about the basic concepts of six simple machines, electricity, electronic circuits, Boolean algebra, magnetics, and their applicability to robotics. Students will apply safety procedures and construct a simple robot. Students will also learn about project management and engineering design process. Students will learn about the programming languages used in robotics. Students will create a simple robotic arm. Students will also construct a robot using programming. Student will learn about ethics and laws related to robotics. Students will also learn how to test and maintain a robot. Online discussions and unit activities require students to develop and apply critical thinking skills, while the included games appeal to a variety of learning styles and keep students engaged.

#### Introduction to Social Media -

Part A - This cutting-edge course develops social media skills and knowledge that will have a practical and positive impact in helping your high school students succeed in today's economy. Of course they already engage in social media, but this course enhances their skills and knowledge in order to apply them in a practical way in their careers. Online discussions are a critical aspect of creating a collaborative learning environment, while games and other interactions ensure engagement and promote a strong career orientation.

Part B - Have a Facebook account? What about Twitter? Whether you've already dipped your toes in the waters of social media or are still standing on the shore wondering what to make of it all, learning how to interact on various social media platforms is crucial in order to survive and thrive in this age of digital communication. In this course, you'll learn the ins and outs of social media platforms such as Facebook, Twitter, Pinterest, Google+, and more. You'll also discover other types of social media you

may not have been aware of and how to use them for your benefit—personally, academically, and eventually professionally as well. If you thought social media platforms were just a place to keep track of friends and share personal photos, this course will show you how to use these resources in much more powerful ways.

# **Introduction to Veterinary Science -**

NOT A CTE COURSE - DOES NOT FULFILL ANY CTE PATHWAY REQUIREMENT - Science Elective -

Part A - Introduction to Veterinary Science - This course is designed to introduce all students at the high school level to the fundamentals of veterinary science, measures to control diseases in animals, and the impact of toxins and poisons on animal health. The students will explore the history of veterinary science and the skills and requirements for a successful career in the veterinary industry. They will also explore the physiology and anatomy of animals, learn how to evaluate animal health and determine effective treatments for infectious and noninfectious diseases in animals. Additionally, they will learn about zoonotic diseases, and the impact of toxins and poisons on animal health.

Part B Veterinary Science: The Care of Animals - As animals play an increasingly important role in our lives, scientists have sought to learn more about their health and well-being. This course examines some of the common diseases and treatments for domestic animals. Toxins, parasites, and infectious diseases impact not only the animals around us, but at times humans as well. Through veterinary medicine and science, the prevention and treatment of diseases and health issues is studied and applied.

# Law and Order: Explore the legal System and Careers in Criminal Justice - 48012X04VA

**Part 1 Careers :** The criminal justice system offers a wide range of career opportunities. In this course, students will explore different areas of the criminal justice system, including the trial process, the juvenile justice system, and the correctional system.

Part 2 – Law and Order - From traffic laws to regulations on how the government operates, laws help provide society with order and structure. Our lives are guided and regulated by our society's legal expectations. Consumer laws help protect us from faulty goods; criminal laws help to protect society from individuals who harm others; and family law handles the arrangements and issues that arise in areas like divorce and child custody. This course focuses on the creation and application of laws in various areas of society.

**Mythology, Folklore and Gothic Literature** - Part A - Introduction to Mythology and Folklore is a one-semester course with 15 lessons that discuss myths, legends, and folklore from around the world. This course covers subjects such as Mythology, Legend, Folklore, Gods and the Goddesses, natural events, and wonders of the world.

Part B - Gothic Literature is a one-semester course with 14 lessons that analyze the conventions, elements, themes, and other characteristics of Gothic literature. This course covers subject areas such as: morality and spirituality in gothic poetry, Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde, dual personalities, Edgar Allan Poe, Dracula, gothic conventions across time, and many more.

## Native American History - 46022X0CVA

Part A – Historical Perspectives - By providing historical perspectives, this course provides a comprehensive understanding of the roots of Native American culture. The topics addressed include an exploration of the Native American history in the arctic and subarctic, various regions of the U.S., and the development of Native American life. Part 2 – Contemporary Perspectives - This course complements Native American Studies: Historical Perspectives. It explores Native American worldviews, art, media perspectives on Native Americans, and contemporary perspectives and organizations. It concludes by providing a global perspective by examining issues face by indigenous peoples throughout the world.

# Physics (Honors or Standard) -34302X0CVA and 34305X0CVA

Physics introduces students to the physics of motion, properties of matter, force, heat, vector, light, and sound. Students learn the history of physics from the discoveries of Galileo and Newton to those of contemporary physicists. The course focuses more on explanation than calculation and prepares students for introductory quantitative physics at the college level. Additional areas of discussion include gases and liquids, atoms, electricity, magnetism, and nuclear physics.

# Personal Training - 60392X06VA

Part A Personal Training Career Prep - This course examines the role and responsibilities of a personal trainer. Students will learn the steps to become a personal trainer, including performing fitness assessments, designing safe and effective workouts, and proper nutrition principles. Concepts of communication and motivation will be discussed, as well as exercise modifications and adaptations for special populations. Students will also examine certification requirements, business and marketing

procedures, and concerns about liability and ethics. In addition, throughout the course students will be able to explore various exercises, equipment, and tools that can be used for successful personal training.

Part B Personal Training Concepts - This course examines basic concepts in fitness that are important for personal fitness, as well as necessary foundational information for any health or exercise career field. Areas of study include musculoskeletal anatomy and physiology, terms of movement, basic biomechanics, health related components of fitness, FITT principles, functional fitness skills, safety and injury prevention, posture and technique, nutrition, and weight management.

**Psychology (Standard or Honors)** - This flexible, customizable course gives your students an overview of the history of psychology while also giving them the resources to explore career opportunities in the field. Students will learn how psychologists develop and validate theories and will examine how hereditary, social, and cultural factors help form an individual's behavior and attitudes. Students will also evaluate the effectiveness of different types of psychological counseling and therapy. Highly interactive content includes online discussions that help develop critical thinking skills.

**Sociology (Standard or Honors)** – Part 1 - In this course, students will explore the evolution of sociology as a distinct discipline while learning about sociological concepts and processes. They will learn how the individual relates to and impacts society. Students will also learn about the influence of culture, social structure, socialization, and social change on themselves and others. The course combines a variety of content types, including lessons, activities, discussions, and games to engage learners as the discover sociology as a subject and as a career. Part 2 - Because the specifics of social issues change rapidly, this course is designed to have students discover contemporary and relevant perspectives on issues that may have been around for centuries. Students engage in significant research and each lesson ends with an essay assignment that encourages students to express their opinions. Topics include media, government, civil liberties, poverty, terrorism, crime, the environment, and many more.

**Social Problems**: A World in Crisis:

Part A - This course introduces students to the topic of social problems. The initial unit helps students develop an understanding of social problems, some of the characteristics common to many of them, and how those problems evolve. Social Problems 1 makes use of labs, discussions, and other learning modalities to maximize effective learning. The course looks closely at the problem of poverty and its root causes, as well as problems in education. It also examines the problem of crime, what has historically succeeded and failed in addressing it, and how to move society forward in effectively mitigating the problem.

Part 2 – Crisis, Conflicts and Challenges - Building on the mastery of basics students acquire in Social Problems 1, this course explores issues such as globalization, alcohol and drug abuse, gangs and cults, and the ever-present and growing issue of personal privacy and its related complexities. It also addresses issues of nutrition and health, and their impact on society's wellbeing. Discussion questions encourage the development of critical thinking skills, and better equips students for college and career by helping them better understand the issues affecting themselves and their world.