

Pearl Public School District

The Navigator

Secondary
Curriculum
Guide

“Excellence
Through Perseverance”



Cover Design
by
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Greeting and Mission Statement

Pearl Public School District's faculty and staff are committed to providing a structured and well-disciplined environment in which optimum learning takes place. A dedication to excellence and the cooperative efforts of students, faculty, parents, and community truly make Pearl one of the best districts in the state of Mississippi. We hope the following information is helpful in your future planning.

In addition to a strong academic program, Pearl offers a variety of extracurricular activities. Top of the line athletic programs are available in a wide ranging variety of sports. The choral music and band programs have achieved state and national recognition. Clubs and organizations encourage students to become involved in school and community service.

This book is provided as a guide for students and parents to use as a tool in developing a plan for the journey through school that will lead, ultimately, to the goal of securing a productive post-secondary plan and career. Students are encouraged to think about academic and career goals as courses are selected.

The Mission of Pearl Public School District is to prepare each student to become a lifelong learner, achieve individual goals, and positively impact a global society.

PJHS and PHS Administrative Staff

Dr. Jessica Broome, PJH Principal
Mr. Chris Lee, 6th Grade
Ms. Carrie Collum, 7th Grade
Mr. Tim Jackson, 8th Grade
Mr. Dale Shepherd, 9th Grade
Dr. Tracy Yates, 10th Grade
Mr. John Craven, 11th and 12th Grade

Guidance & Counseling Staff

Mrs. Tammy Files, 6th Grade
Mrs. Bridget Nelson, 7th and 8th Grade
Ms. Dana Lancaster, 9th Grade
Mrs. Courtney Matthews, 10th and 11th Grade
Mrs. Penny Pitts—12th Grade
Mrs. Gina Morgigno—Director of Testing/College Coordinator

<http://www.pearl.k12.ms.us>

Pearl Junior High School: 601-932-7952

Pearl High School: 601-932-7931



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Graduation Requirements



Traditional Diploma (26 credits)

Beginning school year **2008-2009 and thereafter**, all entering ninth graders will be required to have a minimum of **26** Carnegie units as specified below, unless their parent/guardian requests to opt the student out of Appendix A-3 requirements. Any student who is taken out of these requirements of Appendix A-3 will be required to complete the graduation requirements as specified in the District Option Requirements (Appendix A-2).

Curriculum Area	Carnegie Units	Required Subjects
English	4 ¹	English I, II, III, IV
Mathematics	4 ²	Algebra I and 2 courses above Alg I (Geometry and Algebra II)
Science	4 ³	Biology I and Physical Science OR Chemistry
Social Studies	4 ^{4, 5}	½ Mississippi Studies ½ Geography 1 World History 1 U.S. History ½ U.S. Government ½ Economics
Health and Physical Education	½ ⁶	½ Comprehensive Health, or ½ Family and Individual Health
Technology and Business	1 ½ ⁸	Computer Discovery/ ICT II OR Computer Applications Equivalent
The Arts	1	One unit in the fine arts is required
Additional Electives	7	½ unit of PE or equivalent required
Total Units Required	26¹⁰	

APPENDIX A-3 (Continued) GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS NOTES

¹ Compensatory Reading and Compensatory Writing may not be included in the four English courses required for graduation; however, these courses may be included in the 5½ general electives required for graduation.

² Compensatory Mathematics and any developmental mathematics course may not be included in the four mathematics courses required for graduation; however, these courses may be included in the 5½ general electives required for graduation. One of the four required mathematics units may be in Drafting if the student completes the 2-course sequence for Drafting I & II. Beginning school year 2007-2008 for all entering eighth graders, at least two of the four required mathematics courses must be higher than Algebra I. The allowable mathematics courses that can be taken which are higher than Algebra I are: Geometry, Algebra II, Advanced Algebra, Trigonometry, Pre-Calculus, Calculus, AP Calculus AB, AP Calculus BC, Discrete Mathematics, Probability and Statistics, and AP Statistics. Effective with the eighth graders of 2004-2005, Pre-Algebra, Transition to Algebra, and Algebra I, may be taken in the eighth grade for Carnegie unit credit.

³ One unit may be in Introduction to Agriscience, Concepts of Agriscience, Science of Agricultural Plants, Science of Agricultural Animals, or Science of Agricultural Environment. Two units may be in the following courses if the student completes the 2-course sequence: Agriscience I & II; Allied Health I & II; Aquaculture I & II; Forestry I & II; Horticulture I & II; Plastics and Polymer Science I & II; and Technology Applications I & II. Two units may be earned by completing the AEST 3-course sequence: one unit in Concepts of Agriscience; one unit in Science of Agricultural Animals or Science of Agricultural Plants, or Science of Agricultural Environment; and one unit in Agribusiness and Entrepreneurship. Beginning school year 2008-2009 for all entering eighth graders, one unit must be a lab-based physical science. The allowable lab-based physical science courses are Physical Science, Chemistry I, Chemistry II, AP Chemistry, Physics I, Physics II, AP Physics B, AP Physics C – Electricity and Magnetism, and AP Physics C – Mechanics.

⁴ The credit earned for a State/Local Government course in any other state by an out-of-state transfer student who enters after the sophomore year can stand in lieu of Mississippi Studies or Mississippi State and Local Government. If the transfer student took a State/Local Government course in a grade level that did not award Carnegie unit credit, then any other ½ unit social studies course may be accepted. An out-of-state student who transfers after the junior year may substitute any other ½ unit social studies course.

⁵ Evidence of proficiency in Keyboarding and Computer Applications is accepted in lieu of the required courses if the student earns one unit in any of the courses listed in the Business and Technology Framework (academic and vocational).

⁶ Elective units in physical education include participation in interscholastic athletic activities that meet the instructional requirements specified in the Fitness through Physical Education Framework and that are sanctioned by the Mississippi High School Activities Association.

Subject Area Testing Graduation Requirements

All students must pass the end of course tests as mandated by the State Department of Education. Tests must be passed in: Algebra I, Biology I, English II, US History. All students must pass these tests to graduate.

Other Guidelines

At least two units of the last four units of work must be completed at the school that grants the diploma. The high school where the last residence is home will be the school authorized to grant the diploma. Transfer students who enroll for fewer than 45 days must arrange for credit through their previous school.



Career Pathway Diploma (21 credits)

In 2010, Mississippi state policymakers passed legislation to create multiple pathways to a standard diploma. The 2010 legislative actions created a career pathway to a standard diploma, with the goal of improving Mississippi graduation rates and providing students with career and technical training that prepare students for postsecondary credential or certification programs and employable workplace skills. This legislative change created new section 37-16-17, Mississippi code of 1972, to provide for high school career option programs and career track curricula for students not wishing to pursue a baccalaureate degree.

Curriculum Area	Carnegie Units	Required Subjects
English	4 ¹	English I English II
Mathematics	3 ²	Algebra I
Science	3 ³	Biology I
Social Studies	3 ^{4, 5}	1 U.S. History ½ U.S. Government ½ Mississippi Studies
Health and Physical Education	½ ⁶	½ Comprehensive Health, or ½ Family and Individual Health, or ½ Physical Education
Career and Technical	4 ⁷	(Selected from Student's Program of Study)
Integrated Technology	1 ⁸	Computer Discovery, ICT I, ICT II, 9 th STEM, or Computer Applications and Keyboarding
Additional Electives	2 ½ ⁹	Courses selected from the student's approved program of study
Total Units Required	21 ¹⁰	

Mississippi's Institution of Higher Learning requirements differ from minimum graduation requirements for this diploma pathway.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS
Career Pathway Option
SENIORS OF SCHOOL YEAR 2011-2012 and thereafter

¹ Compensatory Reading and Compensatory Writing shall not be included in the four English courses required for graduation. The two additional English credits must be from the student's program of study which includes Technical Writing, Creative Writing, English III, English IV, or any college-level dual credit courses.

² Compensatory Mathematics may not be included in the three mathematics courses required for graduation. Effective with eighth graders of 2008-2009, Pre-Algebra and Transition to Algebra may not be taken after a student completes Algebra I. For students pursuing the Career Pathway Graduation Option, at least one of the required mathematics courses must be above Algebra I and selected from the student's program of study. The allowable mathematics courses that can be taken which are higher than Algebra I are: Geometry, Algebra II, Survey of Mathematical Topics, Advanced Algebra, Trigonometry, Pre-Calculus, Calculus, AP Calculus AB, AP Calculus BC, Discrete Mathematics, Statistics, and AP Statistics, or any college-level dual credit courses. Effective with the eighth graders of 2004-2005, Pre-Algebra, Transition to Algebra, and Algebra I, may be taken in the eighth grade for Carnegie unit credit. Effective with the eighth graders of 2008-2009, Geometry may be taken in the eighth grade for Carnegie unit credit.

³ For students pursuing the Career Pathway Graduation Option, at least one of the required science courses must be above Biology I and selected from the student's program of study. If a student's program of study allows, one unit may be in Concepts of Agriscience (AEST). A second science unit may be earned by completing a two course sequence selected from the following three options: Science of Agricultural Animals, Science of Agricultural Plants, or Science of Agricultural Environment. Two units may be in the following courses if the student completes the 2-course sequence: Agriscience I & II; Allied Health I & II; Health Science I & II, Aquaculture I & II; Forestry I & II; Horticulture I & II; Polymer Science I & II; Technology Applications I & II and Engineering I & II.

⁴ Advanced placement U.S. History is accepted in lieu of the required U.S. History 1877 to Present. The third social studies credit should be selected based on the student's program of study.

⁵ The credit earned for a State/Local Government course in any other state by an out-of-state transfer student who enters after the sophomore year can stand in lieu of Mississippi Studies or Mississippi State and Local Government. If the transfer student took a State/Local Government course in a grade level that did not award Carnegie unit credit, then any other ½ unit social studies course may be accepted. An out-of-state student who transfers after the junior year may substitute any other ½ unit social studies course. Credit earned for the first year of Marketing and Economics (Vocational) may be accepted in lieu of ½ unit in Economics.

⁶ Credit earned in Allied Health I/Health Science I may be accepted in lieu of Comprehensive Health or Family and Individual Health to meet the graduation requirement for ½ Carnegie unit in Health. Interscholastic athletic activities, band, and ROTC if they meet the instructional requirements specified in the *Fitness through Physical Education Framework* may also be accepted.

⁷ Career and Technical (CTE) courses must be based on the student's program of study and should include dual credit/dual enrollment options as found in Section 37-15-38 of the Mississippi Code of 1972.

⁸ Evidence of proficiency in technology is accepted in lieu of the required courses if the student earns one unit in a technology-rich academic or career technical course related to their program of study.

⁹ Electives must be selected from courses related to the student's program of study. Credits earned not approved for that student's program of study will not be counted toward graduation requirements.

¹⁰See the following web site for information concerning equivalency course allowances for all career and technical education and how to record information on a student's transcript. (TBA)



Pearl High School Diploma Options

Traditional Diploma	Meet all Traditional Graduation Requirements (A-3)
Traditional Diploma with Distinction	Meet all Traditional Graduation Requirements (A-3), plus maintain an overall 90.0 GPA.
Traditional Diploma with Honors	Meet all Traditional Graduation Requirements (A-3), plus maintain an overall 90.0 GPA AND complete 9 honors credits.
Traditional Diploma with Special Honors	Meet all Traditional Graduation Requirements (A-3), plus maintain an overall 90.0 GPA AND complete a total of 12 honors credits (2 of the 12 must be AP level)
Traditional Diploma with Super Scholars	Meet all Traditional Graduation Requirements (A-3), plus maintain an overall 90.0 GPA AND complete a total of 12 honors credits (3 of the 12 must be AP level)
Traditional Diploma Career Pathway	Meet all Career Pathway Diploma Requirements (Not intended for students planning to attend IHL universities)
Mississippi Occupational Diploma	Eligible special education students only, made by IEP decision, state occupational diploma and work requirement objectives must be met.
Certificate of Attendance	Eligible special education students only, made by IEP decision.



Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning Requirements

Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning (IHL) have the following admission standards for students planning to go DIRECTLY to a four year, public university in Mississippi.

1. Complete the College Prep Curriculum (CPC) listed below with a minimum 3.2 high school grade point average or the college prep curriculum. or
2. Complete the CPC with a 2.5 GPA or a class rank in the top 50% and a 16 or higher on the ACT or
3. Complete the CPC with a minimum of 2.0 high school GPA and a score of 18 or higher on the ACT or
4. Satisfy the NCAA standards for student athletes who are full qualifiers under Division I guidelines.

Recommended and Required College Preparatory Curriculum for Admission in Institutions of Higher Learning (IHL) Public Universities in Mississippi				
SUBJECT	Recommended	COURSES	REQUIRED	COURSES
English	4		4	
Mathematics	4	Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, and any one Carnegie Unit of comparable rigor and content. (e.g., Algebra III, CCSS Advanced Math Plus, Calculus, AP Calculus AB, AP Calculus BC, or AP Statistics)	3	Includes Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II. A fourth class in higher-level mathematics is highly recommended.
Science	4	Biology I, Chemistry I, and any two Carnegie Units of comparable rigor and content. (e.g., Physics, Physical Science, Biology II, Chemistry II, AP Chemistry, Physics II, AP Physics B, AP Physics C, Botany, Microbiology, or Human Anatomy and Physiology.)	3	Biology, Advanced Biology, Chemistry, Advanced Chemistry, Physics, and Advanced Physics or any other science course with comparable rigor and content. One Carnegie unit from a Physical Science course with content at a level that may serve as an introduction to Physics and Chemistry may be used. Two of the courses chosen must be lab based.
Social Studies	4	World History, U.S. History, Introduction to World Geography, U.S. Government, Economics, and Mississippi Studies. (Credit earned for a State/Local Government course in any other state may stand in lieu of Mississippi Studies.)	3	Courses should include United States History (1 unit), World History (1 unit with substantial geography component), Government (½ unit), and Economics (½ unit) or Geography (½ unit).
Arts	1	Includes any one Unit of visual/performing arts course(s) meeting the requirements for graduation.	1	Any visual and/or performing arts course(s) meeting the requirements for high school graduation
Advanced Electives	2	Includes any two Carnegie Units of Foreign Language (I and II), Advanced World Geography and a Foreign Language (I) or any combination of	2	Requirements may be met by earning 2 Carnegie units from the following areas/ courses, one of which must be in Foreign Language or World

		English, mathematics, or lab-based science courses of comparable rigor and content to those required above		Geography, Foreign Language, World Geography, 4th year lab-based Science, 4th year Mathematics
Computer Applications	$\frac{1}{2}$	Computer course	$\frac{1}{2}$	Computer Course
TOTAL	19 $\frac{1}{2}$		15	

Limited exceptions to high school unit requirements may be available. For more information contact the Office of Admissions. Admission requirements are subject to change without notice at the direction of the Board of Trustees of the Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning.



NCAA Requirements for Student Athletes

Before an athlete can play a sport or receive an athletic scholarship at a Division I or II College, he/she must meet specific academic criteria as set forth by the NCAA Clearinghouse.

Students must take specific courses in order to meet these requirements. It is very important that student athletes meet with their coaches and guidance counselor to discuss these requirements early on. Four year plans should be developed in the 8th grade to meet these requirements.

In order to initiate the eligibility process, athletes also need to complete a NCAA Clearinghouse Student Release Form after the junior year. All information about these requirements may be found online at www.ncaa.org.



College Testing

Students planning on attending college will have opportunities throughout high school to take assessments that measure college entry skills. The scores on such tests are most often used to determine entry into colleges or particular courses of study. The minimum required scores might vary among universities or colleges as will the type of test required for entry. Below are brief descriptions of the college entry tests that students may take during the high school career:

- **PSAT/NMSQT** (Preliminary Scholastic Assessment Test/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test) – a practice test for the SAT, which is also used to determine National Merit semi-finalists. It is given each October, primarily to accelerated sophomores and juniors.
- **SAT I** (Scholastic Assessment Test) – a college entrance examination, generally taken during the junior and/or senior year. Students receive a Verbal and a Math score. The SAT is NOT the same thing as the SATP (subject area tests)
- **ACT** (American College Test) – a college entrance examination, generally taken during the junior and/or senior year. Students receive scores in English, Reading, Math, and Science Reasoning, as well as a Composite score. Register on-line at www.act.org. Pearl High School is a testing site for the ACT. **All registration must be done directly with ACT at www.act.org.**
- **ASVAB**- Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery



Grading and Graduation Related Policy

PPSD Grades 1-12 Grading Scale

90-100	A	Superior Work
80-89	B	Good Work
70-79	C	Adequate Work
65-69	D	Below Average Work
Below 65	F	Failing Work

NOTE: Grades for students enrolled in honors or dual credit classes will be multiplied by a factor 1.05. Students' grades for advanced placement courses will be multiplied by a factor 1.10.

Grade Point Averages

Senior grade point averages will be calculated using **semester** grades that are recorded on the Official Transcript. No grades over 100 will be recorded on the official high school transcript. Eighth grade courses which earned high school credits will be included in grade point average. One unit of band, not two, will count in GPA each year.

Computing Nine-Weeks and Semester Averages

As per current policy, a nine-week average will be obtained by adding the average of major grades twice, the average of minor grades once, and the nine weeks test grade once, and then dividing by four. The semester average will be obtained by adding each nine week's grade twice plus the semester exam grade and then dividing by five.

Exemption Policy

Students may meet approved criteria for exam exemption. Please refer to the student handbook distributed at the beginning of the school year for an accurate description of Pearl High and Pearl Junior High School's exemption policies.

Honor Roll

To recognize student achievement, two honor groups will be named at the conclusion of each nine weeks. Students achieving all A honor roll status will receive an invitation to an awards ceremony. Principal's Scholar =All A's in courses; Faculty Scholar =All A's and B's in courses.

Student Progress Reports and Report Cards

At the midpoint of each nine weeks student progress reports will be given to each student. These dates are listed on the school calendar and web site. 1st nine week report cards must be picked up by a parent or an adult designee on the scheduled parent conference day in October. 2nd and 3rd 9 weeks report cards will be sent home by the student. Year-end report cards will be mailed. End of the year report cards will not be mailed until all fees/fines are cleared.

Valedictorian and Salutatorian Eligibility

To be eligible for Valedictorian or Salutatorian, a graduating senior must have been a member of a homeroom of the graduating class for at least five standard semesters. Additionally, the Valedictorian and Salutatorian for a graduating class will be selected from those students graduating with the highest level of diploma offered.

Early Graduation

Students who wish to graduate early must apply in writing and have a parent meeting with their counselor by April of their sophomore year. Students must have earned 17 credits including 3 math credits and must complete English III in the summer following their sophomore year. To be eligible for early graduation students must possess an 80 GPA. Final approval from the principal is necessary for early graduation. *Early graduation is not encouraged and should not be considered unless students have completed all requirements.



College Dual Enrollment/College Dual Credit

PPSD is committed to partnering with Hinds Community College to offer PHS students the opportunity to earn college credits while still a high school student. The following guidelines are in place for dual credit courses:

- *Students must be a junior or senior at PHS.
- *Students must meet the ACT standard set by Hinds for admittance into the class.
- *Students must pay the \$100.00 Hinds Community College registration fee for each semester the student is enrolled in the course. The course itself is tuition free.
- *Students must purchase any required college textbooks or online homework access codes for the course.

Current Dual Credit College Courses Offered at PHS (additions/deletions may occur)

Course Title	College Course Code	ACT Requirements
Principles of Biology	BIO 1113	English 14, Reading 13
Principles of Biology II	BIO 1123	English 14, Reading 13
English Comp I	ENG 1113	English 17
English Comp II	ENG 1123	Completed ENG 1113
Western Civilization I	HIS 1113	English 17, Reading 13
Western Civilization II	HIS 1123	English 17, Reading 13
Intermediate Algebra	MAT 1233	Math 17-19
College Algebra	MAT1313	Math 20
Trigonometry	MAT1323	Math 20
Music Appreciation	MUS1113	English 17



iCAP (Individual Career and Academic Plan)

In accordance with Mississippi Department of Education guidelines, all PPSPD students in grades 8-12 will annually complete and revise his/her iCAP. The Individual Career and Academic Plan is a student's guide that helps students establish and achieve his/her career and academic goals for success after high school. The iCAP is created with input from counselors, teachers, and parents.

An iCAP will assist students in the following areas:

- Provide mentoring and guidance to assist students in career pathway planning
- Help identify correct graduation pathway options
- Support changes to meet student needs and ambitions
- Transition into a profession or postsecondary educational major

What are career clusters?

- Groups of similar occupations and industries
- Mississippi uses the 16 national clusters
- Broad groups of careers that share similar characteristics within a career cluster

Choosing a career pathway will:

- Prepare today's students for tomorrow's jobs
- Connect students with knowledge and skills for success in college and career
- Motivate students to enroll in more rigorous and relevant courses
- Guide students from high school into career



Pearl Public School District Career Clusters

Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources

The production, processing, marketing, distribution, financing, and development of agricultural commodities and resources including food, fiber, wood products, natural resources, horticulture, and other plant and animal products/resources.

Architecture & Construction

Careers in designing, planning, managing, building and maintaining the built environment.

Arts, A/V Technology & Communications

Designing, producing, exhibiting, performing, writing, and publishing multimedia content including visual and performing arts and design, journalism, and entertainment services.

Business Management & Administration

Careers in planning, organizing, directing and evaluating business functions essential to efficient and productive business operations.

Education & Training

Planning, managing and providing education and training services, and related learning support services such as administration, teaching/training, administrative support, and professional support services.

Finance

Planning and related services for financial and investment planning, banking, insurance, and business financial management.

Government & Public Administration

Planning and executing government functions at the local, state and federal levels, including governance, national security, foreign service, planning, revenue and taxation, and regulations.

Health Science

Planning, managing, and providing therapeutic services, diagnostic services, health informatics, support services, and biotechnology research and development.

Hospitality & Tourism

Preparing individuals for employment in career pathways that relate to families and human needs such as restaurant and food/beverage services, lodging, travel and tourism, recreation, amusement and attractions.

Human Services

Preparing individuals for employment in career pathways that relate to families and human needs such as counseling and mental health services, family and community services, personal care, and consumer services.

Information Technology

Building linkages in IT occupations for entry level, technical, and professional careers related to the design, development, support and management of hardware, software, multimedia and systems integration services.

Law, Public Safety, Corrections & Security

Planning, managing, and providing legal, public safety, protective services and homeland security, including professional and technical support services.

Manufacturing

Planning, managing and performing the processing of materials into intermediate or final products and related professional and technical support activities such as production planning and control, maintenance and manufacturing/process engineering.

Marketing

Planning, managing, and performing marketing activities to reach organizational objectives such as brand management, professional sales, merchandising, marketing communications and market research.

Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics

Planning, managing, and providing scientific research and professional and technical services (e.g., physical science, social science, engineering) including laboratory and testing services, and research and development services.

Transportation, Distribution & Logistics

The planning, management, and movement of people, materials, and goods by road, pipeline, air, rail and water and related professional and technical support services such as transportation infrastructure planning and management, logistics services, mobile equipment and facility maintenance.

**Hinds Career and Technical Courses Offerings and PHS Academy Offerings**

Students in grades 10-12 may apply to attend the Hinds Career and Technical Center. Programs are designed as a two year commitment, and take up 2 periods each year in the student's schedule. A tour of the programs will be conducted for interested students in January of the 9th and 10th grade years. An application is required. The application, student grades, discipline and attendance will be used as criteria for selection by Hinds. Some programs may qualify for dual college and high school credit. Programs are subject to change.

Course offerings are continually changing, but at present students may apply for the following:

Ag Diesel Mechanics I/II
Architecture and Engineering I/II
Auto Collision and Repair I/II
Auto Service and Mechanics I/II
Carpentry I/II
Culinary Arts I/II
Digital Media I/II
Early Childhood Education I/II
Animation and Simulation I/II
Health Sciences I/II
Marketing Management Technology I/II
Mississippi Career Pathways Cooperative Education
LPN Nursing Program (Seniors Only)
Public Service Academy (Juniors and Seniors Only- 1 period each year)
Teacher Academy (Juniors and Seniors Only- 1 period each year, taught on PHS campus)



Grade 9-12 Scheduling Related Policies

Dropping a Course

A student may not drop a year-long course under any circumstances during the year other than with a medical doctor's written statement to the effect that the particular subject is detrimental to the student's health. (This policy includes honors and accelerated courses) All requests for dropping a course or changing a schedule must be submitted to and approved by the principal.

Early Dismissal/Senior Leave

Graduating seniors must be enrolled in three classes a day. Seniors may only have one senior leave each day, with the exception of Career Pathway Co-op students.

Schedule Changes

Students and parents are encouraged to take course selection in the spring very seriously. Courses chosen during course selection will remain on the student's schedule once the year begins. Schedule changes will only be considered the first week of a semester. Schedules will only be changed during this week for graduation purposes or for those students repeating a course. A time during the school year and the summer is provided for other schedule changes. Schedule changes are kept to a minimum to ensure that students remain in required courses and so that instruction may begin on the very first day of school. Teaching assignments and school schedules are developed based on the subjects selected during the spring.

Schedule Pick-Up

Schedule pick-up will be scheduled for the last week of July in combination with registration. ALL schedules should be picked up during these two provided days.

Scheduling and Course Information

All students are required to enroll in eight courses during the school year, with the exception being graduating seniors. Pre-registration will take place in January and February each school year. Juniors and sophomores will meet with their counselor individually to schedule courses and discuss their four year plan. 8th and 9th graders will meet in small groups with counselors to schedule courses. Parents who wish to meet with the high school counselor concerning course selection may call the office at 601-932-7934 to schedule a meeting.

Parent Access to Schedules/Active Parent / Active Student

Parents will be given an opportunity to sign up for the Active Parent online communication system. Parents who sign up will have access to their student's daily grades, term grades, attendance, discipline, and major homework assignments on-line. Please note that some minor assignments may not be placed on the system. It is the student's responsibility to continue to keep up with his/her work. However, this system is an excellent communication tool for parents and students in keeping up with assignments, daily grades, and attendance records. Students will be given a login/password for the Active Student program. Go to the district or school website to sign up for active parent.



Pearl Junior High School Courses

Students will take English, mathematics, science, social studies and a computer elective each year at Pearl Junior High School. In addition to these core courses the following electives are currently available.

Course/Credit	Brief Course Description
Art Grade 6	This course will include many fun hands-on art projects, and will include units about famous artists. Students will learn the elements and principles of art, and will learn how to draw, mix colors with paint, and compose original works of art.
Art Grade 7 and 8	Students will demonstrate and refine skills by applying the elements and principles of design in both 2-dimensional and 3-dimensional media. Drawing, painting, collage, and mixed media will be explored. Art production, art history, art criticism and aesthetics are the four areas of the 7 th /8 th grade art curriculum.
Band Grade 6	This course begins with an intro to music theory, including the staff, note names in treble and bass clef, rhythms, and an intro to the instruments in the band. Students will be given an opportunity to test on each instrument offered to see what his/her strengths are as a musician. Students will become proficient in their instrument.
Band Grade 7 and 8	Students will expand their musical knowledge and technique on their instrument. Students will perform in a parade, school concerts, and band festival.
Choir Grade 6, 7 and 8	A non-auditioned choir for all male and female 6 th grade singers. Singers will begin to learn the concepts of choral tone, sight-reading, and performance. Non-auditioned and auditioned groups are available to 7 th and 8 th grade singers.
Creative Arts Grades 6, 7, 8	Creative Arts introduces students to various arts. Students will experience elements of theatre, art, media, and social skills through a series of themes and projects. Students will learn the fundamentals of theatre, write skits/children's stories, be introduced to broadcasting media, and various software programs involved in presenting info to the public.
PE Team Sports Grade 6	Students will be introduced to a variety of team sports (soccer, football, basketball, softball, etc.) in an intramural physical education setting. There will be a team sports PE for girls, and one for boys.
PE Grades 6, 7, 8	Students will participate in non-contact activities including ping pong, pool, and foosball. Students will also participate in gym activities such as wiffle ball, indoor soccer, volleyball or basketball. Students will also participate in health discussions, and outdoor fitness activities.
Basketball, Football, Cross Country/Track, Dance, Cheer	These courses have various tryouts/requirements that must be met for participation. Further information will be given at the building.

Creative Projects Grades 7, 8	Students will investigate topics and complete research projects based on their interests. Students will also learn about leadership and teambuilding.
Honors Spanish I Grade 8	This course counts as a high school unit of foreign language. An A in English grade 7 will be required for enrollment. Grades earned in this course will be included in the high school grade point average.
ICT I	This course will prepare students with technology literacy, workforce, and academic skills necessary to compete in a global workforce.
ICT II	This course will prepare students with advanced technology literacy. Students will complete a study of various computer applications including design and business software. *Successful completion of this course meets the requirement for computer proficiency for graduation purposes and will be awarded a Carnegie unit. Grades earned in this course will be included in the high school grade point average.
Quest Grades 6, 7 and 8	Available to students who have an eligible gifted ruling.



Pearl High School Course Offerings



ENGLISH COURSES TAUGHT EACH YEAR:

Course/Credit	Prerequisite	Brief Course Description
English I 1 credit	8 th English	Required. Students improve their vocabulary, reading comprehension, writing, and grammar skills using a variety of grade-level appropriate literature.
Accelerated English I 1 credit	90 or above in Eng. 8, 85 or above in Hon. Eng. 8	Previously learned grammar skills are reinforced and new ones introduced primarily through writing. The student is required to read a teacher-selected novel the summer prior to the course.
English II 1 credit	English I	Required. Instruction includes vocabulary development, critical reading to comprehend, respond to, interpret, and evaluate various types of literature; researching and writing in a variety of formats and standard English grammar. The course is also designed to prepare students to be successful on the English II exit test, required for graduation.
Accelerated English II 1 credit	90 or above in Eng. I, 85 or above in Acc. Eng. I	In addition to all topics in English II, this course is designed to develop further writing and independent reading skills. Two summer reading selections will be required.
English III 1 credit	English II	Required. This course is a study of American literature in a variety of genre which explores the cultural contributions of historical time periods. Students will produce writing which reflects effective communication skills through the appropriate use of grammar, punctuation, and sentence structure with special emphasis on formal writing and detailed research project. One summer reading selection will be required.
Accelerated English III 1 credit	90 or above in Eng. II, 85 or above in Acc. Eng. II recommended	Students use their skills to engage in studies of themes in American lit, as well as to pursue their interests in creative writing and research. Students master rules of grammar, spelling, mechanics, and improve vocabulary. Submission of a research paper and oral presentation is required. Two summer reading selections will be required.
English IV 1 credit	English III	Required. This course is primarily an emphasis on literature and language usage. A variety of genres is covered (drama, novels, poetry, and short stories) as well as a survey of the various periods of literature throughout British literary history. In addition, there is an emphasis on language style, writing, and use of media in a technological world. Students study various styles of writing.

Course/Credit	Prerequisite	Brief Course Description
Advanced Placement English 1 credit	90 or above in Eng. III, 85 or above in Acc. Eng. III recommended	AP English is a college-level course, and our main goal is to prepare for the AP Exam, and for students' college English courses. Students will continue to have independent readings and will do a research project. Reading selections for this course will be a combination of American and English selections not covered in previous classes and some selections from British and World literature. It is very important that students read every assignment. This course relies heavily on writing, especially in response to literature. This course will follow the guidelines established by the College Board AP English and Literature outline. The Advanced Placement exam or a teacher equivalent exam must be taken in the spring.
Dual Credit English Composition I (ENG 1113) 1 credit	ACT English score of 17	Students will receive credit at both PHS and 3 hours of college credit through HCC. Grades will count in both college and high schools GPAs. (See Dual Credit policy in this book for further information). A 100\$ HCC enrollment fee and the purchase of needed textbooks are required.
Dual Credit English Composition II (ENG 1123) 1 credit	Successful completion of ENG 1113	Students will receive credit at both PHS and 3 hours of college credit through HCC. Grades will count in both college and high school GPAs. (See Dual Credit policy in this book for further information). A 100\$ HCC enrollment fee and the purchase of needed textbooks are required.
Oral Communication (Formerly known as Public Speaking/Debate) 1 credit	None	This course is designed to acquaint students with all aspects of communication. This includes studies of interpersonal, non-verbal, and business communication, drama, group communication, debate and public speaking.
World Literature (Formerly Mythology/Short Stories) 1 credit	None	This course is a survey of various works of world literature. The course will include reading of myths from several cultures. The content will also include an epic by Homer or Virgil. Discussions, individual presentations, and writing experiences will be required.
Journalism Yearbook or Newspaper 1 Credit	App./Teacher Approval Required	Students will develop skills in writing news, sports, editorials, and feature articles. Students will also learn the layout process of newspaper and/or yearbook development. Emphasis will be placed on working with other staff members and meeting deadlines. Students may apply to participate on either the Newspaper or the Yearbook Staff.

COURSES TAUGHT ON A ROTATIONAL BASIS IN THE ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

Course/Credit	Prerequisite	Brief Course Description
Creative Writing ½ Credit or 1 Credit	None	Creative Writing seeks to develop a student's abilities and talents through writing activities such as bio poems, chance poems, compositions, and short stories.
Mississippi Writers ½ Credit	None	This course offers an opportunity to explore the state's rich literary heritage through a study of short fiction, drama, and a novel. Selected works provide the student with an opportunity to study the influence of setting on plot, language, character development, and theme. Group discussions and individual presentations are required in the course.
Twentieth Century Lit. ½ Credit	None	This course covers major writers and themes in the Americas and Western Europe for the period from World War I to the present time. The student will recognize major themes present in twentieth century literature and will draw parallels to history and present day concerns.



MATH COURSES TAUGHT EACH YEAR:

Course/Credit	Prerequisite	Brief Course Description
Algebra I 1 Credit	Completion of 8 th grade math	Required. Algebra I provides a foundation in the language, basic skills and concepts of algebra. Topics include: rational numbers, algebraic expressions, linear equations, polynomials, factoring, applications, inequalities, graphing linear and quadratic equations, and systems of linear equations. The Algebra I exit exam required for graduation will be taken in the spring.
Geometry 1 Credit	Algebra I	Geometry is the development of a logical mathematical system from a set of undefined terms, defined terms, axioms, postulates, and theorems. Topics include: special relationships among points, lines, and planes, angle relationships, triangles, polygons, circles, and solids.
Honors Geometry 1 Credit	90 in Alg. I or 85 in 8 th grade Alg. I	Honors Geometry is the development of a logical mathematical system from a set of undefined terms, defined terms, axioms, postulates, and theorems. Topics include: special relationships among points, lines, and planes, angle relationships, triangles, polygons, circles, and solids. Topics will be covered in more depth than in geometry.
Algebra II 1 Credit	Geometry recommended, Algebra I required	Algebra II is a continuation and extension of the skills developed in Algebra I. Topics include: linear equations, relations and functions, polynomials, radicals, quadratic equations, systems of linear equations, logarithms, and matrices. Algebra II is requirement to go directly to a four year university, and will be taught at comparable rigor.
Honors Algebra II 1 Credit	90 in Alg. I or Geo., 85 in Honors Geo. or 8 th Algebra I	Honors Algebra II is a continuation and extension of the skills developed in Algebra I. Topics include: linear equations, relations and functions, polynomials, radicals, quadratic equations, systems of linear equations, logarithms, and matrices. Topics will be covered in more depth than in Algebra II.

Course/Credit	Prerequisite	Brief Course Description
Algebra III (Formerly Trig/Precal) 1 credit	Alg. II, 85 or higher preferred	*Counts as honors credit. Trigonometry is a comprehensive study of trigonometric functions with emphasis on applications. Topics include: circular functions, graphs of trigonometric functions, polar coordinates, trigonometric identities and equations, triangle trigonometry, law of sines, law of cosines, trigonometric addition formulas, double and half angle formulas. Pre-Calculus is an upper level mathematics course. Topics include: graph sketching, matrices, polynomial, exponential, and logarithmic functions, sequences and series, and probability.
Dual Credit Intermediate Algebra (MAT 1233)	17-19 on math section of the ACT, Alg II preferred	*Counts as ½ honors credit. Students will receive credit at both PHS and 3 hours of college credit through HCC. Grades will count in both college and high school GPAs. (See Dual Credit policy in this book for further information). A 100\$ HCC enrollment fee and the purchase of online homework access code and textbook are require.
Dual Credit College Algebra (MAT 1313)	20 on math section of the ACT, passed Algebra II	*Counts as ½ honors credit. Students will receive credit at both PHS and 3 hours of college credit through HCC. Grades will count in both college and high school GPAs. (See Dual Credit policy in this book for further information). A 100\$ HCC enrollment fee and the purchase of needed textbooks or online access codes are required.
Dual Credit Trigonometry (MAT 1323)	90 in Alg. II or 85 in Honors Alg. II	*Counts as ½ honors credit. Students will receive credit at both PHS and 3 hours of college credit through HCC. Grades will count in both college and high school GPAs. (See Dual Credit policy in this book for further information). A 100\$ HCC enrollment fee and the purchase of needed textbooks or online access codes are required.
Advanced Placement Calculus 1 Credit	85 or higher Algebra III (Trig/Precal)	AP Calculus includes a study of derivatives and integrals. Topics include: limits, continuity, and differentiation of functions, applications of derivatives, integrals, and applications of integrals. Graphing calculators and other technology are utilized. The Advanced Placement exam or a teacher equivalent exam must be taken.
SREB Math 1 Credit	Algebra I and Geometry	This survey of mathematics course will provide students with an overview of necessary math skills.



SCIENCE COURSES TAUGHT EACH YEAR:

Course/Credit	Prerequisite	Brief Course Description
Science Skills & Reasoning 1 Credit	8 th grade science	This course is designed to provide the skills needed to be successful in Biology. This course cannot be taken after a student has completed Biology. Content includes processing skills in science, the scientific method, and introduction to chemistry of the cell, ecology, and genetics. Required for all students with an 85 or lower in 8 th grade science.
Genetics ½ Credit and Zoology ½ Credit	Science Skills	The course will include a study of the cell, chemistry of the cell, genetic make-up of organisms, ecology, classification of animals, and natural selection.
Biology 1 Credit	Science Skills or 85 or higher in 8 th grade science with adequate MCT scores	This course provides both general and detailed studies of the natural world in order to instill in students an awareness of biological concepts. The content includes all competencies necessary to be successful on the Biology state exit exam taken in the spring. Passage of this exam is required for graduation.
Honors Biology 1 Credit	90 or higher in 8 th science, 85 or higher in honors science 8, adequate MCT scores	This course provides a detail study of the natural world in order to instill an awareness of biological concepts. The course includes characteristics of living things, scientific method, and chemical basis of life, genetics, cell biology, and ecology.
Human Anatomy & Physiology 1 Credit	75 or higher in Biology	This course is designed to provide accurate information on the structure and function of the human body. Each of the body systems and their relationship to each other will be covered.
Honors Human Anatomy 1 Credit	90 or higher in Bio, 85 or higher in Honors Bio	This course is designed to provide accurate information on the structure and function of the human body. Each of the body systems and their relationship to each other will be covered at an honors level pace.
Physical Science 1 Credit	Biology	This course is designed as a general survey of physics and chemistry.

Course/Credit	Prerequisite	Brief Course Description
Chemistry 1 Credit	80 or above recommended in previous science course	This course is strongly recommended for students planning a career in any science related area. The course includes the experimental bases of chemistry, matter and energy, formula writing, equation balancing, stoichiometry gas laws, solutions, equilibrium, acids and bases, and oxidation-reduction.
Honors Chemistry 1 Credit	90 or above in regular, or 85 or above in honors recommended in previous science course	This course is strongly recommended for students planning a career in any science related area. The course includes the experimental bases of chemistry, matter and energy, formula writing, equation balancing, stoichiometry gas laws, solutions, equilibrium, acids and bases, and oxidation-reduction. Course will be taught at an honors level pace.
Astronomy ½ Credit	None	This course provides opportunities for students to develop and communicate an understanding of astronomy.
Aerospace ½ Credit	None	The Aerospace Studies course will provide opportunities for students to develop and communicate an understanding of aerodynamics through lab-based activities, mathematical expressions, and concept exploration.
Physics 1 Credit	Chemistry	This course is a qualitative and quantitative study of the concepts of physics. Good math and science processing skills are needed to be successful in this course. (Course counts as 1 honors credit)
Advanced Placement Chemistry 1 Credit	90 average in regular or 85 average in honors chemistry	This course is designed for the student who successfully completed Honors Chemistry. Lectures and concepts are broader in scope than in Chemistry and greater in depth. Students may elect to take the AP exam at the end of the course.
Dual Credit Principles of Biology (BIO1113)	English ACT sub score of 14, Reading ACT sub score of 13	This course is designed for non-science college majors. Please see dual credit section of this book for more information. Credit will be earned for PHS and college, course counts in both high school and college GPA. In combination with the lab, 4 college hours will be earned.
Dual Credit Principles of Biology II (BIO1123)	English ACT sub score of 14, Reading ACT sub score of 13	This course is designed for non-science college majors. Please see dual credit section of this book for more information. Credit will be earned for PHS and college, course counts in both high school and college GPA. In combination with the lab, 4 college hours will be earned for this course.



HISTORY COURSES TAUGHT EACH YEAR:

Course/Credit	Prerequisite	Brief Course Description
Mississippi Studies ½ Credit	None	Required. Mississippi Studies is designed to foster appreciation for the state and its culture. The content will include the geographic, historic, economic, political, and social events that have contributed to the state's development.
Intro to Geography ½ Credit	None	Required. The World Geography course is designed to provide students with basic geographic content and skills. Students will master the content and skills by studying the five themes of geography while examining Africa, Antarctica, Asia, Australia and Oceania, Europe, Middle America, North and South America.
Honors Mississippi Studies ½ Credit	85 or higher in honors social studies, 90 or higher in regular	In addition to the work completed in Mississippi Studies, the student will engage in additional and more challenging work. This work may include, but is not limited to, outside readings and projects.
Honors Geography ½ Credit	85 or higher in honors social studies, 90 or higher in regular	In addition to the work completed in World Geography, the student will engage in additional and more challenging work. This work may include, but is not limited to, outside readings and projects.
World History 1 Credit	None- course generally taken in 10 th grade	Required. World History: 1750 to the present will focus on the development, connections, and global influences of the Eastern Hemisphere. Europe, Asia, and Africa are the continents of focus; however, connections to the Western Hemisphere should be made. Skill development will include primary documents and other social studies tools.
Honors World History 1 Credit	85 or higher in honors social studies, 90 or higher in regular	In addition to course work completed in World History, the student will engage in additional and more challenging work. This work may include, but is not limited to, outside readings and projects.

Course/Credit	Prerequisite	Brief Course Description
US History 1 Credit	None-course generally taken in 11 th grade following World History	Required. This course uses thematic units based on interwoven social, political, economic, and geographic changes in the United States from 1877 to the present. The course focuses on the role of the United States' transition from a young nation to a leadership role in the global arena. The student will trace the history of the United States from Reconstruction's end to the modern period. The required state exit exam will be given in the spring. Students must pass this exam to graduate.
Advanced Placement US History (1)	90 or higher in honors social studies strongly recommended	The student engages in a scholarly study of American History since 1492. Students are required to complete outside readings (including during the summer), analyze primary and secondary sources, write essays, and complete projects throughout the year. The conclusion of this course is marked by the administration of the AP exam, which, if "passed", confers college credit to the student.
U.S. Government ½ Credit	None-course generally taken in 12 th grade	Required. This course will provide students with an understanding of civic life, politics, and the constitutional process. It will also provide a basis for understanding the rights and responsibilities of citizens and a framework for competent and active participation.
Economics ½ Credit	None-course generally taken in 12 th grade.	Required. This course will develop an awareness of the relationship of world economic systems. The student will trace the American economic system and the impact of that system in a global setting. The student will develop an understanding of microeconomics and macroeconomics from individual finances to world economic organizations.
Honors U.S. Government ½ Credit	85 or higher in honors social studies, 90 or higher in regular	In addition to course work completed in US Government, the student will engage in additional and more challenging work. This work may include, but is not limited to, outside readings and projects.
Honors Economics ½ Credit	85 or higher in honors social studies, 90 or higher in regular	In addition to course work completed in Economics, the student will engage in additional and more challenging work. This work may include, but is not limited to, outside readings and projects.

Course/Credit	Prerequisite	Brief Course Description
Psychology ½ Credit	None	This course focuses on the history, advances in technology, and both internal and external influences that affect human mental development. The student will learn various elements of human behavioral development that emphasizes concepts such as “self-esteem” and “self-responsibility.”
Sociology ½ Credit	None	Sociology engages in the study of people and their social groups. The student will be done by examining how people behave in groups and how interactions shape both individual and group behaviors.
Honors Psychology ½ Credit	85 or higher in honors social studies, 90 or higher in regular	In addition to course work completed in Psychology, the student will engage in additional and more challenging work. This work may include, but is not limited to, outside readings and projects.
Honors Sociology ½ Credit	85 or higher in honors social studies, 90 or higher in regular	In addition to course work completed in Sociology, the student will engage in additional and more challenging work. This work may include, but is not limited to, outside readings and projects
Advanced World Geography 1 Credit	10 th -12 th grade	This year long World Geography course is designed for juniors and seniors to meet the Advanced Elective credit required by the Institutions of Higher Learning. An in-depth study of World Geography is taught.
Dual Credit Early Western Civ. (HIS 1113)	English ACT sub score of 17, Reading ACT sub score of 13	A survey of the history of civilization in the early Western World to about 1600 A.D., including Ancient Near and Middle Eastern civilizations, Ancient Greece, Rome, the Middle Ages, and the Renaissance and Reformation. The successful completion of this course gives the student a ½ credit in high school honors credit, and 3 hours of college credit. See dual credit section of this book for further information.
Dual Credit Modern Western Civ. (HIS 1123)	English ACT sub score of 17, Reading ACT sub score of 13	A survey of the history of civilization in the modern Western World since about 1600 AD, including the Age of Discovery, the Age of Absolutism, the Age of Revolution, the Nineteenth Century, the Era of the World Wars, and the Post-war World. The successful completion of this course gives the student a ½ credit in high school honors credit, and 3 hours of college credit. See dual credit section of this book for further information.

COURSES TAUGHT ON A ROTATIONAL BASIS

Course/Credit	Prerequisite	Brief Course Description
Law Education ½ Credit	None	This course is designed to study the importance of law in students' lives. A greater awareness of local, state, and federal law will be gained by students. The roles, rights, and responsibilities of students will be examined in the course.
Biblical History of the Ancient Middle East 1 Credit	None	This course is designed to use the bible to investigate the history, culture, geography, economics, and political systems of the Ancient Middle East.
Problems of American Democracy ½ Credit	Teacher Referral-USH remediation	Post World War II America is examined. The impact of the Cold War and the failure of communism in Europe is related to the economic, political, and cultural developments in the US. This course is primarily a remedial course for U.S. History.



BUSINESS/TECHNOLOGY COURSES TAUGHT EACH YEAR:

Course/Credit	Prerequisite	Brief Course Description
Computer Discovery or ICT II 1 Credit	Taught at PJH	These courses count as one high school Computer/Technology credit and grades are included in the high school GPA.
STEM 1 Credit	8 th or 9 th	A survey of innovative Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics concepts in terms of how they impact modern technologies.
Technology Foundations 1 credit	None	Designed to provide each student with introductory skills necessary to use computer hardware and software in daily life and in occupational tasks. This course is required if the student did not receive a credit in ICT2 or computer applications.
Web Design and Media Rich Content 1 Credit	ICT II or Tech Foundations	Web Design examines basic HTML editors and web publishing software. Course skills will include learning essential ways to develop a web site, an introduction to Microsoft Front Page software, and a study of Navigation structures.
Graphic Design I and II (.5), (.5)	ICT II or Tech Foundations	Students will use Adobe Mastersuite CS6 Collection to create projects as they apply to real world multi-media situations.
Graphic Design I and II Broadcasting	Application Only	Students will use Adobe Mastersuite CS6 Collection to create projects as they apply to real world multi-media situations with a focus on assisting the Pirate Media Network broadcasting team.
Accounting I 1 Credit	Algebra I	Students will learn Accounting terminology, principals, and procedures. Accounting I will prepare students for Accounting careers, or personal use.
Personal Finance ½ Credit	None	Students learn how to make important decisions about earning, saving and spending money, including budgets, banking services, investments, credit, and insurance.
Business Law ½ Credit	None	Business Ethics provides the student with the basic foundations of law as it relates to business. This course will equip the student with a workable knowledge of the law as it is applied to various legal situations that are encountered in personal and business situations.

COURSES TAUGHT ON A ROTATIONAL BASIS

Marketing 1 Credit	None	Introduces students to the processes involved in transferring business products or services to a customer. The students will study the foundations of marketing in terms of communications and interpersonal skills.
Entrepreneurship 1 Credit	None	Entrepreneurship is designed to equip students with introductory skills, which help prepare them to organize and run a business. Students are involved with activities such as developing market plans and applying economic concepts.
Business Fundamentals 1 credit	None	This course is designed for students who are interested in pursuing a business career. Courses in business fundamentals provide instruction in basic business skills and knowledge related to economic fundamentals, management, communications, finance, human relations, career development, ethics, and business etiquette.



COURSES TAUGHT FOR DRIVER'S EDUCATION

Course/Credit	Prerequisite	Brief Course Description
Driver's Education ½ Credit	10 th , 11 th , 12 th have priority- must obtain learners' permit outside of school hours.	Student must be at least 15 years of age; obtain a social security number and a certified copy of his/her birth certificate, and must have a learners' permit. This is a three-phase program that fulfills state requirements. The three phases include: classroom instruction, driving simulation, and behind-the-wheel driving. The classroom phase teaches the rules, regulations, and proper attitudes needed to be a successful participant in the highway transportation system. The simulation phase consists of driving computerized mock-up cars through a series of filmed situations. The students learn basic motor techniques and how to avoid situations that cannot be taught safely in the behind-the-wheel driving phase. The driving phase consists of rural, urban, and highway behind-the-wheel driving. The driving experience is individualized to each student's ability.
Summer Driver's Education ½ Credit	All grades must obtain learners' permit outside of school hours	Same content as above. However, a fee is required. Classroom hours will begin after school in May. Driving times will be scheduled in the summer. Sign up begins on April 1 st . Fee required at time of sign up.

Course/Credit	Prerequisite	Brief Course Description
Child Development ½ Credit	None	Child development is an instructional program that prepares individuals to understand the developing child from the prenatal period through early childhood. Course content includes stages of development, emotionally, socially, physically, and intellectually, as well as intergenerational and special needs of a child.
Family Dynamics ½ Credit	None	The philosophy of this course is to provide a basis in growth and development, to introduce the concept of the family as a system, and to equip students with basic information on the effects of their choices, now and in the future, on themselves and their families. This course will enable the student to investigate the consequences of actions and decisions so that he/she can choose wisely and maximize his/her potential.
Nutrition & Wellness ½ Credit	None	This course develops skills related to the importance of proper nutrition and the concept of overall wellness in modern life. Units of study include the basic principles of nutrition, the impact of diet on well-being, and food and behavior management for a healthy lifestyle.



COURSES TAUGHT FOR HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION

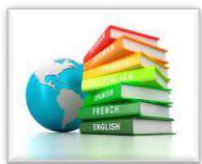
Note: The Physical Education required by the State Department of Education may be met by any of the following: PE Class, Advanced Fitness, MHSAA Sanctioned Sport, Marching Band, Choral Music, Dance, Cheerleading, or ROTC.

Course/Credit	Prerequisite	Brief Course Description
Health ½ Credit	None	Required. Comprehensive Health provides information on topics related to modern day life for teenagers. Terminology, mechanisms, and consequences of health-related choices are explored.
PE Boys ½ Credit PE Girls ½ Credit	None	Provides info on fitness, techniques, safety factors, and psychological, physiological, and social effects of fitness. Rules/techniques of various sports are presented and experiences in fitness and sports activities are provided. (Gym)
Advanced Fitness Boys ½ Credit	None	Advanced Fitness provides information on fitness, techniques, safety factors, and psychological, physiological, and social effects of physical fitness. (Class held primarily in weight room)

The following sports PE courses are currently offered during the school day. All are subject to MHSAA Academic Eligibility Requirements. A physical is also required.

PE/Football (.5/1)	Coach Approval	4 th block EACH day
PE/Baseball (.5/1)	Tryout Required	4 th block EACH day
PE/Basketball (.5/1)	Tryout Required	Girls team meets 3 rd block EACH day, Boys team meets 4 th block EACH day
PE/Fastpitch Softball (.5/1)	Tryout Required	4 th block every other day
PE/Cross Country (.5)	Coach Approval	4 th block EACH day unless every other day approved by Coach.
PE/Track (.5)	Coach Approval	4 th block EACH day unless every other day approved by Coach.
Cheerleading (.5/1)	Tryout Required	4 th block EACH day

Boys and Girls Soccer, Tennis, Slow Pitch Softball, Volleyball, Bowling, Powerlifting, Swimming, Archery and Golf meet after school.



COURSES TAUGHT IN THE FOREIGN LANGUAGE DEPARTMENT

Course/Credit	Prerequisite	Brief Course Description
French I 1 Credit	80 or above in English recommended, but not required	Emphasis is on a balanced, flexible coverage of the four skills of language with the continuous weaving of French culture and civilization. Students learn French by actively using the language. Oral comprehension and grammar are emphasized. Geography of France, historical figures, and history of Paris are also stressed.
French II 1 Credit	80 or above in French I recommended	Time is given to strengthening foundations in French, acquiring new, more complex grammatical structures, and extending vocabulary. History of France, French art, and French architecture are studied. Phonetic transcription and French poetry are emphasized. (Adequate number of students must sign up for this course to be taught)
Spanish I 1 Credit	80 or above in English recommended, but not required	This course provides a basic, fundamental Spanish vocabulary. Basic Spanish grammar is emphasized and practiced in the area of listening, speaking, reading, and writing. An overview of Spanish culture, and geography of Spanish-speaking countries is included.
Spanish II 1 Credit Honors Spanish II 1 Credit	80 or above in Spanish I recommended for Sp II, 90 or above in Sp I required for Honors	In this course the fundamental vocabulary from Spanish I is reinforced and enriched. The basic grammar from Spanish I is reviewed, and more complex grammatical structures are studied. More detailed knowledge of Spanish culture and geography of Spanish-speaking countries is stressed.
Spanish III 1 Credit	80 or above in Spanish II	In this course emphasis is on the application of the vocabulary and structures studied in Spanish II through conversations, presentations, themes, and reading comprehension activities. The history of the Spanish-speaking world is studied, and the students are introduced to Hispanic literature. (Course counts as 1 honors credit.)



NAVAL JR. ROTC PROGRAM

Naval Science I 1 Credit	None	To introduce students to the meaning of citizenship, the elements of leadership, and the value of scholarship in attaining life goals; engender a sound appreciation for the heritage and traditions of America, with recognition that the historically significant role of sea power will be important in America's future; develop in each cadet a growing sense of pride in his/her organization, associates, and self. These elements are pursued at a fundamental level. Includes introduction to the NJROTC program; ongoing instruction in leadership theory; principles of health education and first aid; discussion of the nation in relation to the Navy, sea power; history of maritime events and American maritime heritage from ancient Greece to colonial America; introduction of ships, seamanship, navigation, and maritime geography; drills, commands and ceremonies.
Naval Science II/ROTC 1 Credit	ROTC I	Further develop the traits of citizenship and leadership in students, introduces cadets to technical areas of naval science study, and engenders a deeper awareness of the vital importance of the world oceans to the continued well-being of the United States. Includes ongoing instruction in leadership theory, alternative forms of government, citizenship, naval orientation and career planning, and maritime history from the Civil War to World War I; introduces oceanography, practice in navigation, rules of the road, and naval operation; continues laboratory sessions in drills, commands, and ceremonies.

Course/Credit	Prerequisite	Brief Course Description
Naval Science III/ROTC 1 Credit	ROTC II	Broaden the understanding of students in the operative principles of leadership, the concept of significance of teamwork, the intrinsic value of good order and discipline in the accomplishment of assigned objectives, the fundamental of American democracy, and to expand their understanding of naval academic subjects. Includes ongoing instruction in leadership and discipline, navigation, seamanship shipboard indoctrination and naval history from World War II to Desert Storm. Introduces military justice and international law of the sea, meteorology, weather, astronomy, electricity, and naval electronics. Drills, commands, and ceremonies are continued.
Naval Science IV/ROTC 1 Credit	ROTC III	Comprehensive advanced-level study of naval historical and technical topics, and the opportunity to exercise leadership in positions of authority and responsibility within the unit, this course will prepare the student to readily accept the responsibility and importance of citizenship as it is related to the democratic principles upon which our country is founded. Naval leadership training and evaluation based on case studies and selected readings on leadership.
ROTC Drill Team	Instructor approval	The Naval ROTC drill team is composed of two separate teams, one armed and one unarmed. They are taught marching and exhibition drill. During the year the two teams will march in local parades and compete in competitions at high schools and college such as the University of Mississippi. Members of the drill teams may earn their varsity letter.



FINE ARTS PROGRAM

Visual Art Studio I and II 1/2 Credit/1/2 Credit	None	This course is a Studio/Art History class. In one semester the students will be taken on a visual journey from the Renaissance Period of Art through the Modern Art Period. The students will observe art, study the creators, discover the style characteristics, and explore the media of drawing, painting, sculpture, and architecture of each major period of art during this time span. These studio experiences include: drawing, painting, sculpture, collage, and mixed media projects. The four disciplines of art will be used to aid in this discovery: Art Criticism, Art Production, Art History, and Aesthetics. NO PRE-EXISTING ART SKILLS ARE NECESSARY FOR THIS COURSE.
Art I 1 Credit	None	Art I is recommended for students who have an interest art and in pursuing other art courses in high school. This course is designed to provide an opportunity for creative and intellectual development through learning in Visual Arts. Units of study will emphasize drawing skills, painting and color theory, print making, collage, sculpture, photography, and animation. Students will produce and study works of art and design. Students will increase their knowledge of production, critical analysis, history and culture, aesthetics, and connection among the visual arts, other content areas, and everyday life. Work will encompass both two and three dimensional art forms.
Art II 1 Credit	85 in Art I	Students will build on knowledge from Art I. Units of study will emphasize various drawing techniques, painting, calligraphy, batik, basic ceramics, and wire and plaster sculptures. Students will produce and study works of art and design. Students will increase their knowledge of production, critical analysis, history and culture, aesthetics, and connection among the visual arts, other content areas, and everyday life.

Course/Credit	Prerequisite	Brief Course Description
Ceramics I ½ Credit	Art II	Students will focus and build on hand building techniques introduced in Art I. Techniques will include pinch, coil, slab, and modeling. First nine weeks will focus on hand built traditional and modern pottery with emphasis on design and creativity. Second nine weeks will focus on hand built traditional and modern sculpture: relief, in-the-round, and a realistic bust self-portrait. Basic firing and glazing process will be introduced. Textural aspects will be explored as well as three dimensional forms. This is an advanced class that will continue on the basic skills in clay introduced in Art I and Art II.
Ceramics II ½ Credit	Art II/Ceramics I	In this course, students will be introduced to and explore wheel throwing techniques. The potter's wheel is as ancient as Ancient Egypt. The student will be taught the basics of throwing (making) pottery on a modern electric potter's wheel. They will create all the basic forms of pottery: cups, bowls, pitchers, plates, etc. Then they will glaze them with ceramic glazes. During the fourth nine weeks, the students will work independently to create combination pottery and sculpture works that combine all the techniques and skills from Ceramics I and II into advanced forms of art.
Drawing Studio ½ Credit	Art II	This program of study involves a broad range of drawing media, techniques, and processes. In this course, students will continue to develop prior skills acquired in Arts I and II. Students will increase their knowledge of production, critical analysis, and connections among the visual arts. Work will encompass two-dimensional art forms rendered and wet and dry drawing media, with an emphasis on working in black and white with an introduction to color techniques.
Painting ½ Credit	Art II	This program involves a broad range of painting media techniques and processes. This course involves a broad range of painting media, techniques, and processes. Work will encompass two-dimensional art forms rendered and wet and dry painting media with an emphasis on working in color with a continuation of skills development in black and white processes.

Course/Credit	Prerequisite	Brief Course Description
Photography ½ Credit or 1 Credit	2 years of art coursework	Photography I examines photography as a fine art form and as a tool for communication and personal expression. This advanced course is an introduction to the art of photography and digital design. Students will learn the history of photography, use and care of a digital camera, correction and manipulation of images via computer, and basic computer graphic design. (5 megapixel or higher digital camera is required).
AP Art Studio 2D Design Portfolio	Completion of Art II and an advanced art course	This course is designed for advanced art students seeking college art credit. Successful completion of Art I, Art II and an additional advanced art course is required.
Instrumental Music-Band 1 Credit Ensemble 1 Credit	Instructor approval	Instrumental music education is offered to qualified and interested students. Students must demonstrate the ability to play and count notes and rhythms from simple to complex. Students are exposed to various types of band literature and given opportunities to be creative and expressive, both in ensemble and solo settings. Band meets every day last block.
Choral Music 1 Credit	Instructor approval	Choral Music offers students the opportunity to develop talent and express their creativity through choral, ensemble and solo performance. Students must have the desire to sing and develop the art of singing. Students are exposed to music literature of all periods and styles. Basic music theory and sight-reading are learned, allowing the student to read a vocal part. (Concert Choir, Women's Chorus, Madrigals, Pearl Singers)
Dance 1 Credit	Tryout required	This course will instruct the student in the basic movement elements, creative process, cultural/historical principles of dance, critical analysis, and aesthetic development. 4 th block EACH day
Drama I 1 Credit	None	Students are introduced to all aspects of theater. They gain an understanding of the value of theater to society, as well as its historical importance. They obtain hands-on experience with the backstage/technical aspects of theater arts and will possibly participate in a stage production. They are required to attend and participate in after-school rehearsals and productions.

Course/Credit	Prerequisite	Brief Course Description
Drama II 1 Credit	Drama I	Drama II offers students with background knowledge of theater arts an opportunity to enhance their on-stage abilities. They study all aspects of acting and participate in a variety of stage productions. They are encouraged to attend and participate in after-school rehearsals and productions.
Theatre III/IV 1 Credit	Drama II or instructor approval	Theatre III students will receive advanced training in either performance or technical theater. They will be introduced to film/video medium and will write and direct one-act productions as well as work on the major productions staged by the school.
Theatre Production ½ Credit	Interest in drama, or staging, set building, creative prop making	This course is designed to provide students with an overview of drama. Students are introduced to some aspects of theater. They are also introduced to theatrical works through the use of videos, oral reading, and group discussion.
General Music 1 Credit	None	General Music attempts to reconnect music to human life and living in order to demonstrate its importance in our world. It exposes the student to all types of music from ancient music to today's popular hits.
Dual Credit Music Appreciation (MUS1113)	English ACT sub score of 17	This is a college Music Appreciation course. 3 hours college credit and 1 credit of high school credit may be earned. Please see dual credit policy in this book for further information.

Learning Strategies 9th (.5,1)	9 th graders with low reading MCT scores, MAP scores, and classroom grades	This course is designed to assist students obtain necessary reading, language, study and organizational skills necessary to be successful in the rigorous high school English and reading based content subjects. Students will be placed based on three indicators: MCT, MAP and grades.
Compensatory Reading and Writing (.5,.5)	10 th -12 th graders who have failed Eng II exit exam or are at high risk of failing the exam	This course is designed to give intensive, specialized reading instruction adjusted to the needs of students who do not perform satisfactorily in reading. It is to be taken in addition to the required English course. Teacher referred based on SATP test scores and/or MAP scores and classroom English performance.
Compensatory Math (.5,.5)	Students who have low math MCT or SATP scores, MAP scores, and classroom grades	This course is designed to give intensive, specialized math instruction adjusted to the needs of students who do not perform satisfactorily in math. It is to be taken in addition to the math courses. Teacher referred based on SATP, MCT, MAP or math classroom performance.
Learning Strat/ACT and PSAT Review (.5)	Recommended for students who have passed Geometry	This course will be taught periodically during, before, after school, or in a summer setting. Students will review activities that emphasize skills and concepts tested on the ACT.



Additional Opportunities to Earn Carnegie Units

Credit Recovery

Credit recovery is defined by the Mississippi Department of Education as a course-specific, skill based learning opportunity for students who have previously been unsuccessful in mastering content/skills required to receive high school course credit. The goal of the credit recovery program is to prevent students from dropping out of high school. The following guidelines have been established:

1. Counselors and administrators shall identify students appropriate for participation in a credit recovery program offered at Pearl High School. Students must obtain both principal and parental consent to enroll in credit recovery.
2. Course content shall be based on the Mississippi Curriculum Frameworks competencies and objectives.
3. The method of instruction will be determined by the principal based on available resources and can include the use of a teacher delivery system or an on-line, computer based program. All testing will occur in the presence of designated school personnel.
4. There is no fee for credit recovery that occurs during the school day, during the standard school year. At the principal's discretion, credit recovery courses may be completed outside of regular school hours or during the summer. A fee for these courses will be required.
5. Students may enroll in no more than one course at a time. Course work must be completed within one year for a full credit class and within a semester for a half credit class. Seniors must successfully complete spring semester courses and receive a grade by May 1 in order to participate in graduation exercises.
6. A grade of 65 will be awarded for the successful completion of credit recovery courses. The original grade will be changed in course history to a 65.

Summer School

According to state guidelines, a student enrolled in summer school is limited to earning one Carnegie unit of credit during the summer session. Written permission from the Principal is required if a student enrolls in a summer school program not under the auspices of the Pearl Public School District. Pearl High School does not conduct a summer school graduation for any senior who fails to graduate in May. Students enrolled in summer school programs provided by the Pearl Public School District will be assessed tuition based upon fees set by the district each year. ENGLISH II, BIOLOGY, US HISTORY & ALGEBRA I SUMMER SCHOOL CREDITS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

- Summer school courses require a minimum number of participants.
- The operation of the summer school program will comply with accreditation standards and will be self-supporting in terms of teacher salaries.
- The instructional program will provide students the opportunity to repeat a course failed during the school year or with the principal's permission to accelerate and earn additional credit.
- Students will comply with the policies in the [PHS Student Handbook](#). Any student who exceeds two absences in a two-semester course or one absence in a one-semester course will not be awarded credit for that course. The student will not be extended a refund.

- Discipline disturbances will result in the student's removal from summer school with no refund.

Correspondence Courses

The maximum number of units that may be earned by a student by correspondence is one unit. In order to receive credit, the following criteria must be met:

- The Commission of School Accreditation must approve the course.
- A graduating senior must order a correspondence course before February 1 and complete all work and tests before May 1.
- Students will not be allowed to enroll in Algebra I, Biology, English II, or US History correspondence courses.
- Students will not be allowed to enroll in an English correspondence course while taking another English course at PHS, unless special permission is granted by the principal.

Permission to enroll in a correspondence course must be granted by the building principal. A student must have completed 12 Carnegie Units before permission will be granted.

On Line Courses – PHS Guidelines

Students may not enroll in an on-line course without the approval of the counselor and principal. Only **three** total units of on-line coursework will be accepted towards a PHS diploma. Students wishing to take an on-line course should read this policy carefully and meet with their counselor to discuss Mississippi Virtual School policies.

Students will only be allowed to enroll in on-line courses under the following circumstances:

1. The student has failed a required course for graduation and wishes to retake the course on-line.
2. The student is short elective credits for graduation and needs to take an on-line elective credit to graduate on time.
3. The student wishes to take a course that is not offered at all at PHS (ex: German).
4. The student wishes to take an additional course to become IHL eligible. This would only be allowed in cases where the student cannot fit this course into his/her schedule during the school day at PHS.
5. Other unusual circumstances must be presented in writing and approval is at the discretion of the principal.

Notes:

1. Students will not be allowed to take a required course on-line unless they are repeating the course or meet the criteria listed above.
2. Students wishing to avoid taking a required course already offered at PHS will not be granted permission to take the course on-line.
3. Students who choose to re-take English in the summer on-line, must still complete the course before August 1st to be classified in the next grade.
4. Subject area tested courses will not be approved for on-line.



Mississippi Scholars Program

Pearl Public School District has partnered with local businesses and the Public Education Forum of Mississippi to motivate students to complete a rigorous course of study in high school. Business leaders may visit classes of 8th grade students prior to pre-registration to emphasize the need for selecting high school courses wisely. Seniors who complete the course requirements and additional expectations will receive recognition at Class Day and Graduation.

Course Requirements: *(AP/Dual Credit courses are acceptable substitutes)*

- 4 Credits English
- 4 Credits Math
- 4 Credits Science
- 4 Credits Social Studies
- 1 Credit Arts
- 2 Credits Advanced Elective – Foreign Language
- Must have 26 minimum credits – Students must earn a Standard Diploma through the Traditional Pathway

Additional Expectations:

- *40 hours of community or volunteer service during 4 years of high school
- *18 ACT Composite score (Overall Score)
- *2.50 cumulative high school GPA
- *95% School attendance during 4 years of high school (excused/unexcused absences)
- *No out-of-school suspensions
- *Must attain a passing score on all end of course exams, as established by the Mississippi Department of Education (MDE)



Mississippi Scholars Tech Program

Pearl Public School District has partnered with local businesses and the Mississippi Economic Council to motivate students to complete a rigorous course of study in high school. Business leaders may visit classes of 8th grade students prior to pre-registration to emphasize the need for selecting high school courses wisely. Seniors who complete the course requirements and additional expectations will receive recognition.

Course Requirements: *(AP and Dual Credit courses are acceptable substitutes)*

- *4 Credits English
- * 3 Credits Math
- * 3 Credits Science
- * 3 Credits Social Studies
- * 1 Credit computer
- * 1 Credit of PE/Health
- * 2 1/2 Credits electives in program of study
- * 4 CTE Credits

Additional Expectations:

- *Seniors of 2015-Later
- *40 hours of community or volunteer service during 4 years of high school
- *18 ACT Composite score (Overall Score)
- *2.5 Cumulative high school GPA
- *95% School attendance during 4 years of high school (excused/unexcused absences)
- *No out-of-school suspensions
- *Must attain a passing score on all end of course exams, as established by the Mississippi Department of Education (MDE)

