

# Blacklick Valley Jr. Sr. High School

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Planned Course of Study

Grades 7-12

Updated Summer 2017

## **Mission:**

**B**uild a community of stakeholders who  
**V**alue education and graduate  
**S**tudents who are college/career ready and are  
**D**edicated to life-long learning.

## **Vision:**

*The Blacklick Valley School District will change the culture of learning by committing to high expectations for learning, engaging in rigorous instructional practice and implementing an aligned and relevant curriculum.*

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## General Information

### Non-Discrimination Policy Statement:

Blacklick Valley School District will not discriminate in its educational programs, activities, or employment practices based on race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion, ancestry, handicap, union membership or any other legally protected classification. Announcement of this policy is in accordance with state and federal laws, including Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, and sections 503 and 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Employees, students, parents, participants who have an inquiry or complaint of harassment or discrimination, or who need information about accommodations for handicapped persons should contact the Title IX, Section 504 and Support Programs Coordinator, at the Blacklick Valley School District, 555 Birch Street, Nanty Glo, PA 15943. Phone (814) 749-9211.

### Scheduling:

The school will consider the individuality of each student and plan a course of study that best suits his/her needs. Blacklick Valley Jr. Sr. high School encourages students to take a variety of courses that will fit their individual needs, interests, and aptitudes.

### Standardized Testing Requirements:

Grade	TESTS			
7	PSSA ELA	PSSA Math		
8	PSSA ELA	PSSA Math	PSSA Science	
9	Keystone Algebra	Keystone Biology	Keystone Literature	Recommended – PSAT – SAT or ACT
10				
11				
12				

These tests have four performance levels: Advanced, Proficient, Basic, and Below Basic. Student results on these tests will aid in the determination of required remediation coursework or eligibility for advanced coursework for the student.

All Blacklick Valley graduates must score proficient on the three (3) Keystone tests. The Keystone tests are administered to the students after they have completed the appropriate coursework.

**Junior High School Requirements (7-8):**

Subject	Required Number of Year Length Courses
Language Arts	2
Reading	2
Science	2
Mathematics	2
Physical Education and Health.	0.50 - quarter per year
Social Studies	2
Arts & Humanities	4
Electives	4

Art & Humanities include: Library, Music, Art, Media, Technology Education (Tech. Ed.), Keyboarding, Personal Finance, Computers, Band, and Chorus.

**High School Graduation Requirements (9-12):**

Subject	Required Credits
Language Arts	4.0
Science	3.0
Mathematics	3.0
Health & Phys Ed.	1.0
Social Studies - including government or citizenship	3.0
Arts & Humanities	4.0
Electives – can include Arts & Humanities	5.0
Vo-TECH credits	3.0-9.0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>26</b>

Art & Humanities include: Library, Music, Art, Technology Education (Tech. Ed.), Accounting, Guidance, Computers, Band, and Chorus.

In addition, all 2019 graduates must achieve proficient or advanced on the Keystone Algebra, Biology, and Literature state assessments.

**Grade Point Average:**

A cumulative percentage average will be calculated for each student in grades nine through twelve. This percentage is used to determine a student's eligibility or status when applying to institutions of higher learning, class rank, academic honors or awards, and other academically competitive situations. It will be kept in strict confidence. A cumulative percentage average will be included on transcript sent to institutions of higher learning without a signed request by parent or guardian even if a student is younger than 18. It will begin with the student's first semester average in the ninth grade. A student's semester average will be calculated by adding together all the percentages reported at that semester and dividing by the number of courses. The final grade point average will be an average of all eight previous semester averages.

A percentage GPA will be determined using the formula:

$$\sum (\text{Grade Points} \times \text{Adjusted Credit Value}) / \sum \text{Adjusted Credit Value}$$

**Class Ranking:**

Class rank will be determined at semester time and at the end of the year, beginning with the first semester of the 9<sup>th</sup> grade. Class rank is used to determine a student's academic rank within their grade level class. Class rank is also used to determine a student's eligibility or status when applying to institutions of higher learning, academic honors or awards, and other academically competitive situations. Class rank will be kept in strict confidence. Class rank will be reported on a student's transcript. Request for a student's rank can be made by the student or by their parent/guardian.

**Promotion Policy:**

Promotion to the next academic year will be determined for each student after reviewing his/her attendance record and grade report.

## Admiral Peary Vocational Technical School

Vocational and technical education is available to students in 1.01.0<sup>th</sup> and 1.02<sup>th</sup> grades who qualify. During 1.00<sup>th</sup> grade interested students will attend an assembly by Admiral Peary School Officials and will receive a scheduled visit to the Vocational School during the school day.

Bus transportation is provided from the Blacklick Valley Jr. Sr. High School to the AVTS and back to the school. Visit <http://www.admiralpeary.tec.pa.us> for more information.

The following programs are available at the APVTS:

### Automotive/Small Engine Repair

Automotive Body/Collision Repair

Automotive Technology

Small Engine Mechanics

### Health and Human Services

Cosmetology

Health Assisting

Culinary Arts

Early Childhood Teacher Education

### Engineering / Manufacturing

Welding

Engineering Technology

### Information Technology

Networking Technology

### Construction Trades

Masonry

Carpentry

Heating/Ventilation/Air

Conditioning/Refrigeration

Electrical Technology

## Accelerated College Education (ACE) Program

The Accelerated College Education (ACE) Program is a partnership between Pennsylvania Highlands Community College and the Blacklick Valley Jr. Sr. High School. ACE offers college credits to high school students during the regular school day. ACE courses are taught by certified high school teachers who assure that the academic rigor is equivalent to the same course taught on the Pennsylvania Highlands campus. ACE provides both high school and college credit (concurrent enrollment) allowing students to fulfill high school graduation requirements while earning college credits.

### ACE STUDENT PROFILE

Students who are both capable of completing more advanced work and have a serious commitment to putting forth the required extra effort are encouraged to apply. The ACE program begins in 9<sup>th</sup> grade for students. In May, a parent information meeting will be held for interested 8<sup>th</sup> graders.

### BENEFITS FOR STUDENTS

- Enroll in Pennsylvania Highlands Community College courses while simultaneously earning a high school diploma.
- College equivalent courses are taught by high school faculty on the student's high school campus.
- Earn college credits while attending high school and begin college with transferable credits.
- Improve abilities and skills to complete college work for credit.
- Increase confidence from success in college-level courses.
- Experience college level expectations from equivalent curriculum and assessment.
- Receive an official college transcript.

ACE credits can be transferred to the following colleges/universities:

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| • <u>Bloomsburg University of PA</u>       | • <u>Millersville University of PA</u>      |
| • <u>California University of PA</u>       | • <u>Shippensburg University of PA</u>      |
| • <u>Cheyney University of PA</u>          | • <u>Slippery Rock University of PA</u>     |
| • <u>Clarion University of PA</u>          | • <u>West Chester University of PA</u>      |
| • <u>East Stroudsburg University of PA</u> | • <u>Carlow University</u>                  |
| • <u>Edinboro University of PA</u>         | • <u>Lackawanna College</u>                 |
| • <u>Indiana University of PA</u>          | • <u>Lincoln University</u>                 |
| • <u>Kutztown University of PA</u>         | • <u>Neumann University</u>                 |
| • <u>Lock Haven University of PA</u>       | • <u>Pennsylvania College of Technology</u> |
| • <u>Mansfield University of PA</u>        | • <u>Saint Francis University</u>           |

## Language Arts

### Suggested Sequence of Courses:

Students may take courses from both the General and Accelerated Columns.

Language Arts	General	Accelerated	Additional Language Arts Requirements
7 <sup>th</sup> grade	Middle School Literature I <b>AND</b> Middle School Grammar and Writing I	<i>Middle School Literature II</i>	PSSA ELA 7
8 <sup>th</sup> grade	Middle School Literature II <b>AND</b> Middle School Grammar and Writing II	<i>Introduction to Literary Studies</i>	PSSA ELA 8
9 <sup>th</sup> grade	Introduction to Literary Studies	<i>World Literature</i>	Keystone Literature Remediation (if standardized scores are basic or below basic)
10 <sup>th</sup> grade	World Literature	<i>Honors American Literature</i>	
11 <sup>th</sup> grade	American Literature	<i>Composition I &amp; Composition II</i> <b>OR</b> <i>Grammar and Rhetoric</i> <b>AND/OR</b> <i>AP English</i>	
12 <sup>th</sup> grade	Grammar and Rhetoric <b>OR</b> Composition I (Penn Highlands Eng. 110) <b>AND/OR</b> AP English	<i>Composition I &amp; Composition II</i> <b>AND/OR</b> <i>AP English</i> <b>OR</b> <i>Grammar and Rhetoric</i>	

Students can take either Composition I **OR** Grammar and Rhetoric (Grammar and Rhetoric is a watered down version of Composition I)



## **English Composition I**

Prerequisite Course: Introduction to Literary Studies, World Literature, and American Literature OR Advanced Studies in Literature

Credits: 0.65 (semester)

**College Credits Available:** Penn Highlands Community College

### **Course Description:**

English Composition I emphasizes the techniques of writing expository essays with stress upon careful thinking, word choice, sentence structure, and methods of organization. Students practice the writing of clear, coherent, and unified paragraphs and essays. Students are also taught research skills and are required to write an argumentative research paper. Editing skills and the use of correct grammar and mechanics are also emphasized. Instruction will also focus on technical writing skills necessary to compose a business letter, a memo, a resume, forms, applications, and a public service announcement.

### **Topics Covered:**

Throughout the course of the year, students will review the practice of Standard English grammar, punctuation, mechanics, and usage, including the following: parts of speech; fragments; run-ons; pronoun agreement, reference, and case; consistency in tense, person, sentence structure, mood, and voice; subject-verb agreement; modifiers: misplaced and dangling modifiers, adjective and adverb usage; punctuation: comma, semicolon, colon, dash, brackets, parentheses, ellipsis marks, quotation marks; mechanics: hyphen, apostrophe, italics; spelling, capitalization, and numbers.

Students will write essays that include the use of a thesis statement and topic sentences, adequate support, unity, coherence, and suitable organization. Moreover students will write in all of the following rhetorical modes: narration, description, process, definition, cause/effect, exemplification, comparison/contrast, and argumentation. Students are also required to write an analytical research paper. Students will also employ critical reading and thinking skills and strategies including evaluation of research sources, persuasion, avoidance of fallacies in reasoning, and analysis and refutation of opposing views. Students will develop and employ research skills including gathering of information from sources; evaluation of sources; summary, paraphrase, and quotation from sources; documentation, using MLA format; creation of outline and bibliography; avoiding plagiarism; analysis and synthesis of information; basic understanding of MLA and APA format. Students will also complete a variety of public presentation assignments that will focus on speech delivery skills such as eye contact, poise, diction, phrasing, pacing, volume, and overall effectiveness of delivery.

## **English Composition II**

Prerequisite Course: English Composition I

Credits: 0.65 (semester)

**College Credits Available:** Penn Highlands Community College

### **Course Description:**

English Composition II: Studies in Literature emphasizes the study of literary terms and techniques frequently used in literature. This course introduces students to major themes found in fiction, poetry, and drama. Students are required to read various types of literature and must be able to respond to their readings in well-developed essays and in an analytical research paper as well as to participate in class discussions. This is a standard college introductory level literature course.

### **Topics Covered:**

Students will explore literary concepts & terminology relating to fiction, poetry, & drama - including but not limited to: identifying a character as flat or round, static or dynamic; establishing the point of view of a story (omniscient, limited omniscient, first person, objective); distinguishing between verbal, dramatic, & situational irony; differentiating the denotation & connotation of words; identifying imagery in poetry; locating symbols, images, similes, & metaphors in poetry; identifying paradox, oxymoron, overstatement, & understatement; comprehending common historical, literary, & biblical allusions; identifying alliteration, assonance, & consonance; applying knowledge of rhythm & meter of a poem through scansion; comparing various forms & patterns of poetry (such as sonnets, limericks, haiku); identifying the protagonist & antagonist; distinguishing between a soliloquy & an aside; demonstrating knowledge of basic theatrical conventions associated with drama; & identifying the setting in various pieces of writing. Moreover they will utilize critical reading & thinking strategies including analysis of literary texts & evaluation of research sources. This will include developing plot outlines' analyzing theme; recognizing literary symbols; stating the tone of a piece of writing; applying literary terminology holistically to interpret all types of writing discussed in class; citing textual quotations & paraphrases as needed; creating explications & analyses of literature; interpreting literary works; supporting interpretation from the literary text; recognizing the distinction between realism & the fantastic in literature & apply it to interpretation; organizing information appropriately; create appropriate thesis statement & topic sentences; applying MLA format to document sources without plagiarism; & displaying knowledge of standard English grammar, spelling, punctuation, & mechanical conventions in interpretive writing. Students will write literary essays, including the use of a thesis statement & topic sentences, adequate support from the literary text, unity, coherence, suitable organization, & English grammar, punctuation, mechanics, & usage. Students will employ sound research strategies including gathering of information from sources; evaluation of sources; summary, paraphrase, & quotation from sources; documentation, using MLA format; creation of outline & bibliography; avoiding plagiarism; analysis & synthesis of information. This research will culminate in the writing of the analytical research paper.

## **Advanced Placement Literature and Composition**

Prerequisite Course: Advanced Studies in Literature

Credits: 1.1

### **Course Description:**

This course includes intensive study of representative works from various genres and periods, concentrating on works of recognized literary merit. The pieces chosen invite and reward rereading and do not, like ephemeral works in such popular genres as detective or romance fiction, yield all (or nearly all) of their pleasures of thought and feeling the first time through. Reading will be accompanied by thoughtful discussion and writing about those books in the company of one's fellow students. Reading in an AP course is both wide and deep. This reading necessarily builds upon and complements the reading done in previous English courses so that by the time students complete their AP course, they will have read works from several genres and periods — from the 16th to the 21st century. In the course, they read deliberately and thoroughly, taking time to understand a work's complexity, to absorb its richness of meaning, and to analyze how that meaning is embodied in literary form. In addition to considering a work's literary artistry, students reflect on the social and historical values it reflects and embodies. Careful attention to both textual detail and historical context provides a foundation for interpretation, whatever critical perspectives are brought to bear on the literary works studied. A generic method for the approach to such close reading involves the following elements: the experience of literature (the subjective dimension of reading and responding to literary works, including pre-critical impressions and emotional responses), the interpretation of literature (the analysis of literary works through close reading to arrive at an understanding of their multiple meanings), and the evaluation of literature (an assessment of the quality and artistic achievement of literary works and a consideration of their social and cultural values). Student writing to understand a literary work may involve writing response and reaction papers, along with annotation, free writing and keeping some form of a reading journal. Writing to explain a literary work involves analysis and interpretation and may include writing brief focused analyses on aspects of language and structure. Writing to evaluate a literary work involves making and explaining judgments about its artistry and exploring its underlying social and cultural values through analysis, interpretation and argument.

### **Topics Covered:**

- Reading

The approach to analyzing and interpreting the material involves students in learning how to make careful observations of textual detail, establish connections among their observations, and draw from those connections a series of inferences leading to an interpretive conclusion about the meaning and value of a piece of writing.

Most of the works studied in the course were written originally in English, including pieces by African, Australian, Canadian, Indian and West Indian

authors. Some works in translation may also be included (e.g., Greek tragedies, Russian or Latin American fiction).

In an ongoing effort to recognize the widening cultural horizons of literary works written in English, literature will include diverse authors in the representative reading lists. Issues that might, from a specific cultural viewpoint, be considered controversial, including references to ethnicities, nationalities, religions, races, dialects, gender or class, are often represented artistically in works of literature. The principal focus in the AP course means that students gain awareness that the English language that writers use has changed dramatically through history, and that today it exists in many national and local varieties. They also become aware of literary tradition and the complex ways in which imaginative literature builds upon the ideas, works and authors of earlier times. Because the Bible and Greek and Roman mythology are central to much Western literature, students should have some familiarity with them. These religious concepts and stories have influenced and informed Western literary creation since the Middle Ages, and they continue to provide material for modern writers in their attempts to give literary form to human experience.

Additionally, the growing body of works written in English reflecting non-Western cultures may require students to have some familiarity with other traditions.

- Writing

Writing is an integral part of the AP English Literature and Composition course and exam. Writing assignments focus on the critical analysis of literature and include expository, analytical and argumentative essays. Although critical analysis makes up the bulk of student writing for the course, well-constructed creative writing assignments may help students see from the inside how literature is written. Such experiences sharpen their understanding of what writers have accomplished and deepen their appreciation of literary artistry. The goal of both types of writing assignments is to increase students' ability to explain clearly, cogently, even elegantly, what they understand about literary works and why they interpret them as they do. Writing instruction includes attention to developing and organizing ideas in clear, coherent and persuasive language. It includes study of the elements of style. And it attends to matters of precision and correctness as necessary. Throughout the course, emphasis is placed on helping students develop stylistic maturity, which, for AP English, is characterized by the following: a wide-ranging vocabulary used with denotative accuracy and connotative; a variety of sentence structures, including appropriate use of subordinate and coordinate constructions; a logical organization, enhanced by specific techniques of coherence such as repetition, transitions and emphasis; a balance of generalization with specific illustrative detail; and an effective use of rhetoric, including controlling tone, maintaining a consistent voice, and achieving emphasis through parallelism and antithesis.

## **Honors American Literature**

Prerequisite Course: Introduction to Literary Studies and World Literature

Credits: 1.0

### **Course Description:**

The study of American literature scrutinizes language and literature as it develops.

This course will extend beyond formal writing assessment and literal reading.

Instruction will facilitate higher-level thinking and critical analysis through formal and creative writing, class discussion, and performance assessments. As the students prepare to enter post-secondary experiences, instruction reinforces the fundamentals of proficient writing and effective reading.

### **Topics Covered:**

During the study of writing, students will complete specific exercises and to develop proficiency in five domains: focus, content, organization, style, and conventions.

Any grammar and mechanics deficiencies should be reinforced through concentrated mini-lessons (preferably in context).

When studying literature, students will examine short stories, novels, nonfiction, poetry, and drama in the historical context of the development of the United States. Units will address the skills of vocabulary, reading comprehension, literary interpretation, and social influence in historical sequence. Students read, respond to, and extend text based on literal and figurative interpretations. Students also define, locate, and explain a myriad of literary devices, concentrating specifically on those outlined by the Pennsylvania Department of Education Common Core Standards for Reading, Writing, Speaking and Listening.

## **Middle School Literature I**

### **Course Description:**

This course explores a variety of literary genres. The primary focus of this course is to study and to employ sound reading strategies in the study of literature. Students read, respond to, and extend text based on literal and figurative interpretations.

Students also define, locate, and explain a myriad of literary devices, concentrating specifically on those outlined by the Pennsylvania Department of Education Common Core Standards for Reading, Writing, Speaking and Listening.

### **Topics Covered:**

Through a reading of fiction (science fiction, fantasy, fables, myths, short stories, novels etc.); nonfiction (essays, biographies, autobiographies, informational writing, persuasive text, etc.); drama, and poetry (narrative poems, structured poems, free verse, epics, etc.) students will glean meaning and demonstrate comprehension through examinations, practice guides, oral feedback, performance assessments and

presentations. Students will also view and interpret videos and other multi-media that extend and/or supplement classroom readings and/or strategies.

As a thematic concept, students in Literature I will study Greek mythology to establish a prior knowledge base of information to be utilized in subsequent years of literary and historical study.

Students will study the role that language plays in written text. This will be accomplished by analyzing vocabulary in text, examining complex new terms, and utilizing grade appropriate vocabulary in original writing. Student will also explore the dictionary in regards to organization, information, and utilization.

## **Middle School Literature II**

Prerequisite Course: Middle School Literature I OR exceptional PSSA scores in 6th grade/performance in the 6th grade reading curriculum

### **Course Description:**

The primary focus of this course is to study and to employ sound reading strategies in the study of literature. Students read, respond to, and extend text based on literal and figurative interpretations. Students also define, locate, and explain a myriad of literary devices, concentrating specifically on those outlined by the Pennsylvania Department of Education Common Core Standards for Reading, Writing, Speaking and Listening.

### **Topics Covered:**

Through a reading of nonfiction, poetry, and novels students will glean meaning and demonstrate comprehension through examinations, practice guides, oral feedback, performance assessments and presentations. Students will also view and interpret videos and other multi-media that extend and/or supplement classroom readings and/or strategies.

Students will study the role that language plays in written text. This will be accomplished by analyzing vocabulary in text, examining complex new terms, utilizing grade appropriate vocabulary in original writing.

Students will study a cross-curriculum unit on the Holocaust. Material will be presented from a historical perspective and from a literary perspective.

Additionally, student will focus on the concept of bullying and how bullying is portrayed and/or resolved in literature.

## **Middle School Grammar and Writing I**

### **Course Description:**

This course is a general survey of Language Expression, Language Mechanics, and Writing. The course is divided into two major units including grammar and writing.

During the 1.0<sup>st</sup> semester, students explore topics such as note taking, outlining, and reference material and library usage. Upon mastery of those areas, students begin an intensive, systematic application of grammar, usage, and mechanics as a means of furthering writing conventions and style. The primary focus of this study is to enhance oral and written expression.

In the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester, students are immersed in a variety of writing exercises to explore the process and purpose of writing. Units include descriptive writing, informative writing, persuasive writing, and narrative writing.

### **Topics Covered:**

Students will incorporate proper grammar and usage into speaking and writing, utilize appropriate spelling, define and use the eight parts of speech correctly (in isolation and in the context of writing), explain and employ the writing process, utilize resource materials to research information, increase vocabulary through memorization and context referencing, engage in active listening, and speak and read appropriately in a given context.

## **Middle School Grammar and Writing II**

### **Course Description:**

This course integrates a comprehensive, intense review of grammar, mechanics and study skills. Students review topics such as note taking, outlining, and reference material usage. Next, students reinforce grammar applications and mechanics. The purpose is to review and refine skills learned in the English 7 curriculum. Students also define, locate, and explain myriad writing strategies, concentrating specifically on those outlined by the Pennsylvania Department of Education Common Core Standards for Reading, Writing, Speaking and Listening.

### **Topics Covered:**

Students will incorporate proper grammar and usage into speaking and writing, utilize appropriate spelling, define and use the eight parts of speech correctly (in isolation and in the context of writing), explain and employ the writing process, utilize resource materials to research information, increase vocabulary through memorization and context referencing, engage in active listening, and speak and read appropriately in a given context.

## **Introduction to Literary Studies**

**Prerequisite Course:** Middle School Literature II

**Credits:** 1.0

### **Course Description:**

Introduction to literary studies integrates the topics of grammar, writing, and literature in a comprehensive year-long study. The primary focus of this course is to study and to employ sound reading and literary strategies in the study of literature. Students read, respond to, and extend text based on literal and figurative interpretations. Students also define, locate, and explain a myriad of literary devices, concentrating specifically on those outlined by the Pennsylvania Department of Education Common Core Standards for Reading, Writing, Speaking and Listening.

### **Topics Covered:**

During the writing units, students will develop proficiency in five domains: focus, content, organization, style, and conventions. Grammar and mechanics will be addressed in regards to writing conventions. Students will also explore the role of language and vocabulary in literature and in society. Students will complete a research project that explores the method of research as well as appropriate documentation of sources. Students will also read a myriad of literature from genres including short stories, nonfiction, novels, poetry, and drama. The focus of the literature study is on tolerance, justice, prejudice, and cultural diversity. Students read, respond to, and extend text based on literal and figurative interpretations. Students also define, locate, and explain a myriad of literary devices, concentrating specifically on those outlined by the Pennsylvania Department of Education Common Core Standards for Reading, Writing, Speaking and Listening .

## **American Literature**

**Prerequisite Course:** Introduction to Literary Studies and World Literature

**Credits:** 1.0

### **Course Description:**

The study American literature scrutinizes language and literature from the Native Americans to the present day. The primary focus of this course is to study and to employ sound reading and literary strategies in the study of American literature. Students read, respond to, and extend text based on literal and figurative interpretations. Students also define, locate, and explain a myriad of literary devices, concentrating specifically on those outlined by the Pennsylvania Department of Education Common Core Standards for Reading, Writing, Speaking and Listening.

### **Topics Covered:**



Students will examine short stories, novels, nonfiction, poetry, and drama in the historical context of the development of the United States and the conceptual development of the “American Dream.” Units will address the skills of vocabulary, reading comprehension, literary interpretation, and social influence in historical sequence. Students read, respond to, and extend text based on literal and figurative interpretations. Students also define, locate, and explain a myriad of literary devices, concentrating specifically on those outlined by the Pennsylvania Department of Education Common Core Standards for Reading, Writing, Speaking and Listening. Students complete extensive writing exercises to develop proficiency in five domains: focus, content, organization, style, and conventions. Any grammar and mechanics deficiencies should be reinforced through concentrated mini-lessons in context. Students will also explore the role of language in literature and in society. Students will complete a research project that explores the method of research as well as appropriate documentation of sources.

## **World Literature**

Prerequisite Course: Introduction to Literary Studies

Credits: 1.0

### **Course Description:**

The primary focus of this course is to study and to employ sound reading and literary strategies in the study of literature. Students read, respond to, and extend text based on literal and figurative interpretations. Students also define, locate, and explain a myriad of literary devices, concentrating specifically on those outlined by the Pennsylvania Department of Education Common Core Standards for Reading, Writing, Speaking and Listening.

### **Topics Covered:**

Students will read a diverse compendium of world literature from genres including short stories, novels, poetry, nonfiction, and drama. The focus of the literature study at this level is to increase reading appreciation. Moreover, students will define vocabulary and comprehension strategies to strengthen independent reading.

Students read, respond to, and extend text based on literal and figurative interpretations. Students also define, locate, and explain a myriad of literary devices, concentrating specifically on those outlined by the Pennsylvania Department of Education Academic Standards for Reading, Writing, Speaking and Listening. Students complete extensive writing exercises and prompt to develop proficiency in five domains: focus, content, organization, style, and conventions.

Any grammar and mechanics deficiencies should be reinforced through concentrated mini-lessons in context. Students will also explore the role of language in literature and in society. Students will complete a research project that explores the method of research as well as appropriate documentation of sources.

## **Grammar and Rhetoric**

Prerequisite Course: Introductions to Literary Studies, World Literature and American Literature  
Credits: 1.0

**Course Description:**

Grammar and Rhetoric emphasizes the techniques of writing informational, persuasive and narrative essays with stress upon careful thinking, word choice, sentence structure, and methods of organization. Students practice the writing of clear, coherent, and unified paragraphs and essays. Students are also taught research skills required to write informational, persuasive and/or narrative papers research papers.

Editing skills and the use of correct grammar and mechanics are also emphasized. Instruction will also focus on technical writing skills necessary to compose a business letter, a memo, a resume, forms, applications, and/or a public service announcement.

**Topics Covered:**

Throughout the course of the year, students will review the practice of Standard English grammar, punctuation, mechanics, and usage, including the following: parts of speech; fragments; run-ons; pronoun agreement, reference, and case; consistency in tense, person, sentence structure, mood, and voice; subject-verb agreement; modifiers: misplaced and dangling modifiers, adjective and adverb usage; punctuation: comma, semicolon, colon, dash, brackets, parentheses, ellipsis marks, quotation marks; mechanics: hyphen, apostrophe, italics; spelling, capitalization, and numbers.

Students will write essays that include the use of a thesis statement and topic sentences, adequate support, unity, coherence, and suitable organization.

Students will develop and employ research skills including gathering of information from sources; evaluation of sources; summary, paraphrase, and quotation from sources; documentation, using MLA format; creation of outline and bibliography; avoiding plagiarism; analysis and synthesis of information; basic understanding of MLA format.

Students will also complete a variety of public presentation assignments that will focus on speech delivery skills such as eye contact, poise, diction, phrasing, pacing, volume, and overall effectiveness of delivery.

Students will also read and respond to literature using critical thinking skills and higher level analysis skills.

**Course Description:**

The primary focus of this course is to study and to employ sound reading and literary strategies in the study of literature. Students read, respond to, and extend text based on literal and figurative interpretations. Students also define, locate, and explain a myriad of literary devices, concentrating specifically on those outlined by the Pennsylvania Department of Education Common Core Standards for Reading, Writing, Speaking and Listening.

**Topics Covered:**

Students will explore vocabulary acquisition skills, reading strategies and structures, and literary terms in literature. Students will also develop organizational skills.

**PSSA ELA 8****Course Description:**

The primary focus of this course is to apply and to extend sound reading and literary strategies in the study of literature. Students read, respond to, and extend text based on literal and figurative interpretations. Students also define, locate, and explain a myriad of literary devices, concentrating specifically on those outlined by the Pennsylvania Department of Education Common Core Standards for Reading, Writing, Speaking and Listening.

**Topics Covered:**

Students will explore vocabulary acquisition skills, reading strategies and structures, and literary terms in literature. Students will also develop organizational skills.

**Keystone Literature Remediation**

Credits: 0.5

**Course Description:**

The primary focus of this course is to reinforce the study of sound reading and literary strategies in the study of literature. Students read, respond to, and extend text based on literal and figurative interpretations. Students also define, locate, and explain a myriad of literary devices, concentrating specifically on those outlined by the Pennsylvania Department of Education Common Core Standards for Reading, Writing, Speaking and Listening.

**Topics Covered:**

Students will reinforce vocabulary acquisition skills, reading strategies and structures, and literary terms in literature. Students will also continue to develop organizational skills.

**Life Skills Reading**

Credits:1.0

**Course Description:**

This course is designed for students to learn basic reading skills to apply to everyday life. Students will practice with word recognition, reading comprehension, sequencing, and reading for a purpose. Students will also practice spelling everyday words, alphabetizing words, and learn basic writing skills

**Topics Covered:**

Students will learn to read everyday materials such as schedules, recipes, directions, menus, instructions, ads, coupons, labels, packaging, grocery lists, catalogs, newspapers, guides, maps, phone books, magazines, and dictionaries. Students will learn to write complete sentences, paragraphs, and friendly and business letters.

**Suggested Sequence:**

Students may take courses from both the General and Accelerated Columns.

MATH	General	<i>Accelerated</i>	Additional Math Requirements
7 <sup>th</sup> grade	Math Course 2	Pre-Algebra	PSSA Math 7
8 <sup>th</sup> grade	Math Course 3	Algebra 1	PSSA Math 8 And/or Keystone Algebra 1 Exam
9 <sup>th</sup> grade	Algebra 1 Algebra 1A	Geometry	Pass the Keystone Algebra 1 Exam  Algebra 1A – no Keystone EXAM
10 <sup>th</sup> grade	Algebra 1B Geometry	Geometry OR Algebra 2	Algebra 1B – Keystone Exam  If not Proficient or Advanced - Retake Keystone Algebra Exam
11 <sup>th</sup> grade	Algebra 2 Fundamental Algebra Fundamental Math Geometry	Pre-Calculus with TRIG Prereq – Algebra 2	If not Proficient or Advanced - Retake Keystone Algebra Exam
12 <sup>th</sup> grade	Algebra 2 Pre-Calc with TRIG Fundamental Algebra	Calculus Or College Algebra	Keystone Algebra Project

**Math Courses 2 & 3****Course Description:**

In this course students will explore the language of algebra, geometry, data analysis, probability, and statistics in verbal, tabular, graphical, and symbolic form. Students will apply their knowledge in problem solving activities that will encourage students to model patterns and relationships with variables, and functions and to construct, draw, measure, and classify geometric figures.

**Topics Covered:**

Expressions, Operations and Equations with Integers and Rational Numbers  
Multi-Step Equations and Inequalities  
Ratio, Proportion, and Similar Figures  
Linear Functions and Graphs  
Powers, Square Roots, Real Numbers, Right Triangles and the Pythagorean Theorem  
Area, Perimeter, Surface Area and Volume  
Odds and Probability

**Pre-Algebra/Math Accelerated**

**Course Description:**

In this course students will explore the language of algebra, geometry, data analysis, probability, and statistics in verbal, tabular, graphical, and symbolic form. Students will build skills from both grade 7 standards as well as grade 8 standards in order to be prepared for Algebra 1. Students will apply their knowledge in problem solving activities that will encourage students to model patterns and relationships with variables, functions, and to apply this to real world problems. Students will also dig deeper into geometry through basic concepts as well as advanced concepts like surface area and volume. Students will make connections to other topics of study in order to see the universality of mathematics.

**Topics Covered:**

Rational Numbers and Exponents  
Proportionality and Linear Relationships  
Algebraic Expressions, Equations, and Inequalities  
Statistics and Probability  
Congruence, Similarity, and Transformations  
Volume and Surface Area

**Algebra 1**

**Prerequisite Course:** Pre-Algebra or Math Course 3

**Credits:** 1.0

**Course Description:**

In this course students will explore the language of algebra, geometry, data analysis, probability, and statistics in verbal, tabular, graphical, and symbolic form in a continuation from Pre-Algebra. Students will apply their knowledge in problem solving activities that will encourage students to model patterns and relationships with variables, and functions. Students will focus on linear relationships and apply linear functions to real-world applications. Students will connect mathematics to other topics they are studying such as biology, geography, art, history, and health, through problems that are rich in algebraic concepts.

**Topics Covered:**

Expressions, Equations, and  
Functions  
Linear Equations  
Linear Functions and Relations  
Linear Inequalities  
Systems of Linear Equations and  
Inequalities

Polynomials  
Factoring and Quadratic Equations  
Quadratic and Exponential  
Functions  
Radical Functions and Geometry  
Rational Functions and Equations  
Statistics and Probability

**Algebra 2**

**Prerequisite Course:** Algebra I

**Credits:** 1.0

**Course Description:**

In this course students will relate and apply algebraic concepts to statistics, data analysis, probability, and discrete mathematics. Students will apply their knowledge in problem solving activities that will encourage students to model patterns and relationships with variables and functions. Students will explore and apply various types of relations including quadratic, polynomial, exponential, logarithmic, and radical functions. Students will connect mathematics to other topics they are studying such as biology, geography, art, history, and health, through problems that are rich in algebraic concepts.

**Topics Covered:**

Linear Relations, Equations and Inequalities  
Quadratic Relations, Functions and Graphs  
Exponential and Logarithmic Functions and Relations  
Arithmetic and Geometric Sequences and Series  
Systems of Equations and Inequalities  
Probability and Statistics

**College Algebra**

**Prerequisite Course:** Algebra 2

**Credits:** 1.3

## **College Credits Available:** Penn Highlands Community College

### **Course Description:**

In this course students will relate and apply algebraic concepts to pre-calculus, statistics, data analysis, probability, and discrete mathematics. Students will use graphing calculators as an integrative tool to assist in the development of advanced topics. Students will apply their knowledge in problem solving activities that will encourage students to communicate and model patterns and relationships with variables and functions. Students will be introduced to calculus topics including limits, derivatives, and integrals.

### **Topics Covered:**

Radical, Rational, and Logarithmic Expressions  
Solving Equations and Inequalities  
Polynomial, Rational, Exponential, and Logarithmic Functions and Graphing  
Circles

## **Fundamental Algebra**

**Prerequisite Course:** Algebra I

**Credits:** 1.0

### **Course Description:**

In this course students will explore the language of algebra, geometry, data analysis, probability, and statistics in verbal, tabular, graphical, and symbolic form in a continuation of Algebra I.

### **Topics Covered:**

Expressions, Equations, and Functions  
Linear Equations  
Linear Inequalities  
Systems of Linear Equations and Inequalities  
Polynomials  
Factoring and Quadratic Equations  
Quadratic and Exponential Functions  
Radical Functions and Geometry  
Rational Functions and Equations  
Statistics and Probability

## **Functional Math**

**Prerequisite Course:** special permission

**Credits:** 1.0



**Course Description:**

Functional Math is a course designed for secondary education students who have a grasp of basic mathematical computation. This course provides additional instruction for applying computational skills as a consumer. The instruction provided uses a variety of realistic, consumer-oriented applications which reinforce and extend students' mastery of basic mathematical applications.

**Topics covered:**

Earning Money  
Shopping for Clothing  
Buying and Maintaining a Car  
Budgeting Your Money  
Paying Taxes

Buying Food  
Managing a Household  
Travelling  
Banking and Investing  
Preparing for Careers

**Geometry**

**Prerequisite Course:** Algebra I

**Credits:** 1.0

**Course Description:**

In this course students will relate and apply algebraic concepts to geometry, statistics, data analysis, probability, and discrete mathematics. Students will connect mathematics to other topics they are studying such as biology, geography, art, history, and health, through problems that are rich in algebraic concepts.

Students will apply their knowledge in problem solving activities that will encourage students to communicate and model patterns and relationships with variables and functions and to construct, draw, measure, and classify geometric figures.

**Topics Covered:**

Tools of Geometry  
Reasoning and Proof  
Parallel and Perpendicular Lines  
Congruent Triangles  
Relationships in Triangles  
Quadrilaterals  
Proportions and Similarity

Right Triangle and Trigonometry  
Transformations and Symmetry  
Circles  
Area, Perimeter, Volume, and  
Surface Area of Two and Three  
Dimensional Figures

**Pre-Calc with Trigonometry**

**Prerequisite Course:** Algebra I and Algebra II

**Credits:** 1.0

**Course Description:**

In this course students will learn the fundamentals of trigonometry. Trigonometry is developed from a right triangle perspective and also by utilizing a unit circle approach. Students will explore radian and degree measure, triangle properties, and the graphs of the trigonometric functions and their inverses using traditional paper and pencil methods as well as through the use of graphing technology.

Students will become familiar with various trigonometric identities and their use in verifying other identities as well as in solving trigonometric equations. This course is designed as a preparation for Calculus and higher mathematics that rely heavily on the concepts of trigonometry.

**Topics Covered:**

Angle measure in degrees/radians.  
 Special right triangles.  
 Trigonometric functions in the coordinate plane.  
 Fundamental identities.  
 Verifying trigonometric identities.

Solving right triangles.  
 Applications of static trigonometry.  
 Arc length, velocity, and the area of a circular sector.  
 The Unit Circle and trigonometry of real numbers.  
 Trigonometric graphs and models.

**Calculus**

**Prerequisite Course:** Pre-Calc with Trigonometry

**Credits:** 1.3

**College Credits Available:** Penn Highlands Community College

**Course Description:**

In this course students will expand upon and apply algebraic concepts to pre-calculus, statistics, data analysis, probability, and discrete mathematics. Students will use graphing calculators as an integrative tool to assist in the development of advanced topics. Students will apply their knowledge in problem solving activities that will encourage students to communicate and model patterns and relationships with variables and functions. Students will be introduced to calculus topics including limits, derivatives, and integrals.

**Topics Covered:**

Polynomial and Rational Functions and Their Graphs  
 Exponential and Logarithmic Functions and Their Graphs  
 Analyzing Graphs of Functions  
 Combinations of Functions  
 Inverse Functions  
 The Fundamental Theorem of Algebra  
 Limits and Their Properties  
 Finding Limits Graphically, Numerically, and Analytically

Continuity and One-Sided Limits  
 Definition of Derivative  
 Basic Differentiation Rules  
 The Product and Quotient Rules, Chain Rule and Implicit Differentiation  
 Related Rates  
 Applications of Differentiation  
 Antiderivatives and Indefinite Integration  
 Area Under a Curve  
 Integration by Substitution  
 Fundamental Theorem of Calculus

**Geometry & Statistics 7 and 8****Course Description:**

This course will focus solely on PSSA Math 7 & 8 preparation. Students will work through PSSA Math type problems in conjunction with specific test-taking strategies.

**Topics Covered:**

Geometric shapes and relationships

Transformations and Symmetry

Coordinate Plane

Representing data in different ways (symbols, words, tables, and/or graphs)

## **Intervention Math 7 and 8**

**Course Description:**

This course will focus solely on PSSA Math 7 & 8 preparation. Pre-Algebra topics will be revisited and reinforced. Students will work through PSSA Math type problems in conjunction with specific test-taking strategies.

**Topics Covered:**

Relationships among numbers and number systems

Meanings, use, and relationships of operations

Estimation

Measurement (using appropriate formulas)

Geometric shapes and relationships

Transformations and Symmetry

Coordinate Plane

Patterns, Relations, and Functions

Representing data in different ways (symbols, words, tables, and/or graphs)

Probability

## **Life Skills Math**

Credits: 1.0

**Course Description:**

This course is designed to provide students with the math skills they will need in everyday life. The students will learn basic math concepts such as math facts, simple math calculations, money, time, and measurement. They will then apply those basic concepts to daily living skills.

**Topics Covered:**

Addition, subtraction, and simple multiplication math facts, solving addition and subtraction calculations, counting money, making change, solving money calculations, budgeting money, writing and managing checks, telling time, time management, elapsed time, using a calendar, measuring units of liquid and dry, measuring height and weight, comparing measurements, and temperature.

<b>Science</b>
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**Suggested Sequence:**

Students may take courses from both the General and Accelerated Columns.

Science	General			Accelerated	Additional Science Requirements
7 <sup>th</sup> grade	Earth Science 7 Chemistry 7 Conceptual Physics 7 Life Science 7			<i>Science Research Class</i>	
8 <sup>th</sup> grade	Earth Science 8 Chemistry 8 Conceptual Physics 8 Life Science 8			<i>Science Research Class</i>	PSSA Science
9 <sup>th</sup> grade	Biology 1			<i>Biology 1 with LAB</i>	Applied Biology if not proficient on Keystone Biology Exam
10 <sup>th</sup> grade	Environmental Science	Pre-Chemistry	Applied Biology	<i>Biology 2 with LAB and Pre-Chemistry</i>	
11 <sup>th</sup> grade	Environmental Science	Contemporary Science	<i>Anatomy &amp; Physiology</i>	<i>Intro to Chemistry with LAB</i>	
12 <sup>th</sup> grade	Environmental Science	Contemporary Science	<i>Physics with LAB</i>	<i>Advanced Chemistry with LAB</i>	

**Earth Science 7**

**Course Description:**

The seventh grade science program explores earth and space science. In the Earth systems unit, students are introduced to the Earth's biosphere, lithosphere, atmosphere and hydrosphere and learn how they can interact. Study of space science concepts complete the year. **Topics Covered:** Minerals and Rocks, Weathering and Erosion, Plate Tectonics, Earthquakes and Volcanoes, Earth's Atmosphere, and Weather and Climate

**Chemistry 7****Course Description:**

This one quarter course is designed to introduce basic concepts in Chemistry and connections of Chemistry principles to everyday life. Students will learn basic principles of Chemistry in variety of ways including virtual labs, hands on activities, and reading and writing in sciences. **Topics Covered:** Classification and properties of matter, states of matter and phase changes, behavior of gases, and atomic structure

**Conceptual Physics 7****Course Description:**

Physics is the science that examines the relationships of matter and energy. These relationships form the fundamental laws that are basic to all sciences. The main focus of this course is to explain the behavior of various physical systems using relatively few fundamental laws. Emphasis will be placed on a qualitative understanding of the concepts of force and motion, while the quantitative aspect will also be approached. **Topics Covered:** Scientific Method, Significant Digits, and Measurement, Describing Motion - position, motion, displacement, speed, velocity, and acceleration. The Laws of Motion - force, gravity, friction, weight, inertia, momentum, pressure, buoyancy, magnetic forces, electric forces and Newton's Laws of Motion.

**Life Science 7****Course Description:**

This seventh grade science program explores life science. In the life science unit, students will focus on the commonality of life where they will learn about the classification of living things, cell structure and function, cell division, and reproduction of organisms. The scientific method will also be discussed.

**Topics Covered:** Classifying and Exploring Life, Cell Structure and Function, From a Cell to an Organism, and Reproduction of Organisms

**Earth Science 8****Course Description:**

In Grade 8, the study of science, establishes the foundation for success in high school science by providing exposure to science and the natural world. The grade 8 science course is interdisciplinary with a content focus on earth and space. As students learn science skills, they study topics such as Earth's history, processes, composition, and structure: its atmosphere, oceans, and weather patterns and the cycles within the Sun, Moon, and Earth system. Emphasis will be given to historical contributions in the development of scientific thought about the earth and space using interpretation of maps, charts, and tables, the use of technology to collect, analyze, and report data; and the utilization of science skills in systematic investigation. **Topics Covered:** Earth's Water, Oceans, Freshwater, Natural Resources, and Exploring Space, Sun Earth Moon system, The Solar System, Stars and galaxies

## Conceptual Physics 8

### **Course Description:**

Physics is the science that examines the relationships of matter and energy. These relationships form the fundamental laws that are basic to all sciences. The main focus of this course is to explain the behavior of various physical systems using relatively few fundamental laws. Emphasis will be placed on a qualitative understanding of the concepts of work and energy, while the quantitative aspect will also be approached. **Topics Covered:** Scientific Method, Significant Digits, and Measurement Work, Power, Mechanical Advantage, Efficiency, and Simple Machines, Energy, Energy Resources, Conservation of Energy

## Chemistry 8

### **Course Description:**

This one quarter course is designed to introduce basic concepts in Chemistry and connections of Chemistry principles to everyday life. Students will learn basic principles of Chemistry in variety of ways including virtual labs, hands on activities, and reading and writing in sciences. **Topics Covered:** Periodic table and classification of elements, electrons and energy levels, simple compounds and formulas, covalent, ionic and metallic bonding, and types of Chemistry reactions and energy changes.

## Life Science 8

**Course Description:** This eighth grade science program explores life science. In the life science unit, students will focus on the diversity of life where they will learn about the how traits are inherited, how organisms obtain energy necessary for life, and how different organisms interact in an ecosystem. The scientific method will also be discussed. **Topics Covered:** Genetics, Environment and Change Over Time, Matter and Energy in an Environment, Populations and Communities, and Biomes and Ecosystems

## **Biology 1.0 with LAB or without LAB**

Credits: 1.3 or 1.0

**College Credits Available:** St. Francis University

**Course Description:**

This introductory biology course provides an overview of the basic principles of biology including the structure and function of the cell, cellular respiration, photosynthesis, mitosis, meiosis, genetics and evolution and ecology. This biology course deals with the variety of living things in the world and is designed to cover all of the major forms of life but heavily emphasizes the basic similarities and patterns found in nature. The student is helped to discover his/her place in the world of life in regard to their effect on the world and, in turn, its effect on him or her. Units are developed from centrality of the cell in structure and function, as well as the basic commonness of all life at this level.

**Topics Covered:**

Characteristics of living things  
Levels of organization  
Biochemistry  
Cell membrane  
Cell transport  
Cell structure  
Cell organelles

Cellular energy - cellular  
respiration and photosynthesis  
Mitosis  
Meiosis  
Genetics  
DNA  
Evolution  
Ecology

**Biology 2 with LAB**

**Prerequisites:** Biology 1 with a 93% or better average

Credits: 1.3

**College Credits Available:** St. Francis University

**Course Description:**

This course is a weighted honors course for juniors and senior students. Participants need to have successfully completed general Biology 1.0 with a 93% or better. The course content is a phylogenetic approach (i.e. the major grouping of living things) along with a review of basic biological concepts. All six kingdoms are discussed as to classification and diversity at the beginning of the course and then there is a major emphasis on the animal kingdom. Investigation of similarities and differences in the living world is the major emphasis. Dissection of representative organisms for practical application of information is stressed.

**Continued on next page....**

**Topics Covered:**

The Six Kingdoms of Classification  
- Animals

- Plants  
- Protists

- Fungi
- Eubacteria
- Archaeobacteria

Classification and Taxonomy  
 Cell Biology (review)  
 Genetics (review)  
 Mitosis (review)  
 Meiosis (review)  
 Vertebrate Animal Tissues  
 Animal Development

Animal Kingdom

- Phyla Porifera
- Phyla Cnidaria
- Phyla Platyhelminthes
- Phyla Nematoda
- Phyla Mollusca
- Phyla Annelida
- Phyla Arthropoda
- Phyla Echinodermata
- Phyla Chordata

## **Anatomy and Physiology**

**Prerequisites:** Biology 1.0 with a B average

Credits: 1.3

**College Credits Available:** St. Francis University

### **Course Description:**

This human anatomy and physiology course is intended for any student who is considering a future in a medical or health services related field who has successfully completed Biology 1.0 with a B average. There is emphasis on terminology and the awareness of "root" words, prefixes and suffixes that make up medical/physiological terminology. Each of the major systems is covered - first in terms of anatomy and then applied physiology. A substantial amount of time is spent on information basic to all systems. Application of information and exposure to careers is an important supplement to the overall course design.

### **Topics Covered:**

Topic 1.0 – Structure and function of the body  
 Topic 2 – Cells and Tissues  
 Topic 3 - Integumentary System  
 Topic 4 – Skeletal System  
 Topic 5 – Muscular System

Topic 6 - Nervous System  
 Topic 7 – Endocrine System  
 Topic 8 – The Heart and Heart Disease  
 Topic 9 - Respiratory System  
 Topic 1.00 - Digestive System

## **Applied Biology**

Credits: 1.0



**Course Description:**

This course is given to students who did not score proficient or advanced on the Keystone Biology Exam. The course provides an overview of the basic principles of biology including the structure and function of the cell, cellular respiration, photosynthesis, mitosis, meiosis, genetics and evolution and ecology. This biology course deals with the variety of living things in the world and is designed to cover all of the major forms of life but heavily emphasizes the basic similarities and patterns found in nature. The student is helped to discover his/her place in the world of life in regard to their effect on the world and, in turn, its effect on him or her. Units are developed from centrality of the cell in structure and function, as well as the basic commonness of all life at this level.

**Topics Covered:**

Characteristics of living things  
Levels of organization  
Cell membrane  
Cell transport  
Cell structure  
Cell organelles

Cellular energy - cellular respiration  
and photosynthesis  
Mitosis  
Meiosis  
Genetics  
DNA  
Evolution  
Ecology

**Environmental Science**

Credits: 1.0

**Course Description:**

This course serves as an introduction to and covers broad aspects of environmental science and environmental studies. For all cases, the resulting environmental impacts are studied in detail. Specifically, this course examines the risks associated with growth in a developing world; environmental impact of population growth on natural resources; mineral and resource extraction; water resource uses; and renewable and non-renewable sources for power generation. Emphasis is placed on a holistic approach to environmental science using laboratory exercises, environmental surveys, and class discussions to reinforce scientific principles.

**Topics Covered:**

- |                       |                           |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| • Kinds of Ecosystems | • Population              |
| • Water Management    | • Energy and Civilization |
| • Soil and its uses   | • Nonrenewable Energy     |
| • Air Quality issues  | • Renewable Energy        |

**Science Research Class**

Credits: 0.50

**Course Description:**

This rotation class is intended for 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade students participating in science fair competitions and those who like to further their knowledge in scientific research. This is a project oriented course and students will work on their science/ research projects. This course can be taken every year.

**Topics Covered:**

Writing abstracts and research/ project reports, experimental design using basic tests ie: chi squared, ANOVA, t-tests, laboratory techniques, data analysis and reporting data using percent error, standard deviation and co-efficient of variance, data presentation with tables, graphs and charts.

**Contemporary Science A & B**

Credits: 0.5 (Semester)

**Course Description:** This semester course will address scientific topics currently making headlines. Hands on projects and labs will provide the students with an authentic perspective of the world in which they live. Exploring such topics will allow the students to make informed decisions throughout the course of their life. This course is intended for students who are not pursuing a career in a science related field.

**Topics Covered:** Genetic Modification of Food, Alternative Energy, Sustainability, Seed Banking, 3D printing of human organs. Topics may vary with new discoveries.

**Pre-Chemistry**

Prerequisite Course: 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade Chemistry or equivalent

Credits: 1.0

**Course Description:**

This one year course is intended to introduce basic concepts in Chemistry and connections of Chemistry principles to everyday life. This course is also intended for students taking Chemistry I (Introductory Chemistry) as well as to prepare students for upper level science courses. The accompanying laboratory sessions reinforce the theories covered and practical applications in Chemistry in addition to training students in techniques for conducting science experiments. **Topics covered:** Scientific method and measurements, basic laboratory skills, atomic theory and periodic table, Chemistry bonding and lewis dot diagrams, Chemistry reactions, and solutions.

**Chemistry I – Intro Chemistry**

**Prerequisites:** Pre-Chem with a B average and currently taking or completed Algebra 2

Credits: 1.3

**College Credits Available:** Pennsylvania Highlands -**CHM 1.006 Introductory Chemistry**

**Course Description:**

This one year course is designed to introduce basic concepts in Chemistry. Students have the opportunity to obtain 4 college credits through Pennsylvania Highlands Community College ACE program. This honors level Chemistry course is a prerequisite for Advanced Chemistry (General Chemistry I) course. Students are expected to have a sound knowledge in algebra. The accompanying laboratory sessions reinforce the theories covered and emphasize general techniques in conducting science experiments. **Topics Covered:** Scientific methods and measurements, atomic structure, periodic table, Chemistry reactions, stoichiometry, properties of gases, matter and energy, Chemistry bonding, acids and bases, nuclear Chemistry, and organic Chemistry.

**Chemistry 2 – Advance Chemistry (combined with AP syllabus)**

**Prerequisites:** Pre-Chem with a B average and currently taking or completed Algebra 2

Credits: 1.3

**College Credits Available:** Pennsylvania Highlands -**CHM 1.20 General Chemistry I**

**Course Description:** This one year course is intended for college bound students to learn and master advance Intro Chemistry topics to facilitate taking college science courses. Students have the opportunity to obtain 4 college credits through Pennsylvania Highlands Community College ACE program. This honors level course is organized as a continuation of Chemistry I course. Students are expected to have a sound knowledge in algebra. The accompanying laboratory sessions reinforce the theories covered and emphasize general techniques in conducting science experiments. **Topics Covered:** Matter and measurements, Chemistry nomenclature, Chemistry reactions and stoichiometry, atomic theory, quantum theory, periodic properties, bond theory and molecular structure, thermochemistry, and gas laws.

**Physics with LAB**

Prerequisite Course/Co Requisite: Algebra II

Credits: 1.0.1.0

**Course Description:**

This is a one year course designed for the college preparatory student who will go on to take college physics and the student who needs an understanding of the physical world around them that eventually will lead to the improvement in the human condition, a knowledge of the principles or concepts on which physics is based, and an ability to solve problems. The course will cover the most basic ideas in physics – mechanics, materials, waves (including light and sound), electricity and magnetism and introduce some concepts of modern physics.

**Topics Covered:**

Introduction to Mathematical Concepts  
Kinematics in One Dimension  
Kinematics in Two Dimensions  
Forces and Newton's Laws of Motion  
Dynamics of Circular Motion  
Work and Energy  
Impulse and Momentum  
Rotational Kinematics  
Rotational Dynamics  
Simple Harmonic Motion  
Electric Circuits  
Mirrors and Lenses

<b>Social Studies</b>
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**Suggested Sequence:**

Students may take courses from both the General and Accelerated Columns.

Social Studies	General	<i>Electives</i>
7 <sup>th</sup> grade	Pennsylvania History AND Geography	
8 <sup>th</sup> grade	American History 1	
9 <sup>th</sup> grade	American History 2	
10 <sup>th</sup> grade	Western Civilizations	<i>Economics Sociology American History 3</i>
11 <sup>th</sup> grade	CIVICS or elective	<i>Economics Sociology American History 3 American History 4 AP History</i>
12 <sup>th</sup> grade	CIVICS	<i>Economics Sociology American History 3 American History 4 AP History</i>

## Geography

### Course Description:

This is a one semester course that examines the Geography of the Americas, Europe, the Middle East, North Africa, and Asia. While focusing on each part of the world,

students are able to recognize characteristics distinguishing regions in each of these areas of the world. Each regional study encompasses a study of the physical geography, culture, economy, government, and social dynamics defining the land and people. An historical element is intertwined into the physical studies and how the people in these places survived and advanced with available resources in these areas.

**Topics Covered:**

1. Physical Features of the Americas, Europe, Middle East, North Africa, and Asia.
2. Study the major cities, rivers, mountain ranges found in these regions of the world
3. Energy Resources found in these regions
4. Environmental issues of these regions
5. Study the people and the cultures of these region

## **Pennsylvania History**

**Course Description:**

Pennsylvania History is a one semester course that examines the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania from early settlement to the present day. Through meaningful lessons and activities students will gain a deeper understanding of how Pennsylvania's history has played a key role in the development of the United States.

**Topics Covered:**

1. Understanding Geography of Pennsylvania
2. Studying Native Americans found in Pennsylvania
3. Early Explorers to the Pennsylvania area
4. The life of William Penn
5. The development of the colony of Pennsylvania
6. Pennsylvania role in the French and Indian War
7. Pennsylvania during the time of Rebellion against England
8. Pennsylvania role in developing the government for the United States

## **American History 1(Exploration - Civil War)**

**Prerequisite Course:** Geography and PA History

**Course Description:**

This is a full year course broken down into two semester-long courses. In this course, students will examine the United States from the early settlements of Roanoke and Jamestown through the American Civil War. In addition to the study of historical events within this timeframe, the course encompasses an in-depth study of the colonization of the New World by European nations up to the Civil War. The course assists students in developing an understanding of the important events in America's past and their connections to the world.

**Topics Covered:**

- |                                      |   |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| 1. Early Settlers and the New World  | 5. Manifest Destiny                           |
| 2. Colonization of the United States | 6. Problem of Slavery in the United States    |
| 3. American Revolution               | 7. Presidential Elections from 1840's to 1865 |
| 4. The Federalist Era                | 8. American Civil War                         |

**American History 2 (Industrial Age - Civil Rights)**

**Prerequisite Course:** American History 1

**Credits:** 1

**Course Description:**

This is a full year course broken down into two semester-long courses. This course provides students with a comprehensive understanding of all aspects of American History dealing with the Industrial Age to the Civil Rights Era. During this course, students will examine the role that the United States played in the imperialism of Latin America and the Pacific. The students will study the causes of World War I and the role of the United States in the Great War and ensuing peace. This course will also introduce students to the Great Depression. They will examine the United States' involvement in World War II and the challenges that our nation faced at home following the war. Students will develop an understanding of important events in America's past and their connectedness to world events.

**Topics Covered:**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. The Industrial Age   | 6. The Jazz Age                        |
| 2. The United States expanding Imperialism in Latin America and Pacific | 7. Great Depression                    |
| 3. Spanish-American War   | 8. New Deal                            |
| 4. Causes of World War I  | 9. Causes and outcomes of World War II |
| 5. Americans join the Allies  | 10. Cold War                           |
|   | 11. Civil Rights                       |

**Western Civilization**

**Prerequisite Course:** American History 2

**Credits:** 1

**Course Description:**

This course is a full year course that examines past cultures in order to compare their experiences and make us aware of the opportunities and limitations of modern cultures. Major political, social, economic, and cultural trends and their influences on modern civilization are examined. As an introduction, this course begins in the Ancient Near East and proceeds through the Central Middle Ages. Western Civilization examines the period from the 17th century to present.

**Topics Covered:**

1. The Ancient Near East, 4000-300 BC
2. Greco-Roman Civilization, 1200 BC-AD 500
3. The Early Middle Ages, 500-1000
4. The Central and Late Middle Ages, 1000-1500
5. The Renaissance, 1500-1600s
6. Absolutism and Monarchies – Scientific Age, 1660 – 1725
7. Europe and The Enlightenment, 1734 – 1792
8. French Revolution, 1789 – 1815
9. Industrial Revolution and Society, 1780 – 1861
10. Imperialism and Colonialism, 1870 -1914
11. World War I - 1879 - 1919
12. World War II - 1930 - 1945

**Civics**

**Prerequisite Course:** None

**Credit:** 1

**Course Description:**

This course is a full year course that outlines and promotes citizenship qualities within the United States and also other nations to compare similar and different practices. Students will be utilizing events from the past and present to analyze citizenship throughout history in the United States and abroad. The goal of the course is to promote positive citizenship values that students can implement into their daily lives.

**Continued on next page....**

**Topics Covered:**

1. Responsibilities of Citizenship



2. American Government
3. History of the American Colonies
4. US Constitution
5. Bill of Rights
6. Branches of Government (Legislative, Executive, Judicial)
7. Political Parties
8. Voting and Elections
9. Public Opinion
10. Effects of Mass Media
11. State and Local Governments
12. Current Events

### **American History 3(American History from 1950's to the 1970's)**

**Prerequisite Course:** American History 1 and 2

**Credits:** 0.5 (semester)

#### **Course Description:**

This is a one semester course that studies the American History from 1950's to the 1970's. Students will explore and evaluate the significant historical events and the consequences from the Cold War to President Johnson. This course provides an examination of historical themes to analyze how events continue to shape our nation today.

#### **Topics Covered:**

1. The Cold War with Soviet Union
2. Postwar Politics dealing with the Soviet Union in Europe
3. Korean War
4. America Culture in the 1950's
5. Civil Rights Movement in the United States
6. Cuban Missile Crisis
7. President Kennedy Assassination
8. President Johnson's War on Poverty
9. The Counter Cultures
10. The Start of the Vietnam War

### **American History 4(American History from the 1970's to 1990's)**

**Prerequisite Course:** American History 1 and 2

**Credits:** 0.5 (semester)

**Course Description:**

This is a one semester course that studies the American History from 1970's to the 1990's. Students will explore and evaluate the significant historical events and the consequences from the ending of the Vietnam War to the end of the Cold War, the fall of Communism in Europe and the United States developing new policies in shaping the World. This course provides an examination of historical themes to analyze how events continue to shape our nation today.

**Topic Covered:**

1. The Vietnam War
2. President Nixon's Foreign Policies dealing with China and the Soviet Union
3. Watergate
4. President Ford's Domestic Policies
5. President Carter and the Middle East
6. Iran Crisis
7. President Reagan's Foreign and Domestic Policies
8. The Ending of the Cold War
9. The Fall of the Soviet Union and End of Communism

**Economics**

**Prerequisite Course:** American History 2

**Credits:** 0.5 (semester)

**Course Description:**

Economics is a one semester course that serves as an introduction to the foundations of economics. Economics is the study of how people try to satisfy what appears to be seemingly unlimited and competing wants through the careful use of relatively scarce resources. A basic understanding of economics can help make sense of the world around us. During this course, students will demonstrate the capacity to identify and verbalize their understanding of the basic economic problems and institutions of the nation and the world. Also, students will make reasoned decisions with regard to economic issues, including the problems of scarcity, choices, and economic efficiency.

**Topics Covered:**

1. Fundamental Economic Concepts
2. Economic Systems
3. Role of the Consumer
4. The Law of Supply and Demand
5. Stock Market
6. Credit

**Sociology**

**Prerequisite Course:** American History 2

**Credits:** 0.5 (semester)

**Course Description:**

This full year course will familiarize the student with the basic principles and theories associated with the social science of Sociology. It will introduce students to the academic examination of culture and look critically at a variety of social issues.

Critical thinking is emphasized as students are provided thought provoking opportunities to challenge them in examining their diverse world.

**Topics Covered:**

1. Identifying and defining basic sociological concepts and theories.
2. Analyzing contributions and theoretical perspectives of the founders of sociology
3. Exploring sociological perspectives and theories as they relate to societal norms and various social issues.

**AP History**

**Prerequisite Course:** American History 3 or 4

**Credits:** 1.1

**Course Description:****Topics Covered:**

## Arts & Humanities

### Suggested Sequence

Arts & Humanities	General	Other Electives
7 <sup>th</sup> grade	Guidance 7 Phys. Ed. 7 Computer 7 Library 7 Tech Ed. Art 7 Music 7 Health 7	<i>Band</i> <i>Chorus</i>
8 <sup>th</sup> grade	Tech Ed. Art 8 Music 8 Library 8 Phys. Ed. 8 Computer 8 Health 8	<i>Band</i> <i>Chorus</i>
9 <sup>th</sup> grade	Guidance 9 Intro to Library Studies Micro Computer Apps Music 9 Health 9 Art 9 Phys. Ed. 9 Intro to CADD	<i>Band</i> <i>Chorus</i> <i>Spanish 1</i>
10 <sup>th</sup> grade	Spanish 1 Driver's Ed. Phys. Ed. Intro to Library Studies Micro Computer Apps	<i>Band</i> <i>Chorus</i> <i>Spanish 2</i> <i>Robotics 1</i> <i>Music 10</i> <i>Art 10</i>
11 <sup>th</sup> grade	Spanish 2 Phys. Ed. Intro to Library Studies Micro Computer Apps	<i>Band</i> <i>Chorus</i> <i>Spanish 3</i> <i>Robotics 2</i> <i>Elective Art</i>
12 <sup>th</sup> grade	Guidance 12 Phys. Ed. Intro to Library Studies Micro Computer Apps	<i>Band</i> <i>Chorus</i> <i>Spanish 4</i> <i>Advanced</i> <i>Manufacturing</i> <i>Elective Art</i>

## **Driver's Education**

Credits: .25

### **Course Description:**

As part of the young driver legislation, the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation established a task force to study driver's education. The result is a document entitled "The Content and Performance Expectations for Drivers Education." This document outlines the knowledge and skills that should enable students to become safe and informed members of the highway transportation system. All students are required to take driver's theory as part of their 1.00th grade year. A copy of the Pennsylvania Driver's Manual is given to each student to be used as the course textbook. The content of the manual is reviewed during class meetings however, the majority of the manual must be read as the student's responsibility, outside of the classroom. At the end of the course, students must take a written test related to what is covered by the manual as well as information covered throughout class meetings.

The in-car-driving is optional however, the student must complete the classroom portion of instruction, have completed a similar instructional program, and/or pass the final written exam to become eligible. If a student does complete 6 hours of training behind the wheel, they have the option to apply for their regular driver's license up to 6 months earlier than a student who does not complete the training. The students will gain valuable experience as they drive through different driving environments, including; Rural Settings, Highway/Expressway Driving, Business Districts, and City Driving. Students are encouraged to ask questions at any time and as situations are encountered, proper techniques are applied and discussed. After completion of the In-Car-Driving & the Classroom/Theory portions, students are given a certificate of completion which can be submitted to most insurance agencies and in most cases a discount is awarded on their car insurance.

### **Topics Covered:**

Pennsylvania State Driving Laws and Regulations, Defensive Driving Methods, Responsibilities of a Licensed Driver, Driving Under the Influence, Signs, Signals & Pavement Markings, Everyday Driving Skills, Distracted Driving, Adverse Weather Conditions, Basic Car Care & Preventative Maintenance, Driver Factors, Special Circumstances, & Emergencies.

## Art 7

### **Course Description:**

This course is a combination of art history, art appreciation, and a studio setting. Students will explore different artists and artworks throughout history while creating their own works of art. Mediums explored include paint, graphite, sharpie, clay, and sculpture. This course enables the student to become more familiar with art tools and materials. **Topics Covered:** Drawing, Zentangles, PlasterKraft/ Sculpture, Painting, Clay, Artists and their works of art

## Art 8

### **Course Description:**

In this course, we delve even deeper into the student's creativity and self-expression. We continue to cover famous artists and art history while exploring different mediums that will allow students to create their own works of art. Students are encouraged to develop their talents even further than last year. **Topics Covered:** Drawing, Painting, Zentangles, Recycled Sculpture, Marker, Artists and their works of art

## Art 9/10

Credits: .25

### **Course Description:**

This course is structured to increase student craftsmanship, design skills, and understanding of aesthetic choice. Emphasis is put on students making creative, original techniques and composition. These students will explore different mediums while gaining an appreciation for famous artists and works of art. **Topics Covered:** Drawing, Clay/ Potters Wheels, Paper Mache, Carved Sculpture, Artists and their works

## Elective Art 11/12

Credits: .5

### **Course Description:**

This course is structured to be flexible with a variety of mediums and concepts covered. Students will have the opportunity to explore their personal interest in the arts through a culminating, independent project at the end of the semester. Students will explore each medium in depth, pursuing the highest level of skill and design in their high school career. Emphasis is placed on originality and technical competence. **Topics Covered:** Drawing, Clay, Painting, Stained Glass, Oil Pastel, Sculpture, Prom/ Large Set Design, Artist in Residency Program, Nail and String Art, and any other medium the students feel strongly about pursuing.

## **Music 7**

### **Course Description:**

This 45 day, rotating course will allow students to explore two of the most widely used instruments: guitar and piano. The students will learn about the way these instruments create sound, and will play simple songs that showcase various techniques. They should expect to gain an appreciation for professional musicians, as well as a respect for music itself.

### **Topics Covered:**

Melody, harmony, chordal structure, limited music theory, tuning, instrument maintenance, practice techniques, playing techniques, performance, note reading (treble and bass clef).

## **Music 8**

### **Course Description:**

This nine week course will be an extension of the concepts learned in 7th grade music. The students should be able to play more difficult songs on the guitar and/or the piano. They will also explore music composition by using the computer mixing program, Music Creator 5. Students may also have the opportunity to record their performances.

### **Topics Covered:**

Melody, harmony, chordal structure, tuning, instrument maintenance, practice techniques, playing techniques, performance, note reading (treble and bass clef), TAB, fingerstyle picking, more advanced music theory, composition.

## **Music 9/10**

**Credits:** .25

**Prerequisite Course:** successful completion of Music 7 and/or Music 8, teacher recommendation included

### **Course Description:**

During the course of a nine weeks, the students will learn rhythms. They will practice these rhythms through the use of various percussion instruments. Their culminating project will be the composition of a percussion ensemble piece.

### **Topics Covered:**

Rhythms (whole, half, quarter, eighth, sixteenth, triplets, etc.), practice techniques, percussion playing techniques, composition.

## **Band**

**Prerequisite Course:** None--musical experience recommended

**Credits:** 1.0 (year-long course)

### **Course Description:**

During this year-long course students will learn music of different genres. They will learn music written specifically for a concert ensemble. Styles will include both standard band literature, and adaptations of recent popular hits. Students will learn how to balance their sound and produce the proper tone for an indoor ensemble.

They will also perform concerts in the fall and spring.

Students will be expected to attend private or small group lesson sessions, as well as each concert. Students will also be expected to arrive on time for class, bring all their materials (instrument, music, pencil, extra reeds, valve oil, etc.), and help set up/tear down the room for rehearsals. At times, there will be extra assignments that will be posted to the teacher webpage which will need to be completed.

### **Topics Covered:**

Note reading (treble and bass clef), rhythm, dynamics, tempo, form, chordal structure, theory, tuning, tone quality/timbre, style, articulation, how to listen, teamwork, performance.

## **Chorus**

**Prerequisite Course:** None

**Credits:** 1.0 (year-long)

### **Course Description:**

Students will attend Chorus for an entire year. They will learn a variety of songs that may cover several centuries. Students will be challenged to learn pieces that are multi-part, and cover a large range. They will learn how to listen across the group and to the accompaniment parts (if available) in order to determine the importance of their own vocal part. They will perform a concert in the fall and spring, which they are required to attend.

Students may be expected to attend private or small group lesson sessions.

Students will also be expected to arrive on time for class, bring all their materials (music, water bottle, pencil, etc.), and help set up/tear down the room for rehearsals. Students will also be required to utilize the recordings provided on the teacher webpage. This may be shown by a sign-in or a response section.

### **Topics Covered:**

Vocal health, breathing, phrasing, dynamics, rhythm, note reading (treble and bass clef), tempo, chord structure, music theory, articulation, tone quality/timbre, teamwork, performance, listening skills, style.



## **Library Science 7**

### **Course Description:**

The focus of this course is to introduce students to the library automation system and to develop an understanding of the Dewey Decimal System which will promote independent student use of the Blacklick Valley JSHS Library. Students will use the skills they learned in navigating and using the Library resources to compile and complete a MLA format 2 page research paper.

**Main Topics Covered:** Dewey Decimal System, *Destiny*, Internet searching, MLA research and writing formats, citation skills, genres.

## **Library Science 8**

### **Course Description:**

This is a 45 day rotation class that students will build upon the skills they learned in prior Library Science classes to select appropriate resources that will relate to a topic from their History class. Students will compile notes; write a 3 page research paper in MLA format complete with Works Cited page and turn in a copy to both the Library and the History Departments.

**Main Topics Covered:** Plagiarism, MLA research and writing formats.

## **Library Science 9**

Semester Class

Credits: 0.5

### **Course Description:**

This class is seen on a rotational basis: 3 out of 6 days on a yearly schedule. Students will build upon the skills they learned in prior Library Science classes. As collaboration with the Science Department, students will select appropriate resources that will relate to a topic from their Science class and compile notes; write a 4 page research paper in MLA format complete with Works Cited page and turn in a copy to both the Library and the History Departments

**Main Topics Covered:** Plagiarism, MLA research and writing formats.

### **Intro to Library LIB100** (semester)

Credits: .65

**College Credits Available:** Penn Highlands Community College

#### **Course Description:**

This course is conducted in part as a lecture-type environment. Students will use both quantitative and qualitative methods (i.e. action research, human information behavior and statistical analysis of database results) in identifying and evaluating information including use of online databases, print materials, personal information retrieval techniques, and Internet navigation. Annotated bibliographies will be created to assess student understanding of resource materials. **Main Topics Covered:** MLA, APA citation formats, plagiarism, annotated bibliographies, rubric creation.

### **NEWSLA 7/8**

#### **Course Description:**

Reading is a skill and as with every skill it requires practice. The focus of this course is for the student to independently read a body of material with a minimum of formal instruction. Reading to acquire Accelerated Reader points is the assessment of completing. **Note:** Students are expected to read and take comprehension tests on the school's computers.

### **NEWSLA**

Credits: 0.25

#### **Course Description:**

Reading is a skill and as with every skill it requires practice. The focus of this course is for the student to independently read a body of material with a minimum of formal instruction. Reading to acquire Accelerated Reader points is the assessment of completing. **Note:** Students are expected to read and take comprehension tests on the school's computers.

## **Guidance 7**

### **Course Description:**

This is a 45 day rotation class for 7<sup>th</sup> grade students. The goal of this class is to give students the required tools to be more successful in school. Students will receive direct instruction, based on their learning style inventory, in how to study more efficiently. In addition, students will research a career and present a PowerPoint using websites such as [www.pacareerzone.org](http://www.pacareerzone.org), [www.onetonline.org](http://www.onetonline.org), and [www.educationplanner.org](http://www.educationplanner.org) as reference tools.

Students will use the SOAR Study Skills Workbook.

Topics Covered:

- |                                 |                                   |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. How are You Smart            | 9. Reading Textbooks              |
| 2. Establish Priorities         | 10. Writing Papers                |
| 3. Identify Your Goals          | 11. Taking and Studying Notes     |
| 4. Schedule Time To Take Action | 12. Taking Tests                  |
| 5. Organize Your Papers         | 13. Tracking Your Grades          |
| 6. Organize Your Space          | 14. Monitoring Your Grades        |
| 7. Organize Your Time           | 15. Recognizing Your Achievements |
| 8. Interacting With Teachers    |                                   |

## **Guidance 9**

Credits: 0.50

### **Course Description:**

This is a 45 day rotation class for 9<sup>th</sup> grade students. The goal of this class is to build on the career search that students did in 7<sup>th</sup> grade. Students will research a career and present a PowerPoint using websites such as [www.pacareerzone.org](http://www.pacareerzone.org), [www.onetonline.org](http://www.onetonline.org), and [www.educationplanner.org](http://www.educationplanner.org) as reference tools.

In addition the following topics will be covered:

Free Application for Federal Student Aid, Federal Student Aid ID, College Entrance Exams (SAT & ACT), Scholarship Searches, [www.raise.me](http://www.raise.me) website, College Application Process, Financial Aid Programs (Federal and State), College Award Letter Comparisons.

Career Videos from PA Career Gates

- |                      |                            |
|----------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Bio-Medical Field | 9. Healthcare              |
| 2. Construction      | 10. Information Technology |
| 3. Electronics       | 11. Manufacturing          |
| 4. Food Industry     | 12. Plastics               |
| 5. Green Industry    | 13. Powdered Metal         |
| 6. Hospitality       | 14. Transportation         |
| 7. Lumber Industry   | 15. Leadership             |
| 8. Education         | 16. Soft Skills            |

**Guidance 12**

Credits: 0.50

**Course Description:**

## **Computer 7**

### **Course Description:**

Keyboarding is offered to students at the junior high level in such a manner so as to improve their efficiency and accuracy in using the computers and other devices with keyboards. This is a skill that almost everyone must use at one time or another--in school, on the job, and at home. The alphabet and finger arrangement is the same on nearly all keyboards; therefore, skills acquired in the class will transfer directly to other devices. upon completion of the course, the student will have a solid base upon which further skills can be readily built. Course uses both textbook and computerized instruction.

**Topics Covered:** Alphabetic, punctuation, and number keys.

## **Computer 8**

**Prerequisite Course:** Computer 7

### **Course Description:**

This course re-introduces students to the touch operation of keyboard characters through the use of computer software. Focus of the course is the development of accuracy and speed at the keyboard. This course is also designed to aid the students' computing needs for any/all other 8th grade subjects. **Topics Covered:** Alphanumeric keyboard, punctuation, proofreader marks, any/all 8th grade computing needs

## **Microcomputer Applications**

**Prerequisite Course:** Computers 8

**Credits:** 0.65

**College Credits Available:** Pennsylvania Highlands

### **Course Description:**

This hands-on course introduces the student to the more popular microcomputer software packages available including Windows, word processing, spreadsheets, and presentations. This course provides students with a working knowledge of these software packages to accomplish the more common tasks. The Microsoft Office suite, MS Word, MS Excel and MS PowerPoint is used.

**Topics Covered:** Word-Creating a document, Selecting and Editing, Formatting Characters, Writing Tools, Formatting Paragraphs, Tabs, Move and Copy, Find and Replace, Margins and Printing, Page/Section Breaks, Page Numbers, Headers and Footers, Styles, Themes, Tables, Graphics, Columns, Charts Excel-Workbooks, Editing and Style Tools, Tab Commands, Exploring Formulas, Functions, Logical and Financial Functions, Rounding and Nesting Functions, ChartsPowerPoint-Presentation Text, Revising, Graphics, Tables, Charts, Diagrams, SmartArt, Original Illustrations

### **Technology Education- 7<sup>th</sup> Grade-“Exploring Technology”**

#### **Course Description:**

In this 9 week course, students will be introduced to the different forms of technology available at the Junior/Senior High School. The course will start off with basic measurement skills to ensure that a standard rule or tape measure can be read correctly and accurately. To introduce the students to Manufacturing Technologies, basic wood working skills and machines will be used to create a small wooden project. Safety will be the main focus throughout the course as students learn how to use the wood working shop, tools, and the machines in it

**Topics Covered:** Measurement, Standard Units, Safety, Hand Tools, Power Tools, Sanding, Gluing, Staining, and various wood shop skills.

### **Technology Education- 8<sup>th</sup> Grade- “Graphics & Communication Technology”**

#### **Course Description:**

In this 9 week course students will be introduced to different computer software programs and will learn how they are used to convey a specific message. Students will be introduced to Corel Draw, where they will use it to complete different design challenges. This will lead to the production of laser engraved or cut projects. Students will also be introduced to AutoDesk Inventor software that they will use to design and create a complete digital portfolio of a product. This will lead to the use 3D printing software to create prototypes and actual physical projects. Other software that students may be introduced to is AutoDesk’s AutoCAD and Revit. The software programs used in the class can be found in leading industries.

**Topics Covered:** Computer technology, software technology, encoding, decoding, transmitting, and receiving information, technological literacy, laser engraving, 3D printing (additive manufacturing), prototyping, engineering,

### **Technology Education- 9<sup>th</sup> Grade – “Intro to CADD” (Computer Aided Drafting & Design)**

Credits: 0.25

Prerequisite: None

#### **Course Description:**

In this 9 week course students will focus more on the quality and engineering aspects of a design and use problem solving skills to improve an existing design. Students will learn more about the AutoDesk Inventor program and the tools that can be used to look at every aspect of designing a product. Students will complete several guided tutorials before being given a problem solving challenge that will utilize all of the information learned.

**"VEX Robotics / Principles of Engineering" - 10<sup>th</sup>- 12<sup>th</sup> Grade- 18 Student Max**

Credits: 0.5

**Course Description:**

The curriculum is divided up into 12 primary Units and 1 optional Unit. Students will start off learning about engineering and engineering problem solving. They will be given introductions to VEX EDR robots and Autodesk Inventor. In Unit 5 students will be presented with an engineering challenge; they will need to build a robot to play a sport-like game. After this, the rest of the curriculum walks students through the design of their robot while presenting them with relevant STEM and Robotics principles. At the end of the course, students compete head-to-head with their robots.

**Topics Covered:** Robotics, Engineering, Problem Solving, Safety, Teamwork, Design, Simple Machines, Mathematics, & Physical concepts.

**Technology Education Elective- 10<sup>th</sup>- 12<sup>th</sup> "Advanced CADD/CAM" Computer Aided Manufacturing -18 Student Max**

Credits: 0.5

Prerequisite: **Intro to CADD (Computer Aided Drafting & Design)**

**Course Description:**

This 18 week course is designed to have the students go more in depth with the Engineering Process. Instruction will focus on advanced uses of the AutoDesk Inventor software As well as explore the use of AutoDesk Revit which is used in Architectural Design/Drawing. The students will learn what is necessary to create accurate Part Drawings, Assembly Drawings, and Technical Drawings (similar to what was learned in Intro to CADD) but these drawing will also be used to design and create an actual manufactured project in the Advanced Manufacturing course.

**Topics Covered:** AutoDesk Inventor, Measurement, 2D & 3D Drawing, Assembly Drawings, Presentation Drawings, Engineering Process, Design Process, the Universal Systems Model, Problem Solving, data analysis, redesign, & manufacturing processes.

**Technology Education Elective- 10<sup>th</sup>- 12<sup>th</sup> Grade-"Advanced Manufacturing"**

Credits: 0.5

Prerequisite: **Manufacturing I & Intro to CADD**

**Course Description:**

In this course students will use the skills they have learned in the Manufacturing I Class to produce a more complex wood working project. Students will use previously learned instruction from Intro to CADD, Exploring Technology, Manufacturing I, and even Graphics/Communications Technology to design their own project from start to finish as

the complete the course. This course may require a lab fee dependent on the project design and special hardware or materials necessary to construct.

**Topics Covered:** AutoDesk Inventor, Measurement, 2D & 3D Drawing, Assembly Drawings, Presentation Drawings, Engineering Process, Design Process, the Universal Systems Model, Problem Solving, data analysis, redesign, & manufacturing processes.

## **Physical Education & Health**

### **Physical Education Grades 7,8,9**

**Credits:** .25

#### **Course Description:**

The physical education program in the 7<sup>th</sup> grade is designed to improve the overall physical fitness of the students and to develop basic skills. The students learn how physical activity can contribute to their well-being throughout their lives by helping them to acquire knowledge, sportsmanship, attitudes, and skills involved in recreational activities. Seventh graders are exposed to lifetime sports and team sports. **Topics Covered:** Wellness, football, hockey, soccer, softball, Ultimate Frisbee, Speedball, Gatorball, Badminton, Pickleball, Pilo Hockey, Volleyball, Eclipse Ball, Track and Field..

### **Physical Education grades 10, 11, and 12**

#### **Option 1.0 – Lifetime Sports and Team sports**

**Credits:** 0.25 – 1.0

#### **Course Description:**

The physical education program in the 1.00<sup>th</sup> grade is designed to improve the overall physical fitness of the students and to develop basic skills. The students learn how physical activity can contribute to their well-being throughout their lives by helping them to acquire knowledge, sportsmanship, attitudes, and skills involved in recreational activities. 1.00<sup>th</sup> graders are exposed to lifetime sports and team sports. **Topics Covered:** Specific units for the 1.00<sup>th</sup> grade physical education program include Wellness, football, hockey, soccer, softball, Ultimate Frisbee, Speedball, Gatorball, Badminton, Pickleball, Pilo Hockey, Volleyball, Eclipse Ball, Track and Field..



### **Health 7**

#### **Course Description:**

### **Health 8**

#### **Course Description:**

### **Health 9**

**Credits: .25**

#### **Course Description:**

### **Living Skills**

#### **Course Description:**

The BOTVIN life Skill program....

## Foreign Language

### Spanish I

Credits: 1.0

**Course Description:**

This class is an intro to Spanish. The objective is to give students an understanding and appreciation of foreign languages. Throughout the year we will focus on the five C's: **communicating** in Spanish, discussing the **culture** of Spanish speaking countries, **connecting** the studying of Spanish to other subject areas, **comparing** Spanish to the students' native language, and connecting Spanish to the **community**.

**Topics Covered:** This will be addressed by studying basic vocabulary themes such as: numbers, greetings, time, dates, colors, people, verbs, adjectives, nouns, countries, food, school, spelling, sports, pastime activities, shopping, weather, buildings, and families. We will also compare Spanish grammar to English grammar by studying verbs (present tense), adjectives, and nouns. As a result of studying the vocabulary and grammar the students will be able to develop conversations in Spanish, write in Spanish (limited-present tense), listen to Spanish, and read Spanish. They will demonstrate this by skits, reading lessons, writing lessons, research projects, tests, quizzes, homework, and listening comprehension exercises.

### Spanish II

**Prerequisite Course:** Spanish I

Credits: 1.0

**Course Description:**

This class is a continuation of the previous year. The objective is to expand on the foundations set from the first year of Spanish and to further develop an understanding and appreciation for foreign languages. Throughout the year we will continue to focus on the five C's: **communicating** in Spanish, discussing the **culture** of Spanish speaking countries, **connecting** the studying of Spanish to other subject areas, **comparing** Spanish to the students' native tongue, and connecting Spanish to the **community**.

**Topics Covered:** This will be addressed by reviewing basic and key points from Spanish I and studying basic vocabulary themes such as: nationalities, school, home, pass time activities, food, geography, locations, sports, ordinal/cardinal numbers, travel, hygiene, and shopping. We will continue to compare Spanish grammar to English grammar by studying verbs (present tense, past tense, future tense, commands, and reflexive), adjectives, nouns, pronouns, direct objects, and indirect objects. As a result of studying the vocabulary and grammar the students will be able to develop more detailed conversations in Spanish, write in Spanish, listen to and read Spanish. They will demonstrate this by skits, reading lessons, writing lessons, research projects, tests, quizzes, homework, and listening comprehension exercises.

### **Spanish III**

**Prerequisite Course:** Spanish I & II

**Credits:** 1.3

**College Credits Available:** St. Francis University

#### **Course Description:**

This class is a continuation of the previous year. The objective is to expand on the foundations set from the first and second years of Spanish and to further develop an understanding and appreciation for foreign languages. Throughout the year we will continue to focus on the five C's: **communicating** in Spanish, discussing the **culture** of Spanish speaking countries, **connecting** the studying of Spanish to other subject areas, **comparing** Spanish to the students' native tongue, and connecting Spanish to the **community**.

**Topics Covered:** This will be addressed by reviewing basic and key points from Spanish I and II and studying basic vocabulary themes such as: food, hygiene, health, communication, weather, entertainment, music, art, geography, celebrations/holidays, archeology, news, current events, and animals. We will continue to compare Spanish grammar to English grammar by studying verbs (present tense, past tense, future tense, commands, and reflexive, progressive, conditional, and subjunctive), adjectives, nouns, pronouns, direct objects, and indirect objects. As a result of studying the vocabulary and grammar the students will be able to develop more detailed conversations in Spanish, write in Spanish, listen to and read Spanish. They will demonstrate this by skits, reading lessons, writing lessons, research projects, tests, quizzes, homework, and listening comprehension exercises

### **Spanish IV**

**Prerequisite Course:** Spanish I, II, and III

**Credits:** 1.3

**College Credits Available:** St. Francis University

#### **Course Description:**

This class is a continuation of the previous year. The objective is to expand on the foundations set from the first, second, and third years of Spanish and to further develop an understanding and appreciation for foreign languages. Throughout the year we will continue to focus on the five C's: **communicating** in Spanish, discussing the **culture** of Spanish speaking countries, **connecting** the studying of Spanish to other subject areas, **comparing** Spanish to the students' native tongue, and connecting Spanish to the **community**. This will be addressed by reviewing basic and key points from Spanish I, Spanish II, and Spanish III, and studying basic vocabulary themes such as: current events, entertainment, animals, holidays/traditions, travel, ancient civilizations, art, music, literature, and geography. We will continue to compare Spanish grammar to English grammar by studying verbs (present tense, past tense, future tense, commands, reflexive,

progressive, conditional, and subjunctive), adjectives, nouns, pronouns, direct objects, and indirect objects. As a result of studying the vocabulary and grammar the students will be able to develop greater detailed conversations (proficient level) in Spanish, write in Spanish, listen to and read Spanish. They will demonstrate this by skits, reading lessons, writing lessons, research projects, tests, quizzes, homework, and listening comprehension exercises

**Topics Covered:** This will be addressed by reviewing basic and key points from Spanish I, Spanish II, and Spanish III, and studying basic vocabulary themes such as: current events, entertainment, animals, holidays/traditions, travel, ancient civilizations, art, music, literature, and geography. We will continue to compare Spanish grammar to English grammar by studying verbs (present tense, past tense, future tense, commands, reflexive, progressive, conditional, and subjunctive), adjectives, nouns, pronouns, direct objects, and indirect objects. As a result of studying the vocabulary and grammar the students will be able to develop greater detailed conversations (proficient level) in Spanish, write in Spanish, listen to and read Spanish. They will demonstrate this by skits, reading lessons, writing lessons, research projects, tests, quizzes, homework, and listening comprehension exercises.