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# **Peters Township High School Course Description Book 2025-2026**

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## Course Offerings – Core and Elective

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The course offerings are listed alphabetically by department beginning with core departments, followed by electives and Western Area.

English	13
Math	18
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## SECTION I: INTRODUCTION

This Course Description Booklet provides Peters Township High School students and parents with essential information to assist in course selection and academic planning. Parents are encouraged to review this booklet and teacher recommendations with their child to ensure graduation requirements are met and to explore elective options.

Thoughtful course selection is crucial, as it influences staffing decisions and budget allocations for instructional materials. Students should also select alternate courses, as first choice options may be unavailable due to scheduling conflicts or limited enrollment.

This booklet is updated annually to reflect policy changes, legal mandates, and local adjustments. If changes occur during the scheduling process, the High School Administration will notify affected parties. Please note that meeting course requirements does not guarantee placement if demand exceeds available seats.

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### A. Course Request

Course selection begins once the online scheduling portal opens. Students have two weeks to review teacher recommendations and submit course requests for the 2025-2026 school year. All initial selections must be completed by **March 13, 2025**, after which the system will close. Course requests are reviewed for prerequisite fulfillment and appropriate placement. Final placement may be affected by enrollment numbers, application/audition approval, or dual enrollment considerations.

### B. Course Levels

Peters Township High School offers a rigorous college preparatory program with three course levels: Academic, Honors, and Advanced Placement (AP)/College in High School.

**Academic Courses:** College preparatory courses that build and strengthen analytical reading skills with homework reinforcing class concepts.

**Honors Courses:** Rigorous courses designed for students with analytical reading skills, often serving as a pathway to AP studies with frequent independent classwork and/or summer assignments.

**Advanced Placement (AP) Courses:** Equivalent to first-year college courses, following the College Board syllabi and preparing students for AP exams. High AP scores may earn college credit. These are the most demanding courses, requiring substantial outside study time and often including summer assignments.

**College in High School (CHS):** College-level courses taught at PTHS in partnership with accredited institutions. CHS courses carry the same rigor and weight as AP courses. In addition to high school credit, students have the opportunity to earn college credit.

### **C. Appeal Process**

Students may appeal placement decisions by submitting an Appeal Form (from Counseling Office) by **March 13, 2025**. The committee will review the appeal based on course criteria, academic performance, motivation, and teacher recommendations. Families will be informed of the decision

### **D. Add/Drop 5 Day Period**

Students may request a schedule change within the first five (5) days of the school year or semester. Changes are permitted based on space availability and may not include specific teacher requests, class order changes, or lunch period changes. Students are permitted to be scheduled for one year-long study hall. Students with a science lab may only be scheduled for one additional semester long study hall.

### **E. Placement/Level Changes**

Before requesting a course level change, students must demonstrate efforts to improve their performance, including completing all homework, meeting with the teacher, and attending tutoring sessions.

After the Add/Drop Period, the student and teacher may meet to initiate a formal request for a level change using the Course Placement/Level Change Form (from Counseling Office). If the request is approved, the grade from the original course will be transferred to the new course.

Please note that some core courses do not have equivalent level changes and may only be dropped or withdrawn. These include AP Chemistry, AP Biology, AP Physics C, AP Statistics, CHS Anatomy & Physiology, and Algebra III & Trigonometry.

### **F. Course Withdrawal**

Students experiencing difficulty in a course may request a withdrawal after the Add/Drop period. Students must demonstrate effort in coursework (completing assigned work, meeting with the teacher, etc) before submitting a Withdrawal Form (from Counseling Office). Course withdrawal requires the approval of the classroom teacher, parent, counselor and administration.

Approved withdrawals will be recorded as a "WP" (Withdrawal Passing) or "WF" (Withdrawal Failing) on transcripts. If the course is retaken, both grades will be recorded on the transcript.

## SECTION II: GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS (School Board Policy 217)

Seniors must meet all graduation requirements and clear all school obligations to participate in senior activities and the commencement ceremony. No exceptions will be made.

### A. Graduation Requirements (School Board Policy 217)

Required Courses	Credits
English	4.00
Social Studies	4.00
Science	4.00
Mathematics	4.00
Arts & Humanities (Fine Arts)	1.00
Physical Education	0.50
Health	0.50
Technology Course	0.50
Electives	7.50
Total	26.00

All high school students must also meet standards as required by Pennsylvania's Act 158 of 2018 as outlined in Section H.

Arts and Humanities includes all practical, fine arts, world language, and nonrequired English courses.

The Health requirement is met through the Personal Wellness course.

Courses listed as "Required Courses" satisfy the English, Social Studies, Science, and Mathematics credits. Courses identified as elective courses will be applied to satisfy the Elective or Arts & Humanities requirement.

As required of Act 86, students may complete an identified computer science or information technology courses to satisfy one mathematics or science credit requirement for graduation. Students must receive advanced approval using the **Computer Science Coursework Application** from the Counseling Office.

### B. Graduation Pathways/Keystone Requirement

The **Keystone Exams** are end-of-course assessments designed to evaluate proficiency in Pennsylvania academic standards in Algebra I, Literature (English 10), and Biology. These exams are a key component of Pennsylvania's high school graduation requirements. Participation in the Keystone Exams is mandated by federal regulations.

Keystone Exams are administered during the spring of the year in which the student is enrolled in the corresponding course. To meet graduation requirements, students must demonstrate proficiency in all three exams. Any student that does not achieve a score of Proficient or Advanced will be scheduled to retake the exam during the next designated testing window set by the Pennsylvania Department of Education. If a Proficient or Advanced score is still not attained after the second attempt, **Act 158 of 2018** and **Act 6 of 2017** established additional pathways for students in Pennsylvania public high schools to meet proficiency requirements.

## ACT 158: Pathways to Graduation

### Pathway 1: Keystone Proficiency

Students who are proficient or advanced on all three Keystone Exams (Biology, Algebra 1, and Literature) will have met the state graduation requirement.

- *Minimum Proficiency Score:* 1500 on each exam.

### Pathway 2: Composite Score

Students who do not reach proficiency on every exam may still graduate by achieving a satisfactory composite score across the Keystone Exams.

- **3-Exam Composite Score:** 4452 or higher
- The student must be proficient in at least one exam and cannot score below basic on any remaining exams.

### Pathway 3: Career & Technical Education (CTE)

Students who have not achieved proficiency in one or more Keystone Exams can still graduate by meeting the following CTE requirements:

- **Grade-based Requirements:** Passing grade in Algebra I, Biology, and English 10.
- **Industry-based Competency:** Attaining an industry-based competency certification related to the student's CTE program of study or demonstrating a likelihood of success on an industry-based competency assessment (e.g., MBIT program).

### Pathway 4: Alternative Assessment

Students who do not achieve proficiency in a Keystone Exam can meet graduation requirements by receiving a passing grade in Algebra I, Biology, and English 10 and achieving at least one of the following:

- **PSAT Composite:** 970 or higher
- **SAT Composite:** 1010 or higher
- **ASVAB Composite:** 31 or higher
- **ACT Composite:** 21 or higher
- **AP Score:** Score of 3 or higher in the related Keystone content area(s)
- **College Acceptance:** Acceptance into a 4-year college or university
- **Concurrent Course Completion:** Successful completion of courses related to the Keystone deficiency area(s), such as AP Biology
- **Pre-apprenticeship Program:** Successful completion of a pre-apprenticeship program

### Pathway 5: Evidence-Based

Students who have not achieved proficiency in a Keystone Exam can meet graduation requirements by receiving a passing grade in Algebra I, Biology, and English 10 and submitting a combination of three pieces of evidence from the following:

- **List A (at least one required):**
  - Attainment of a score of 3 or higher on any AP exam
  - Industry-recognized credential
  - Acceptance into a post-secondary institution (other than a 4-year college/university) for college-level coursework
  - Successful completion of any concurrent or post-secondary course
- **List B (no more than two):**
  - Proficiency or advanced score on any Keystone Exam
  - Letter guaranteeing full-time employment or military enlistment
  - Successful completion of a service-learning project
  - Successful completion of an internship, externship, or cooperative education program
  - Compliance with NCAA D2 academic requirements

### C. Grading Scale

Letter Grade	Percentage
A	100% - 90%
B	Below 90% - 80%
C	Below 80% - 70%
D	Below 70% - 60%
F	Below 60% - 0%

**NOTE: Percentages are not used in the computation of the final grade.** The final grade average is listed on the transcript for full-year courses as a letter grade. If a student receives three F's in a full year class, they automatically fail. If a student receives two F's in a semester class, they automatically fail. Reference the PTHS website: <http://www.ptsd.k12.pa.us/AcademicSupport.aspx>

### D. Final Exams/Summative Assessments

Final examinations are scheduled at the end of each semester for semester courses and at the end of the school year for yearlong courses. Students are scheduled for no more than two core final exams on the same day. Students who take an Advanced Placement test may not be required to take the final exam in the associated AP course.

The goal of a final exam or summative assessment is to evaluate student learning at the end of a course and to prepare students for the cumulative assessments at the collegiate level. Core classes, including English, Mathematics, Science and Social Studies utilize a cumulative final exam at the end of the school year. Elective courses may utilize a traditional final exam or other form of summative assessment such as a final project or paper.

### E. Grade Point Average (School Board Policy 214)

Students will receive a cumulative unweighted and weighted Grade Point Average (GPA) that will be reflected on student transcripts.

Unweighted GPA is determined by dividing the total quality points by the total eligible credit hours. Grade points are numerical values assigned to grades (A = 4, B = 3, C = 2, D = 1, F = 0).

Weighted GPA is only calculated at the end of each school year when the weighted credit for each eligible course is added. Weighted GPA is calculated using an added value for Advanced Placement (AP) and Honors courses. Grades of D and F in Honors and AP courses will not be given additional weight. The formula for calculating weighted GPA is:

$$\text{Weighted GPA} = \text{unweighted GPA} + \left[ \frac{1}{24} (4a + 3b + 2c) + \frac{1}{12} (4A + 3B + 2C) \right] / Y$$

a, b, c = \* number of As, Bs, Cs in Honors Courses

A, B, C = \* number of As, Bs, Cs in AP Courses

Y = number of years completed at the high school (Y cannot exceed 4).

\*Note that a, b, c and A, B, C should equal 0.5 for semester courses and 1.0 for full year courses

### F. Early Graduation

Intentions for early graduation must be made through the counseling office prior to the first day of the school year in which graduation is intended. The student must submit their plan to meet graduation requirements in writing to their counselor for review and approval. Within School Board Policy 217 Graduation Requirements: "The fourth year of high school shall not be required for graduation if a student has completed all requirements for graduation and attends a post-secondary institution as a full-time student. A student may qualify for graduation by attending a District school part-time when lawfully employed part-time or when officially enrolled part-time in a postsecondary institution."

## SECTION III: OPTIONAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

### A. Outside Course Offerings (Online/Dual Enrollment)

Students at Peters Township High School may receive high school credit for approved courses taken outside of the high school. This option is available for students who have progressed beyond the courses offered at the high school or who wish to explore subjects not included in the current curriculum. Through dual enrollment, students can take college-level classes and earn credits toward graduation.

Before enrolling in any college or online course, students must obtain prior authorization to ensure the credits will transfer. Online courses must be from accredited institutions and will not receive weighted credit. All expenses related to these courses, including tuition, transportation, materials, and supplies, are the responsibility of the student and their family. To gain approval for dual enrollment or online credit, students must follow the outlined procedures.

#### Applying for credits taken outside the district:

1. Complete the **Enrollment Application for Courses Offered Outside of PTHS** (from Counseling Office) for each course offered outside Peters Township High School. This form must be completed in its entirety for approval to be considered. Approval is not guaranteed.
2. When completing the application, please list only one requested course per form.
3. Submit the application to your school counselor.
4. Source schools offering online courses must be accredited educational institutions. Evidence of accreditation must be provided. The curriculum and expectations of the online course must match those of Peters Township High School.
5. If the course is approved and successfully completed, all “official” transcripts from the source school must be submitted to the student’s school counselor on or before the close of the school district’s grading period. Failure to meet this deadline will result in a disqualification of eligibility for graduation credit and inclusion of any information on the student’s official high school transcripts. If there are issues or problems with grading, it is the student’s responsibility to meet with his/her School Counselor immediately upon the issue being discovered.

### B. CCBC High School Academies

In partnership with the Community College of Beaver County, students in grades 11 and 12 have the opportunity to earn up to 28 college credits in conjunction with earning a high school diploma. CCBC offers set curriculum in person or virtually. All costs associated with college classes or online courses including but not limited to tuition, transportation, related materials and supplies are the responsibility of the student and family. Contact the counseling office for more information. or visit the CCBC High School Academy website: <https://www.ccbc.edu/high-school-academies>



### C. Western Area Career and Technology Center (WACTC)

Students who are eager to explore technical education while completing their high school requirements at Peters Township High School may apply to attend Western Area Career and Technology Center (WACTC) in grades 10 - 12. At WACTC, students gain hands-on experience, industry certifications, and real-world skills that prepare them for high-demand careers. Program offerings and descriptions are outlined in the last section of this book. To learn more, see [WACTC Secondary Education Programs](#).



#### D. College in High School (CHS)

Peters Township High School offers CHS courses in partnership with the University of Pittsburgh, Carlow University, Seton Hill University, Point Park University, and Robert Morris University for the courses listed below. Students who wish to receive college credit are responsible for associated tuition and fees.

(please refer to course descriptions for specific offerings):

College in High School (CHS) Courses			
<b>Computer Programming Java</b> HS # 0837 Pitt # - CS007	<b>Anatomy &amp; Physiology</b> HS # - 0873 Carlow # -BIO101/BIO102	<b>Media TV Pro III, IV, V, VI</b> HS # - 0024 Point Park #BPMM195	<b>Marketing*</b> HS# 0808 Robert Morris# MARK2000
<b>AP/CHS French*</b> HS # - 0574 Seton Hill # SFR245-	<b>AP/CHS German*</b> HS # - 0579 Seton Hill # -SGE210	<b>AP/CHS Spanish*</b> HS # - 0576 Seton Hill # -SSP250	

**\*Pending School Board and/or University approval**

#### E. Independent Study (School Board Policy 118)

The Peters Township School District recognizes that a student may benefit from diverse learning experiences that are beyond the scope and sequence of the curriculum offered by the District. This policy provides qualified students with the opportunity to enrich their education through an independent study process. Independent study shall be granted under exceptional circumstances to enhance a student's learning experience or shall be granted in the event a student cannot participate in a course offered by the District due to an unavoidable scheduling conflict. An independent study program requires special effort and commitment on the part of the student, parent, and school district to meet the individual educational interest of the student.

##### Procedures for applying for independent study:

- 1. Application and Proposal:** Submit an independent study application (from Counseling Office) by the 10th day of the semester, including a written proposal developed with a mentor teacher outlining specific objectives.
- 2. Approval Process:** A committee (mentor teacher, school counselor, administrator) reviews the plan and submits it to the superintendent for final approval.
- 3. Completion Timeline:** All work must be finished by the 85th day of the semester to earn credit.
- 4. Credit and Records:** Independent study courses appear on transcripts as pass/fail unless a grade is approved. Pass/fail courses are excluded from GPA calculations. Plans and assessments are stored in the student's permanent record until graduation.
- 5. Course Limits:** Students may take one independent study course per semester.
- 6. Additional Guidelines:** Brief non-credit courses for skill remediation or preparation may be developed but do not count toward graduation requirements or GPA.
- 7. Transportation:** The district does not provide transportation for independent study.

#### F. Mentorships

The high school offers mentorships through Anatomy and Physiology Mentoring for students who meet course prerequisites, secure a teacher recommendation, and maintain good attendance, grades, and discipline. Students must provide their own transportation. Mentorships must be requested during course selection and students must complete the Application Form for Mentorship from the Counseling Office.

#### G. Credit Recovery

Students may enroll in credit recovery courses at their own expense to improve grades or recover credits for failed or "D" grades. Information on course options is available through the school counseling office and website. Both the original and recovery grades will appear on transcripts and factor into GPA calculations. Courses may be completed at area high schools, accredited online programs, or colleges, with a three (3) credit college course equaling one (1) high school credit. High school courses must meet a 120-hour minimum for credit.

## **H. Work Release**

Seniors in good academic standing may qualify for a non-credit work release program. The District does not provide transportation. To be considered, students must follow the Application Requirements.

### **Application Requirements:**

1. Verifiable job at the time of application.
2. Employer letter on company letterhead confirming the student's work schedule during the school day.
3. Completed Work Release Application (from Counseling Office) signed by a parent/guardian.
4. School counselor's signature confirming the student has enough credits to graduate.

### **Work Release Student Requirements:**

1. Work a minimum of 15 hours per week during school release time (Monday–Friday).
2. Sign out at the attendance desk and leave through the front door.
3. Notify the School Counseling Office if employment ends or changes.

### **Restrictions:**

1. Students may not be self-employed, work for family members, or work “under the table” without employer liability and workers' compensation insurance.
2. Work release may be revoked due to attendance, academics, behavior, or non-compliance with monthly requirements.

## **I. Learning Support Services**

All Learning Support Services are provided for students who, according to state guidelines, have qualified for learning support services. Qualifying students will be scheduled through their respective school counselors, along with careful recommendations and considerations from their case manager. Potential Learning Support classes include but are not limited to the following: Fundamental English, Essentials of Math, Computational Math, Language Arts, and Directed Study.

## **J. Enrollment in High School Courses for Middle School Students**

Peters Township Middle School students may qualify to enroll in high school courses during the school day. These courses will count toward both high school graduation credits and the student's high school GPA. The middle school counselor will coordinate the enrollment process.

To be eligible for enrollment in high school courses, middle school students must meet the following criteria:

- **Completion of prerequisites:** Provide documented evidence that all prerequisites have been met and successfully complete any required academic screening mechanisms.
- **Recommendations:** Obtain a recommendation from the middle school academic team.
- **Parental Consent:** Secure parental approval prior to placement.

## Career Clusters

Career clusters group careers based on similar skills and training requirements. Use the Career Interest Profiler in Naviance to identify the career clusters that align with your interests and abilities. Each course in this guide lists its associated career clusters below the course description. *The following information is provided by Naviance.*

### **Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources -**

**AFN**

The Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources Career Cluster prepares learners for careers in the planning, implementation, production, management, processing, and/or marketing of agricultural commodities and services, including food, fiber, wood products, natural resources, horticulture, and other plant and animal products. It also includes related professional, technical and educational services.

### **Architecture and Construction**

**AC**

The Architecture and Construction Career Cluster prepares learners for careers in designing, planning, managing, building and maintaining the built environment. People employed in this cluster work on new structures, restorations, additions, alterations and repairs.

### **Arts, Audio/Video Technology and Communications**

**AVTC**

The Arts, Audio/Video Technology and Communication Career Cluster offers two different avenues of concentration. Careers in the Performing Arts, Visual Arts or certain aspects of Journalism, Broadcasting and Film require courses and activities that challenge students' creative talents.

### **Business Management and Administration -**

**BMA**

The Business Management and Administration Cluster prepares learners for careers in planning, organizing, directing and evaluating business functions essential to efficient and productive business operations. Career opportunities are available in every sector of the economy and require specific skills in organization, time management, customer service and communication.

### **Education and Training**

**ET**

This Education and Training Career Cluster prepares learners for careers in planning, managing and providing education and training services, and related learning support services. Each year many learners train for careers in education and training in a variety of settings that offer academic instruction, career technical instruction, and other education and training services.

### **Finance**

**F**

The Finance Career Cluster prepares learners for careers in financial and investment planning, banking, insurance and business financial management. Career opportunities are available in every sector of the economy and require specific skills in organization, time management, customer service and communication.

### **Government and Public Administration**

**GPA**

Government affects everyone in countless ways. In a democratic society, government is the means of expressing the public will. In fact, virtually every occupation can be found within government. There are some activities unique to government. The federal government defends the public from foreign aggression; represents the nation's interests abroad; deliberates, passes and enforces laws; and administers many different programs. State and local governments pass laws or ordinances and provide vital services to constituents. There are many opportunities in government in every career area. The Government and Public Administration Career Cluster focuses on unique careers only available within government.

### **Health Science**

**HSc**

The Health Science Career Cluster orients students to careers that promote health, wellness, and diagnosis as well as treat injuries and diseases. Some of the careers involve working directly with people, while others involve research into diseases or collecting and formatting data and information. Work locations are varied and may be in hospitals, medical or dental offices or laboratories, cruise ships, medivac units, sports arenas, space centers, or within the community.

## **Hospitality and Tourism** HT

The Hospitality and Tourism Cluster prepares learners for careers in the management, marketing and operations of restaurants and other food services, lodging, attractions, recreational events and travel-related services. Hospitality operations are located in communities throughout the world.

## **Human Services** HS

This diverse Career Cluster prepares individuals for employment in career pathways related to families and human needs.

## **Information Technology** IT

A career in IT is challenging and ever-changing. Those who pursue jobs in the IT sector will quickly discover ongoing opportunities to learn about and work with exciting new technologies that are transforming the world. IT education can be obtained in high schools, technical colleges/institutes and universities.

## **Law, Public Safety, Corrections and Security** LPCS

The Law, Public Safety, Corrections and Security Career Cluster helps prepare students for careers in planning, managing, and providing legal, public safety, protective services and homeland security, including professional and technical support services.

## **Manufacturing** - M

This diverse Career Cluster prepares learners for careers in planning, managing, and performing the processing of materials into intermediate or final products. Careers also include related professional and technical support activities such as production planning and control, maintenance and manufacturing/process engineering.

## **Marketing** - Mark

This diverse Career Cluster prepares learners for careers in planning, managing and performing marketing activities to reach organizational objectives.

## **Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics** - STEM

A career in science, technology, engineering or mathematics is exciting, challenging, and ever-changing. Learners who pursue one of these fields will be involved in planning, managing, and providing scientific research and professional and technical services including laboratory and testing services, and research and development services.

## **Transportation, Distribution and Logistics** TDL

The Transportation, Distribution and Logistics Career Cluster exposes students to careers and businesses involved in the planning, management, and movement of people, materials, and products by road, air, rail and water. It also includes related professional and technical support services such as infrastructure planning and management, logistic services, and the maintenance of mobile equipment and facilities.

# English Course Offerings

English is essential for developing critical reading, writing, and communication skills that are fundamental to success in any career or academic path. Over four years, students engage with a variety of literature, hone analytical thinking, and refine their ability to express ideas clearly and effectively. These skills not only prepare students for college and the workforce but also empower them to navigate and contribute meaningfully to an increasingly complex and interconnected world. Each student must be enrolled in one of the required English courses each year. To meet graduation requirements, student must earn 4 credits in English.

Required Course Offerings			
Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
English 9 Academic English 9 Honors	English 10 Academic English 10 Honors	English 11 Academic English 11 Honors AP English Language & Composition	English 12 Academic English 12 Honors AP English Literature & Composition
Semester Electives			
The Bible in Literature I (9,10,11,12) The Bible in Literature II (9,10,11,12) Humanities (9,10,11,12) Movies and Meaning (9,10,11,12)		Speech (9,10,11,12) World Mythology (9,10,11,12) Creative Writing (10,11,12)	Theater Arts I (9,10,11,12) Theater Arts II (9,10,11,12)

## ENGLISH 9 ACADEMIC (0101)

Grade 9

1.0 credit

1 year

This course continues the sequential study of skills in reading, writing, speaking and listening, and research. Students will increase independent reading and analysis skills by studying elements and devices of novels, dramas, short stories, and poetry. Students will apply the writing process in order to improve grammar and written expression in paragraph and multi-paragraph literary analysis. Students will also express their ideas orally in small and large group discussion and presentations. They will apply the research process in order to supplement their understanding of the historical contexts of literary works.



## ENGLISH 9 HONORS (0102)

Grade 9

1.0 credit

1 year

**Recommended for students with a “B” or higher in 8th-grade English or a teacher recommendation**

Throughout the course students will be expected to interpret, analyze and apply the assigned literature selections to a variety of analytical papers and projects which will demonstrate understanding of the texts. Students will be responsible for conducting research to accompany and support interpretations. We will also review the basics of grammar as tailored to the needs of individual classes and effectively implement those basics into our writings. A major component of English 9 Honors is the exploration of literary genre, with an emphasis on short story, novel and drama. We will explore and enjoy literature by delving into subtleties of figurative language, form, and mood to better appreciate theme. *Required summer reading will be assessed upon entrance to the course.*



ENGLISH 10 ACADEMIC (0104)

Grade 10

1.0 credit

1 year

**Prerequisite:** Completion of English 9

With a focus on World Literature, students will read short stories, plays, and novels while emphasizing the philosophical and cultural contexts of the texts. This course reviews grammatical principles with the emphasis upon mechanics and usage. Students refine their understanding of more complex aspects of literary analysis. Students are taught to recognize their personal needs in communication and work for personal improvement in informal as well as formal communication. Students involve themselves in prewriting and revision activities and become more familiar with all aspects of the writing process.



ENGLISH 10 HONORS (0105)

Grade 10

1.0 credit

1 year

**Prerequisite:** Completion of English 9

**Recommended for students with a “B” or higher in English 9 Honors or an “A” in English 9 Academic**

With a focus on World Literature, this course is designed as a Pre-AP program in language arts skills. Students will read selections from ancient texts to contemporary works reflecting a variety of philosophical and cultural contexts. Emphasis is placed on text-based analysis; clear, correct and coherent writing; and knowledge of literary terminology as a tool for critical study. *Summer reading of designated books is required and will be assessed during the first week of school.*



ENGLISH 11 ACADEMIC (0107)

Grade 11

1.0 credit

1 year

**Prerequisite:** Completion of English 10

This course provides a survey of American Literature through reading comprehension with an emphasis on citing textual evidence to develop written and oral analysis. Students' compositions must reflect proficient understanding of structure, development and clarity. Students identify and improve clear, grammatical constructions and are encouraged to eliminate substandard patterns of language.



ENGLISH 11 HONORS (0108)

Grade 11

1.0 credit

1 year

**Prerequisite:** Completion of English 10

**Recommended for students with a “B” or higher in English 10 Honors or an “A” in English 10 Academic**

This advanced course focuses on American Literature and explores how universal themes are represented in American culture from Puritan times to the present. Students read and discuss many complete works of literature rather than survey materials. The writing component emphasizes analytical and critical compositions. Students will read designated literary works during the summer prior to junior year and will complete an assessment during the first weeks of school. *Required summer reading will be assessed upon entrance to the course.*



ADVANCED PLACEMENT LANGUAGE AND COMPOSITION (0140)

Grades 11, 12

1.0 credit

1 year

**Prerequisite:** Completion of English 10

**Recommended for students who earned a grade of “B” or higher in English 10 Honors or an “A” in English 10 Academic**

AP Language and Composition engages students in becoming skilled readers of prose written in a variety of rhetorical contexts, and in becoming skilled writers who compose for a variety of purposes. Through their writing and reading experiences, students will be aware of the interactions among a writer's purposes, audience expectations, and subjects as well as the way generic conventions and resources of language contribute to effectiveness in writing. Required summer reading will be assessed upon entrance to the course. Students who complete this course are expected to take the AP examination in May at the student's expense.





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<b>ENGLISH 12 ACADEMIC (0110)</b>	<b>Grade 12</b>	<b>1.0 credit</b>	<b>1 year</b>
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**Prerequisite: Completion of English 11**

This course is a chronological survey of English literature (and related supplemental interdisciplinary material) focusing on literary analysis, critical thinking, and reading skills. Communication skills are enhanced via assorted oral and written assignments, which challenge the students' sense of articulation and clarity.



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<b>ENGLISH 12 HONORS (0113)</b>	<b>Grade 12</b>	<b>1.0 credit</b>	<b>1 year</b>
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**Prerequisite: Completion of English 11**

**Recommended for students who earned a grade of “B” or higher in English 11 Honors or AP or an “A” in English 11 Academic**

Students will begin their study of British literature with an exploration of Greek drama from the 5<sup>th</sup> century BC, viz., *Oedipus Rex* as the basis for all future drama. Students will also study a range of British literary masterworks spanning several centuries. Primary instruction and emphasis will be on close reading and the subsequent strengthening of critical thinking, reading comprehension, communication skills and critical analytical composition skills requiring text-based evidence. Assessments will include objective texts, essays, compositions, oral reports, and research. Required summer reading will be assessed upon entrance to the course. Honors weighting will apply.



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<b>ADVANCED PLACEMENT LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION (0111)</b>	<b>Grade 12</b>	<b>1.0 Credit</b>	<b>1 year</b>
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**Prerequisite: Completion of English 11**

**Recommended for students with an “A” in AP Language and Composition or English 11 Honors or teacher recommendation**

This course approximates the college experience where students assume a greater role in the learning process. Accordingly, students will be expected to contribute constructively to the discussion of world masterpieces. The primary objective of the course is to develop analytical skills and effective writing, so there is an emphasis on close reading, literary analysis, and composition of critical essays. Prior to the beginning of senior year, students will read a detailed essay on the art of literary analysis. Students will be assessed on this required summer reading upon entrance to the course, and the text will be referenced continually throughout the year. Students who elect this course are expected to take the AP examination in May at the student's expense.



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**English Elective Course Offerings**

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<b>THE BIBLE IN LITERATURE I (01200NL)</b>	<b>Grades 9, 10, 11, 12</b>	<b>0.5 credit</b>	<b>1 semester</b>
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This semester course will provide students with the opportunity to study one of the most influential books ever written - the Bible. In the Bible in Literature I, students will learn about the different kinds of writing and the various books that make up the Old Testament, also known as the Hebrew Scriptures. Parts of the Bible like Genesis, Exodus, the Prophets, and the Psalms will be read for their literary impact and narrative appeal. In addition, students will also read other classic works of literature - a novel, short stories, and poetry - to analyze and interpret the Bible's influence. Knowledge of the Bible and its stories has long been recommended by colleges and universities because of the many biblical allusions that are found in great literature.



**THE BIBLE IN LITERATURE II (0121ONL)****Grades 9, 10, 11, 12****0.5 credit****1 semester**

**Bible in Literature I is not a prerequisite for Bible in Literature II. The courses are not sequential.**

This semester course will provide students with the opportunity to study one of the most influential books ever written - the Bible. Students will read the Gospels and other writings of the New Testament and examine biblical allusions in classic literature. Students will read other classic works of literature - a novel, short stories, and poetry - to analyze and interpret the Bible's influence. Knowledge of the Bible and its stories has long been recommended by colleges and universities because of the many biblical references that are found in great literature.

**CREATIVE WRITING (0116)****Grades 10, 11, 12****0.5 credit****1 semester**

"If a story is in you, it has got to come out," declares William Faulkner. This writing workshop course provides an opportunity for students to develop their abilities in writing short fiction, poems, and other creative pieces. Informal instruction and discussions center on work to be completed in an independent or team environment. Our goals are to become more confident in expressing our thoughts and feelings in words, while stretching our abilities by experimenting with a variety of styles of creative writing. Opportunities for publication will also be explored.

**HUMANITIES (0112)****Grades 9, 10, 11, 12****0.5 credit****1 semester**

The stories we tell and the art we create reveal something about who we are as individuals and how we relate to the world around us. This course explores philosophy, art, architecture, literature, and film that address life's big questions: what does it mean to be human, what is the meaning of life, what is the nature of reality, how do we define our sense of self, and what is the role of art and beauty? A study of the humanities is a study of these questions and how humans have tried to answer these questions throughout history. Philosophy, literature, architecture and the visual and performing arts all contribute to what makes us, us, to what distinguishes humans from other animals. The Humanities class is, therefore, a multidisciplinary course designed for you to explore various branches of culture. In this course you will gain new perspectives, articulate your own views, increase your cultural awareness, practice the art of thinking, and maybe even shape the very essence of who or what you are.

**MOVIES AND MEANING (0122)****Grades 9, 10, 11, 12****0.5 credit****1 semester**

Great films explore great themes, which help us get acquainted with our own lives. In this class, students will view, discuss, write about, and research some of the world's finest and most renowned examples of cinema. Students will learn to "read" film in order to appreciate, interpret, and critique history's most complex art form.

**SPEECH (0114)****Grades 9, 10, 11, 12****0.5 credits****1 semester**

"Speech is power: speech is to persuade, to convert, to compel." ~ Ralph Waldo Emerson, American philosopher. This highly recommended semester class is a practical course designed to offer the novice speaker numerous opportunities to prepare and practice public speaking assignments. Students will become strategic, confident, and credible communicators in academic settings, the workplace, and the community. Emphasis is on the organization, research support, delivery, and evaluation of informative, persuasive, entertaining, and inspirational speeches. The meaningful use of presentation technology will also be included. Speech class offers the opportunity to make yourself heard. What's stopping you?





**THEATER ARTS I (0677)****Grades 9,10,11,12****0.5 credit****1 semester**

Students do NOT need prior acting experience to enroll in this course, although a basic understanding and appreciation of the art form is encouraged. This is a performance-based course that offers activities in the art and craft of live theatre. The student will have the opportunity to investigate several topics such as group and solo acting, improvisation, and pantomime as well as gain knowledge of the technical arts of costume, makeup design, and stage management.

**THEATER ARTS II (0678)****Grades 9, 10, 11, 12****0.5 credit****1 semester****Prerequisite: Completion of Theater Arts I**

Students in this performance-based course will build on the acting skills and theory learned from Theater Arts I. The course combines the theory of acting with ample performance opportunities requiring much enthusiasm, creativity and effort thereby building confidence and marketable skills to this performing art. This course will concentrate heavily on characterization, script analysis, performance, audition skills, and written self-reflections and peer review. This course is for the advanced student of acting who wishes to push their craft to the next level.

**WORLD MYTHOLOGY (01300NL)****Grades 9,10,11,12****0.5 credit****1 semester**

This course details the myths of the world. Students will study myths thematically, thus tying the human condition and similarities to ancient pieces of literature. Students will also gain insight to the literary impact of myths on our contemporary world of writing. This course offers an opportunity for students to discover diversity. This course is taught in a blended environment.



# Math Course Offerings

Completing four years of math in high school develops essential problem-solving, logical reasoning, and analytical thinking skills. Advanced math courses prepare students for success in college and careers, particularly in STEM fields. Additionally, a full sequence of math enhances standardized test performance and strengthens college applications by showcasing academic rigor and readiness. To meet graduation requirements, students must complete 4 credits in math. Calculators: it is required that students purchase a graphing calculator for their use during high school. In the classroom, the teachers will be using the TI-84 Plus or TI-84CE

## Recommended Sequences for Required Courses

Sequence	Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
<b>1</b>	Geometry Academic Geometry Honors	Algebra II Academic Algebra II Honors	Precalculus Academic Precalculus Honors Algebra III & Trigonometry AP Statistics	Calculus I Honors AP Calculus AB AP Calculus BC Precalculus Academic AP Statistics
<b>2</b>	Algebra II Honors	Precalculus Honors AP Statistics	AP Calculus BC AP Calculus AB Calculus I Honors AP Statistics	Linear Algebra Honors AP Statistics AP Calculus BC
<b>3</b>	Algebra I Academic	Geometry Academic Geometry Honors	Algebra II Academic Algebra II Honors	Algebra III and Trigonometry Precalculus Academic AP Statistics Personal Finance
<b>4</b>	Algebra I Foundations	Geometry Foundations	Algebra II Foundations	Algebra III and Trigonometry Personal Finance
<b>Semester Electives</b>			<b>Full Year Electives</b>	
Financial Literacy (11, 12)			Accounting I (10, 11, 12) Personal Finance (12)	

## ALGEBRA I FOUNDATIONS (0325)

Grades 9,10,11,12

1.0 credit

1 year

### Prerequisite: Teacher Recommendation

This course is a study of the language, concepts, and techniques of Algebra that will prepare students to approach and solve problems following a logical succession of steps. This course is the foundation for high school mathematics courses. Topics include simplifying expressions, evaluating and solving equations and inequalities, and graphing linear and quadratic functions and relations. Real world applications are presented within the course content, and a functional approach is emphasized. Students will have more hands-on practice within the classroom so that they can receive immediate feedback. (7 periods/week)



<b>ALGEBRA I ACADEMIC (0322)</b>	<b>Grade 9, 10, 11, 12</b>	<b>1.0 credit</b>	<b>1 year</b>
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This course is a study of the language, concepts, and techniques of Algebra that will prepare students to approach and solve problems following a logical succession of steps. This course is the foundation for high school mathematics courses. Topics include simplifying expressions, evaluating and solving equations and inequalities, and graphing linear and quadratic functions and relations. Real world applications are presented within the course content and a function's approach is emphasized.



<b>GEOMETRY FOUNDATIONS (0326)</b>	<b>Grades 9,10,11,12</b>	<b>1.0 credit</b>	<b>1 year</b>
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**Prerequisite: Teacher Recommendation**

This course is a study of the language, concepts and techniques of Geometry that will prepare students to critically analyze and logically solve problems. This course is the foundation for students' ability to recognize spatial relations and apply logical reasoning skills. Topics include parallel and perpendicular lines, triangle congruence and properties, polygons, similarity, trigonometry, circles and spatial reasoning. Many real-world applications are presented within the course content.



<b>GEOMETRY ACADEMIC (0327)</b>	<b>Grades 9,10,11,12</b>	<b>1.0 credit</b>	<b>1 year</b>
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**Prerequisite: Completion of Algebra I and proficiency on Algebra I Keystone Exam (for incoming 9<sup>th</sup> grade students)**

This course is a study of language, concepts and techniques of Geometry that will prepare students to critically analyze and logically solve problems. This course is the foundation for students' ability to recognize spatial relations and apply logical reasoning skills. Topics include parallel and perpendicular lines, triangle congruence and properties, polygons, similarity, trigonometry, circles and spatial reasoning. Many real-world application questions are studied in each unit.



<b>GEOMETRY HONORS (0328)</b>	<b>Grades 9, 10</b>	<b>1.0 credit</b>	<b>1 year</b>
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**Prerequisite: Completion of Algebra I and proficiency on the Algebra I Keystone Exam.**

**Recommended for students who earned a grade of "B" or higher in Enriched Algebra or an "A" in Algebra I**

This course is a study of language, concepts and techniques of Geometry that will prepare students to critically analyze and logically solve problems. This course is the foundation for students' ability to recognize spatial relations and apply logical reasoning skills. Topics include parallel and perpendicular lines, triangle congruence and properties, polygons, similarity, trigonometry, circles and spatial reasoning. Many real-world applications are presented within the course content. The pacing of this course is more rigorous than the academic level.. All topics taught in the Geometry academic course will be addressed in more detail.



<b>ALGEBRA II FOUNDATIONS (0329)</b>	<b>Grades 11, 12</b>	<b>1.0 credit</b>	<b>1 year</b>
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**Prerequisite: Teacher Recommendation**

**Pending School Board Approval**

This course is a study of the language, concepts, and techniques of Algebra that will prepare students to approach and solve problems following a logical succession of steps. This course is the foundation for high school mathematics courses. Topics include the study of functions (quadratic, polynomial, exponential, logarithmic, rational, radical, and trigonometric), probability and statistics. Real world applications are presented within the course content and a function's approach is emphasized. Students will have the opportunity for one-on-one help within the classroom and will receive more hands-on practice in order to allow for immediate feedback.



**ALGEBRA II ACADEMIC (0331)****Grades 10, 11, 12****1.0 credit****1 year****Prerequisite: Completion of Geometry**

This course is a study of the language, concepts, and techniques of Algebra that will prepare students to approach and solve problems following a logical succession of steps. This course is the foundation for high school mathematics courses. Topics include the study of functions (polynomial, exponential, logarithmic, rational, radical, and trigonometric), probability and statistics. Real world applications are presented within the course content and a function's approach is emphasized. Appropriate technology will be utilized.

**ALGEBRA II HONORS (0330)****Grades 9, 10, 11****1.0 credit****1 year****Prerequisite: Completion of Geometry**

**Recommended for students who earned a grade of “B” or higher in Algebra 1 Enriched or an “A” in Algebra Academic**

This is an accelerated course for students with strong algebraic foundational skills. Students will study the language, concepts, and techniques of Algebra that will prepare them to approach and solve problems following a logical succession of steps. Topics include the study of functions (polynomial, exponential, logarithmic, rational, radical, and trigonometric), probability and statistics. Real world applications are presented within the course content, and a function approach is emphasized. All topics taught in Algebra II Academic will be addressed in more detail. Appropriate technology will be utilized.

**ALGEBRA III and TRIGONOMETRY (0323)****Grades 11, 12****1.0 credit****1 year****Prerequisite: Completion of Algebra II**

This course is designed for college-bound students who need to strengthen algebraic skills and develop trigonometric skills to prepare them for Precalculus Academic. Students will continue learning the algebraic, geometric, and trigonometric concepts developed in the Algebra I, Geometry and Algebra II courses. Special emphasis is placed on problem solving strategies and the integration of the graphing calculator to interpret mathematical functions. Topics include solving algebraic, exponential, and logarithmic equations, right triangle trigonometry, and analytic trigonometry.

**PRECALCULUS ACADEMIC (0311)****Grade 11, 12****1.0 credit****1 year****Prerequisite: Completion of Algebra II**

**Recommended for students who earned a grade of “B” or higher in Algebra II**

This course includes an in-depth study of: Inverse Functions, Polynomial Functions, Rational and Radical Functions, and Exponential and Logarithmic Functions. Trigonometry and its applications will be thoroughly investigated in this course. All functions and their applications will be explored further using graphing calculators. This course is designed to prepare students for college level Calculus. A graphing calculator is required for this course.

**PRECALCULUS HONORS (0312)****Grades 10, 11, 12****1.0 credit****1 year****Prerequisite: Completion of Algebra II**

**Recommended for students who earned a grade of “B” or higher in Algebra II Honors or an “A” in Algebra II Academic**

In addition to a careful study of the topics taught in Pre-calculus Academic, systems of equations and inequalities, sequences and series, lines in the plane, conic sections, and polar coordinates, and limits will be studied in-depth. This is an accelerated course. A graphing calculator is required for this course.



**CALCULUS I HONORS (0304)****Grade 12****1.0 credit****1 year****Prerequisite:** Completion of Precalculus**Recommended for students who earned a grade of “C” or higher in Precalculus.**

This course is designed for students who wish to study calculus in a setting that provides a more measured pace and focuses on building a strong foundation in key concepts. Topics covered include properties of functions, limits and the derivative, techniques of integration, the definite integral, and applications of the integral.

**ADVANCED PLACEMENT STATISTICS (0315)****Grades 10, 11, 12****1.0 credit****1 year****Prerequisite:** Completion of Algebra II Honors or Precalculus**Recommended for students who earned a grade of “C” or higher in Algebra II Honors or “B” or higher in Precalculus**

This one-year course is designed for the student who wishes to study statistics and related topics at an accelerated pace comparable to courses in colleges and universities. The curriculum will be learned by the end of April, in order to properly prepare for the AP exam. Some of the topics taught include designing experiments, probability, sampling distributions, the normal distribution, confidence intervals and sample size, hypothesis testing, correlation and regression, chi-square tests, and describing distributions.

**ADVANCED PLACEMENT CALCULUS AB (0302)****Grades 11, 12****1.0 credit****1 year****Prerequisites:** Completion of Precalculus.**Recommended for students who earned a grade of “B” or higher in Precalculus Honors or an “A” in Precalculus Academic**

This course consists of a full academic year of work in calculus and related topics comparable to courses in colleges and universities. The curriculum will be learned by the end of April, in order to properly prepare for the AP exam. Some of the topics taught are properties of functions, limits, the derivative, and applications of the derivative, techniques of integration, the definite integral, and applications of the integral. The motivation for taking the course should be to test out of beginning calculus in college, not as preparation for college calculus. Students who complete this course are expected to take the AP examination in May at the student’s expense. Computers and calculators will be used where appropriate. It is required that the student purchase his/her own graphing calculator. Students who sign up for this course should be prepared for the rigor of a college level course.

**ADVANCED PLACEMENT CALCULUS BC (0303) Grades 11, 12****1.0 credit****1 year****Prerequisite:** Completion of AP Calculus AB or Teacher Recommendation

This course is not a sequence to follow AP Calculus AB. They are stand-alone courses. This course consists of a full academic year of work in calculus and related topics comparable to courses in college and universities. The curriculum will be learned by the end of April in order to properly prepare for the AP Exam. Some of the topics taught include: vector valued functions, parametric equations, sequences and infinite series (topics not covered in AB), and limits, continuity, differential and integral (topics covered in AB) The motivation for taking the course should be to test out of the first year (2 semesters) of calculus in college, not as a preparation for college calculus. Students who complete this course are expected to take the AP examination in May at the students’ expense.



<b>LINEAR ALGEBRA HONORS (0334)</b>	<b>Grade 12</b>	<b>1.0 credit</b>	<b>1 year</b>
<b>Prerequisite: Completion of Calculus or Teacher Recommendation</b>			
<b>Recommended for students who earned a Grade of “B” or higher in AP Calculus.</b>			
This college level mathematics course will cover linear algebra and matrix theory emphasizing topics useful in other disciplines such as physics, economics, and engineering. Key topics include solving systems of equations, evaluating vector spaces, performing linear transformations and matrix representations. Students who sign up for this course should be prepared for the rigor of a college level course.			



<b>PERSONAL FINANCE (0340)</b>	<b>Grade 12</b>	<b>1.0 credit</b>	<b>1 year</b>
<b>Prerequisite: Completion of Algebra II</b>			
Using mathematical modeling, this course is designed to educate students in concepts of personal finance and money management using algebraic concepts, applications, and technology. College preparatory mathematics are applied to the seven financial concepts of Banking, Investing, Credit, Employment and Income, Taxes, Automobile Ownership, Independent Living, and Retirement Planning and Household Budgeting. This course allows students to experience the interrelatedness of mathematical topics through application and problem-solving in real-world contexts. Students will be exposed to advanced algebra, statistics, and probability concepts as used in real-world financial situations. This course prepares students to apply the mathematics they know to solve problems arising in everyday life, society, and the workplace.			



### Math Elective Course Offerings

<b>ACCOUNTING I (08000NL)</b>	<b>Grades 10, 11, 12</b>	<b>1.0 credit</b>	<b>1 year</b>
This course is highly recommended for students planning to major in business or those interested in owning or managing a business, such as a small business, law firm, or medical/dental office. Students will be introduced to computerized financial accounting, with a primary focus on learning the rules and procedures for accounting in profit-driven businesses. Through a web-based accounting tutorial site (mindTap.com), students will complete journals, ledgers, worksheets, financial reports, and study guides, benefiting from immediate feedback. The course will also enhance students’ skills in using spreadsheets and computerized simulations for proprietorships, partnerships, and small corporations. All assessments will be conducted online.			



<b>FINANCIAL LITERACY (0333)</b>	<b>Grades 11, 12</b>	<b>0.5 credit</b>	<b>1 semester</b>
The focus of this course is on financial management knowledge and skills. Topics include employee compensation, payroll deductions, banking, income tax, personal credit and investments. There is reading associated with the various topics, and financial vocabulary is an important focus, in addition to mathematics. Students are assessed on a combination of numerical skills, interpreting directions and word skills, and organizational skills. Class projects will include use of the Internet. Successful completion of this course will prepare students to handle their personal finances both as a senior and after graduation. It is required that the student purchase his/her own calculator.			





# Science Course Offerings

Our science courses are designed to ignite curiosity, foster critical thinking, and prepare students for the future, aligning with the PA STEELS Standards (Science, Technology & Engineering, Environmental Literacy and Sustainability). To meet graduation requirements, students must earn 4 science credits, which include foundational courses in biology, chemistry, and physics. These core courses provide a strong foundation in the major areas of science, ensuring students develop essential skills and knowledge for the modern world. After completing the core sciences, students can choose from a variety of additional offerings to explore their passions and dive deeper into specialized topics. We encourage all students to consult prospective colleges to ensure their course selections align with future academic and career goals.

## Recommended Sequences for Required Courses

Sequence	Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
<b>1</b>	Biology Academic  Biology Honors	Chemistry Academic  Chemistry Honors	Physics Academic  AP Physics I	<u>Select one or more:</u> AP Biology AP Chemistry AP Physics I AP Physics C AP Environmental Science Earth and Space Science CHS Anatomy & Physiology
<b>2</b>	Chemistry Honors	AP Physics I  Physics Academic	<u>Select one or more:</u> AP Biology AP Chemistry AP Physics C AP Environmental Science Earth and Space Science CHS Anatomy & Physiology	<u>Select one or more:</u> AP Biology AP Chemistry AP Physics C AP Environmental Science Earth and Space Science CHS Anatomy & Physiology

## Semester Electives

Anatomy & Physiology Mentorship (11, 12)  
Organic Chemistry Honors (11,12)

## BIOLOGY ACADEMIC (0400)

Grade 9, 10

1.0 credit

1 year

Academic Biology introduces students to essential biology concepts, including cell structure and function, metabolism, genetics, evolution, and ecology. The course teaches these topics through the lens of the history of life on Earth, using phenomenon-based evidence to explore biological processes and patterns. Students will investigate the molecular biology of cells, the role of prokaryotic and eukaryotic organisms in Earth's ecosystems, and the progression of life from simple to complex forms. They will examine evolutionary changes, such as adaptations for terrestrial life, the rise of reptiles and mammals, and the development of modern ecosystems. The course emphasizes the interconnectedness of living systems, focusing on biodiversity, ecological interactions, and human impacts on the environment. Through a combination of direct instruction and hands-on labs, students will build critical thinking, problem-solving, and analytical skills. This course aligns with Pennsylvania STEELS biology standards and prepares students for the Keystone Biology exam. By exploring biology through Earth's history, students gain a deeper understanding of life's development, diversity, and the processes that continue to shape the natural world.



<b>BIOLOGY HONORS (0404)</b>	<b>Grade 9, 10</b>	<b>1.0 credit</b>	<b>1 year</b>
<b>Recommended for students who earned grades of “B” or higher in 8<sup>th</sup> grade science and Algebra I</b> Biology Honors is a first-year biology course designed for students interested in careers in science, medicine and engineering. It is fast-paced and requires daily reading and review. Students who complete this course will be prepared for future Advanced Placement science courses. The goal of Biology Honors is to provide students with the framework of key biological concepts into which they can integrate the many new things that they learn and encounter throughout their lives and to familiarize students with the scientific process. This course incorporates hands-on activities, technology and labs. Topics covered include themes in the study of biology, biochemistry, cells and cellular energetics, heredity, molecular genetics, DNA technology and genomics, concepts of evolution, biological diversity, structure and function of plants and animals, and ecology. This curriculum is aligned with both the Pennsylvania State Standards as well as the assessment anchors posted for the Keystone Exams.			



<b>ADVANCED PLACEMENT BIOLOGY (0403)</b>	<b>Grades 11, 12</b>	<b>1.0 credit</b>	<b>1 year</b>
<b>Prerequisite: Completion of or concurrent enrollment in Physics</b> <b>Recommended for students who earned grades of “B” or higher in Biology Honors and Chemistry Honors or grades of “A” in Biology Academic and Chemistry Academic</b> To be successful in this course a score of proficient or advanced on the first administration of the Biology Keystone Test is suggested. This course consists of a full academic year of work in biology comparable to courses in colleges and universities. Students interested in science-related careers such as medicine and engineering should consider this course. The course includes both lectures and extensive laboratory work. Students are expected to spend five to ten hours each week working on biology outside of class. Topics covered in the course include chemistry of life, cells and cell energetics, heredity, molecular genetics, evolution, and ecology. This course includes 2 lab periods a week. Students who complete this course are expected to take the AP examination in May. (7 periods)			



<b>CHEMISTRY ACADEMIC (0405)</b>	<b>Grades 10, 11</b>	<b>1.0 credit</b>	<b>1 year</b>
<b>Prerequisite: Completion of Biology</b> Chemistry Academic deals with matter, its structure, behavior, and the changes it undergoes. The structure of matter and the nature of chemical changes are approached through discussions, demonstrations, experiments and guided discovery. Along with the traditional theoretical approach, students will be exposed to how chemistry impacts society, including the students' personal and future professional lives. Students will use chemical principles to think more intelligently about current issues involving science and technology. A great deal of emphasis will be placed on mathematical functions and how they are applied to chemical situations, so students will need to be prepared to bring a scientific calculator to every class. This course includes 1 lab period. (6 periods)			



<b>CHEMISTRY HONORS (0406)</b>	<b>Grades 9, 10, 11</b>	<b>1.0 credit</b>	<b>1 year</b>
<b>Prerequisite: Completion of Biology</b> <b>Recommended for students who earned a grade of “B” or higher in Biology Honors and Geometry Honors or an “A” in Biology Academic and Geometry Academic</b> Chemistry Honors is an introductory course intended for students who are planning careers in science, medicine and engineering. It involves an examination of the major concepts and theories of inorganic chemistry, experimental basis for these ideas and their historical context. Emphasis is also placed on quantitative relationships and problem solving. The laboratory portion of the course provides opportunities for students to develop and clarify concepts and relationships while developing skill and confidence in the execution of experiments and analysis of results. Students should possess strong math skills and be comfortable with algebraic manipulations. Success in this course requires completing nightly assignments, strong attendance, and a solid work ethic. Students should be self-motivated and seek help when needed. This course includes 2 lab periods (7 periods)			





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**ADVANCED PLACEMENT CHEMISTRY (0407)      Grades 11, 12      1.0 credit      1 year**

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**Prerequisite:** Completion of or concurrent enrollment in Physics

**Recommended for students who earned a grade of “B” or higher in Chemistry Honors or an “A” in Chemistry Academic with a teacher recommendation**

AP Chemistry is intended as a course for those students who are interested in pursuing a career in science and engineering and have the interest and ability to study college level material in high school. This course covers the major topics of the first-year college chemistry curriculum including in-depth treatments of atomic theory, bonding theory, acids and bases, thermodynamics, equilibrium and oxidation-reduction. A heavy emphasis will be placed on problem solving and laboratory investigation. Students who select AP Chemistry should be self-disciplined and of the maturity level expected for a college level course. Students who complete this course are expected to take the AP examination; students who pass this exam secure between 8 and 10 college credits. A graphing calculator (TI-83+) is required for AP Chemistry. This course includes 2 lab periods. (7 periods)



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**PHYSICS ACADEMIC (0410)      Grades 10, 11, 12      1.0 credit      1 year**

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**Prerequisite:** Completion of Chemistry

Physics Academic introduces students to the fundamental principles of physics through experiments, real-world applications, and problem-solving. This course is designed for students who have an interest in understanding how the physical world works. The course consists of lab activities with a focus on conceptual understanding and the use of basic algebra to analyze and interpret data. Students will explore key topics such as motion, forces, energy, waves, electricity and magnetism. Students will develop practical skills as well as an appreciation for the laws of physics. This course encourages critical thinking and collaboration, helping students connect physics concepts to their everyday life. This course is ideal for students looking for an engaging, accessible approach to physics without heavy emphasis on advanced mathematics. (5 Periods)



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**ADVANCED PLACEMENT PHYSICS I: ALGEBRA BASED (0415)      Grades 10, 11, 12      1.0 credit      1 year**

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**Prerequisite:** Completion of Chemistry

**Recommended for students who earned a grade of “B” or higher in Chemistry Honors and Algebra II Honors or an “A” in Chemistry Academic and Algebra II Academic**

AP Physics I is a first-year algebra-based physics course which focuses on the big ideas typically included in an introductory, algebra-based college physics course. This course is appropriate for any highly motivated student with a desire to learn about the physical world and not just those planning further studies in science. While AP Physics I provides students with enduring understanding to support future advanced coursework in the sciences, the skills and strategies developed in this course are valuable for all students. Using an inquiry-based approach, students will develop critical thinking, reasoning and problem-solving skills with content knowledge and reasoning skills being equally important. Topics will include but may not be limited to kinematics, forces and translational dynamics; work, energy and power; linear momentum; torque and rotational dynamics; energy and momentum of rotating systems; oscillations, and fluids. Students will spend a minimum of 25% of course time in lab work with an emphasis on inquiry-based experiences which provide students with opportunities to demonstrate foundational physics principles while applying best science practices. A graphing calculator is required for this course. This course includes one lab period. Students who complete this course are expected to take the AP Examination in May at the student's expense. (6 periods).



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**ADVANCED PLACEMENT PHYSICS C: MECHANICS AND E & M (0412)**    **Grades 11, 12**    **1.0 credit**    **1 year**

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**Prerequisite:** Completion of or concurrently enrolled in Calculus

**Recommended for students who earned a grade of “B” or higher in AP Physics I or Teacher Recommendation**

AP Physics C: Mechanics and Electricity & Magnetism together represent a rigorous, year-long second year course of study in physics and is for the student planning a career in engineering, medicine, science, or any highly motivated student. This course emphasizes a thorough understanding of physics principles and concepts, and the advanced placement student will develop sophisticated problem solving, critical and abstract thinking skills while developing models of physical phenomena. Problem solving will include the use of calculus. Studies of mechanics typically occur during the first semester with electricity & magnetism during the second semester. Mechanics topics include kinematics; forces and translational dynamics; work, energy, and power; linear momentum; torque and rotational dynamics; energy and momentum of rotating systems and oscillations. E & M topics include electric charges; fields and Gauss’s Law; electric potential; conductors and capacitors; electric circuits; magnetic fields and electromagnetism and electromagnetic induction. Students who complete this course are expected to take the AP Examination in Mechanics and/or Electricity & Magnetism in May at the student's expense. This course includes 2 lab periods. (7 periods)



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**CHS ANATOMY & PHYSIOLOGY (0873)****Grades 11, 12****1.0 credit****1 year**

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**Prerequisite:** Completion of Biology, Chemistry and Physics

**Recommended for students who earned a grade of “B” or higher in Biology and Chemistry or Teacher Recommendation**

CHS Anatomy & Physiology is a college level course providing an introduction in human anatomy and physiology, aimed at preparing students who are interested in pursuing a career in the biological/health sciences or medical field. This course will examine the structure and function of the human body including the study of cells, tissues, and the following major body systems; integumentary, skeletal, muscular, nervous, endocrine, cardiovascular, lymphatic, digestive, respiratory, urinary, and reproductive. The goal of the course is to develop a student’s understanding of the human body both in terms of structure and function. Anatomy & Physiology is difficult in nature and time will be required outside of class to properly prepare for exams and practicals. Laboratory components including anatomical studies using microscopy and dissection and the study of physiological concepts via experimentation are also an integral part of this course. **Upon completion of this course students will have the opportunity to earn up to 8 college credits through a partnership with Carlow University.**



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**EARTH AND SPACE SCIENCE (0418)****Grade 12****1.0 credit****1 year**

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**Prerequisite:** Completion of Physics or Teacher Recommendation

Earth and Space Science is a full year course that will let students engage in a comprehensive exploration of the natural world, guided by the PA STEELS standards. Throughout the academic year, learners will delve into fundamental concepts such as Earth's systems, the dynamic nature of the planet, and the cosmos beyond. The curriculum emphasizes hands-on inquiry, encouraging students to develop scientific practices, including questioning, investigation, and analysis. From examining geological processes shaping the Earth's surface to exploring celestial phenomena in our universe, students will gain a profound understanding of the interconnectedness of earth and space. The course also integrates technology and data interpretation, empowering students to make informed decisions about contemporary environmental challenges. By the end of the course, students will have not only deepened their scientific knowledge but also honed essential skills for future STEM endeavors.



**AP ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE (0420)****Grades 11, 12****1.0 credit****1 year****Prerequisite: Completion of or concurrent enrollment in Physics****Recommended for students who earned a grade of “B” or higher in a science honors course or an “A” in an academic science course**

To be successful in this course a score of proficient or advanced on the first administration of the Biology Keystone Exam is suggested. The goal of the AP Environmental Science course is to provide students with the scientific principles, concepts, and methodologies required to understand the interrelationships of the natural world, to identify and analyze environmental problems both natural and human-made, to evaluate the relative risks associated with these problems, and to examine alternative solutions for resolving or preventing them. Environmental science is interdisciplinary; it embraces a wide variety of topics from different areas of study. The following themes provide a foundation for the structure of the AP Environmental Science course: The Earth itself is one interconnected system. Natural systems change over time and space. Biogeochemical systems vary in ability to recover from disturbance. Humans alter natural systems. Environmental problems have a cultural and social context. Human survival depends on developing practices that will achieve sustainable systems. Students who complete this course are expected to take the AP examination in May at the student's expense. (6 periods)



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**Elective Course Offerings**

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**ORGANIC CHEMISTRY HONORS (0421)****Grades 11, 12****0.5 credit****1 semester****Prerequisite: Completion of Chemistry****Recommended for students who earned a grade of “B” or higher in Chemistry Honors or an “A” in Chemistry Academic**

Organic Chemistry Honors is a demanding elective course that deals with the chemistry of carbon compounds, their structure, nomenclature, reaction mechanisms and syntheses. It is roughly equivalent to one semester of college-level organic chemistry. Students who intend to pursue a career in chemistry, medicine, pharmacy, biology, nursing or veterinary medicine will find this course extremely beneficial. This course will count as a 0.5 elective credit.

**ANATOMY & PHYSIOLOGY MENTORSHIP (0874)****Grades 11, 12****0.5 credit****1 semester****Prerequisites: Completion of or concurrent enrollment in CHS Anatomy & Physiology**

- Students must be in good standing with attendance, grades, and discipline
- Students must be able to provide transportation to and from the mentoring site
- Students must submit the Application Form for Mentorship Courses to the counseling office prior to scheduling
- Due to class size limitations, a committee will review applications using rubric

**Recommended for students who earned a grade of “B” or higher in CHS Anatomy & Physiology.**

The goal of Anatomy & Physiology Mentorship is to further enhance the practical "real world" experiences of students interested in pursuing a post-secondary career in a medically related field. The second phase of the program places the students in community-based situations (e.g., hospitals, offices, clinics) and interning or shadowing under the supervision of certified medical personnel in the student's chosen field of endeavor. Students will be required to log a minimum of 70 hours at the mentoring site.



# Social Studies Course Offerings

Social studies and history classes are essential for developing critical thinking, civic awareness, and a deeper understanding of the world. Through these courses, students explore the complexities of societies, cultures, and historical events. By taking four years of social studies, students build the skills necessary to analyze current events, engage in thoughtful discussions, and make informed decisions as active citizens. These classes also prepare students for success in college, careers, and community leadership. To meet graduation requirements, students must earn 4 social studies credits.

Required Course Offerings				
Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12 (Choose one from each list)	
Global Studies Academic	American History Academic	American Government Academic	Economics Academic	History of Western Civ Academic
Global Studies Honors	American History Honors	American Government Honors	Economics Honors	History of Western Civ Honors
	AP United States History	AP United States Government and Politics	AP Economics	AP European History
Semester Electives			Full Year Electives	
History in the Headlines (9,10,11,12)			AP European History (11, 12)	
Leadership (9,10,11,12)			AP Economics (11, 12)	
Psychology (10, 11, 12)			AP Psychology (10, 11, 12)	
Philosophy (10, 11, 12)				
Sociology (10, 11, 12)				
American Legal Systems (10, 11, 12)				
Community Service Learning (11, 12)				

## GLOBAL STUDIES ACADEMIC (0211) Grade 9 1.0 Credit 1 year

The Global Studies Academic course will introduce students to the interdependent nature of the modern global community. Students will explore the culture, political structure, and history of Africa, the Middle East, South Asia, and East Asia. Modern issues facing each part of the world will be examined. Students will work on developing historical thinking skills in comparison, causation, continuity and change. Historical reading and writing will also be emphasized.



## GLOBAL STUDIES HONORS (0215) Grade 9 1.0 Credit 1 year

**Recommended for students with a grade of "B" or higher in 8<sup>th</sup> grade Social Studies**

This honors course will analyze the interdependent nature of the modern global community. The course is designed to explore the cultures of Africa, Southwest Asia (the Middle East), South Asia, and East Asia. Students will investigate the geographic, political, social, and economic aspects of the non-western world. Students will synthesize information to recognize historical and current patterns and what makes each region or nation unique and significant. An emphasis is placed on developing critical thinking, writing, and communication skills. Regular class discussions require active participation. This course includes independent homework, supplemental text readings and research to explore concepts in greater depth and complexity.



<b>AMERICAN HISTORY ACADEMIC (0203)</b>	<b>Grades 10</b>	<b>1.0 credit</b>	<b>1 year</b>
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**Prerequisite: Completion of Global Studies**  
 This course in modern American History will use a chronological cause and effect approach to the political, economic, and social history of the United States from the early 1900's to the present day. The course focuses on the decisions, events, and people that shaped the nation's history in the 20th and early 21st centuries. Areas of concentration include U.S. diplomacy and involvement in foreign wars, the increasing role of government in American life, the changing status of women and minorities, and areas of significant social and economic change. The skill focus in this course is analysis of primary source documents. Students will be assessed on both content and skill development.



<b>AMERICAN HISTORY HONORS (0221)</b>	<b>Grades 10</b>	<b>1.0 credit</b>	<b>1 year</b>
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**Prerequisite: Completion of Global Studies**  
**Recommended for students who earned a grade of “B” or higher in Global Studies**  
 This honors course in modern American history emphasizes the political, economic, and social history of the United States from WWI to the present day. The course focuses on the decisions, events, and people that shaped United States’ history from the 20th century to the present. Areas of concentration include U.S. diplomacy and involvement in foreign wars, the increasing role of government in American life, the changing status of women and minorities, and areas of significant social and economic change. Students will analyze the past to inform and analyze the present. The course includes nightly homework and reading assignments with a skill focus on high-level writing/research assignments and document-based question analysis. Regular class discussions and debates require students to apply critical thinking skills.



<b>ADVANCED PLACEMENT UNITED STATES HISTORY (0205)</b>	<b>Grade 10</b>	<b>1.0 credit</b>	<b>1 year</b>
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**Prerequisite: Completion of Global Studies**  
**Recommended for students who earned a grade of “B” or higher in Global Studies Honors or “A” in Global Studies Academic**  
 This course is a comprehensive survey of American history and culture comparable to introductory college courses. The course extends chronologically from early Native American society to the present. It will require and foster a strong interest in the development and application of historical thinking skills central to the practice of being a historian. There are extensive reading assignments from a college text, selected literature, primary sources, and collections of historical viewpoints. This course also focuses on writing which includes assigned document based and thesis-based essays. Additional assessments include standardized college tests and various debates and historical simulations. Students who complete this course are expected to take the AP examination in May at the student’s expense.



<b>AMERICAN GOVERNMENT ACADEMIC (0200)</b>	<b>Grade 11</b>	<b>1.0 credit</b>	<b>1 year</b>
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**Prerequisite: Completion of American History**  
 This introductory course explores the creation and history of the American system of government. Topics include the foundations of the American Government (Constitution and Bill of Rights), the three branches of the national government, rights of individuals, participation in government, and state/local government systems. This course will emphasize the development of critical thinking, writing, and application of knowledge skills.



**Prerequisite:** Completion of American History

**Recommended for students who earned a grade of “B” or higher in American History Honors/AP Unites States History or an “A” in American History Academic**

This honors course provides both an introduction and an analytic perspective to the foundations, principles and processes that shape and direct the function of American government. This course includes independent reading, outlining, research questions, and active participation in class discussions. This course will emphasize the development of critical thinking, writing and application of knowledge skills. By the end of this course, students will be expected to explain and analyze the institutions and practices of American democracy, the structure and function of the U.S. Constitution, the Bill of Rights, and the relationship between the three branches of government at the national, state, and local levels.

GPA

LPCS

ADVANCED PLACEMENT UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS (0204)

Grades 11, 12

1.0 credit

1 year

**Prerequisite:** Completion of American History

**Recommended for students who earned a grade of “B” or higher in American History Honors/AP Unites States History or an “A” in American History Academic**

This challenging political science course is designed to provide students with an analytical perspective of the institutions of American government, democracy, and political behavior. In addition to acquiring an understanding of basic political institutions, students will closely analyze concepts and theories used to interpret U.S. government and politics. This course utilizes an AP-level textbook, political science essays and primary source documents, and resources from various approved online sources (news and political-based websites). A foundation in the basics of American government (the three branches, the Constitution, citizenship, and participation) is recommended but not required. Students are strongly encouraged to read any book which provides a basic, foundational view of these elements in the summer preceding their junior year (see teacher for examples). Students who successfully complete the course are strongly encouraged to take the AP U.S. Government and Politics exam given in May of each school year.

GPA

LPCS

ECONOMICS ACADEMIC (0208)

Grade 12

0.5 credit

1 semester

**Prerequisite:** Completion of American Government

This course is designed as an introduction to the fundamental concepts and principles of economics with an emphasis on the American economic system. Students will develop a foundational understanding of both micro and macroeconomics and learn the basics of economic thinking, supply and demand, and other economic concepts. By the end of the course, students will be able to analyze economic problems and make choices based on the consideration of costs and benefits.

CBV

IBC2

BMA

F

ECONOMICS HONORS (0222)

Grade 12

0.5 credits

1 semester

**Prerequisite:** Completion of American Government

**Recommended for students who earned a grade of “B” or higher in a previous Social Studies honors course or an “A” in an academic course**

This honors course will introduce students to the basics of both micro and macroeconomics. By analyzing economic markets, models, systems, and terms, students will begin to understand the economic way of thinking. This includes the study of business and investment, the role of the government in the economy, and performance indicators used to evaluate the health of the economy. Students will be expected to demonstrate high level critical thinking, reading, and writing skills through assignments, class participation in discussions, group activities and document/resource question analysis.

GPA

LPCS

BMA

F



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**ADVANCED PLACEMENT MICRO AND MACRO ECONOMICS (0227)    Grades 11, 12    1.0 credit    1 year**

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**Recommended for students who earned a grade of “B” or higher in a previous Social Studies honors or AP course or an “A” in an academic course**

This university level course will provide a thorough understanding of the fundamental principles of micro and macroeconomics. Students study economics that applies to the function of individual decision makers within a society and the function of an economic system. Students are encouraged to think critically about economics, promote an awareness and understanding of internationalism in economics and encourage students’ development as independent learners. Assessments include multiple choice, free response, and data-based tests, in addition to projects and presentations. Students who successfully complete this course are encouraged to take two Advanced Placement Exams administered in May of each school year.



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**HISTORY OF WESTERN CIVILIZATION ACADEMIC (0225)    Grade 12    0.5 credit    1 semester**

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**Prerequisite: American Government**

**Recommended for students who earned a grade of “B” or higher in a previous Social Studies honors course or an “A” in an academic course**

This survey course covers the history of western civilization and its significance to both American culture and other civilizations around the world. The course begins with an overview of the age of Greco-Roman civilization and continues through the Middle Ages, the Renaissance, the Enlightenment, and the turn of the 20th century. Students will engage in higher-level writing/research assignments, analyze social, economic, and political events, evaluate primary sources, and participate in group discussions or historical simulations.



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**HISTORY OF WESTERN CIVILIZATION HONORS (0224)    Grade 12    0.5 credit    1 semester**

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**Prerequisite: American Government**

**Recommended for students who earned a grade of “B” or higher in a previous Social Studies honors course or an “A” in an academic course**

This rigorous honors course is a survey of the history of western civilization, and the significance of this history upon our American culture and other civilizations around the world. The course begins with an overview of the age of Greco-Roman civilization and continues through the Middle Ages, the Renaissance, the Enlightenment, and the conclusion of World War I. Students will engage in extensive independent reading, higher-level writing/research assignments, analysis of social, economic, and political events, evaluation of primary sources and group discussions. Parallels will be drawn to events in modern history throughout the course. Students will learn the nature of what Western Civilization represents, what world societies belong(ed) to this tradition, and its unique contributions to United States & World History. Students will develop a basic understanding of chronology, geographical events, movements (cultural, economic, environmental & political), persons, and literary works from the Western Tradition.



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**ADVANCED PLACEMENT EUROPEAN HISTORY (0210)    Grades 11, 12    1.0 credit    1 year**

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**Recommended for students who earned a grade of “B” or higher in a previous Social Studies honors or AP course or an “A” in an academic course**

This course covers European history from 1450 (the Renaissance) to the present. An emphasis is placed on the intellectual and cultural, political and diplomatic, and social and economic history of Europe. Students will have extensive required reading, analytic writing/research assignments, and formal assessments in a seminar classroom setting. This course is taught in a blended environment. Any students interested in the Engineering and Industrial technology, Science and Health or Human Services career clusters should take this course. For students who are academically motivated and looking to expand historical understanding of Western and World History. Students who complete this course are expected to take the AP examination in May.



## Social Studies Elective Course Offerings

### **HISTORY IN THE HEADLINES (0223)**      **Grades 9, 10, 11, 12**      **0.5 credit**      **1 semester**

Students will develop a historical perspective through inquiry and analysis of current social, political, economic, and technological world, national, and regional events. This course will be taught using mainstream news sources. Students enrolled in this course will increase their knowledge of the world, national, and regional issues. They will enhance their ability to observe events from a critical perspective and improve their global awareness.



### **LEADERSHIP (0212)**      **Grades 9, 10, 11, 12**      **0.5 credit**      **1 semester**

The main emphasis of this course will be to help students become personal leaders. Students will develop skills and study the components of personal mastery. Also, students will analyze the positive and negative aspects of historical and contemporary leaders. This course is excellent for students interested in leadership roles in the family, school, or community environments.



### **PHILOSOPHY (0229)**      **Grades 10, 11, 12**      **0.5 credit**      **1 semester**

Have you ever asked yourself questions that you weren't sure how to answer? Is the death penalty justice? Will a good person ultimately live a happy life? Are love and attraction the same thing? Philosophy is a course that looks at these difficult questions about human nature and the world around us and teaches you how to think critically about them. This class will explore some of the major philosophical questions such as love and beauty, morality and ethics, truth and reality, self and the universe. Students will apply logic and reason to seek answers to these questions and investigate how these questions have been answered by the great philosophers throughout time. Philosophy is a participation centered class. Students who take this course should enjoy contributing to class discussions and engaging in lively debates.



### **PSYCHOLOGY (0228)**      **Grades 10, 11, 12**      **0.5 Credit**      **1 semester**

This course is designed to give students an introduction to the study of human behavioral and mental processes with particular emphasis on how course content connects to greater personal understanding of ourselves. The course will focus on a brief foundation of biopsychology, sensation and perception, consciousness, memory, learning, cognition, motivation, emotion, stress, personality and psychological disorders. Students taking the course should enjoy engaging in class discussions, guided lectures, group projects, and independent and collaborative learning activities. Students should anticipate an average of two homework assignments each week to support initial learning or reinforcement of course material.



### **SOCIOLOGY (0214)**      **Grades 10, 11, 12**      **0.5 credit**      **1 semester**

Students taking sociology will be provided with a greater understanding and appreciation of the theoretical background, content, and research methodology of the field of sociology. The course is designed as an introductory survey addressing topics such as: cultural diversity, social structure, group dynamics, adolescence, deviance, and socialization. In this course, students will examine socially transmitted beliefs, values, institutions, behaviors, traditions and way of life of a group of people and their interaction with one another through group and individual projects and class participation. Special focus will be placed upon the student recognizing his/her relationship to peers, social groups, and institutions. Students will be assessed through summative evaluation and project-based assessment.





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**ADVANCED PLACEMENT PSYCHOLOGY (0213)    Grades 10, 11, 12    1.0 credit    1 year**

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**Recommended for students who earned a grade of “B” or higher in a Social Studies honors course or an “A” in an academic course**

The goal of this rigorous course will be to promote a greater understanding of the methodology, theory, and research of psychology. This course will introduce the principle subject areas that make up the scientific study of human behavior. Students will have extensive required reading, many analytic writing assignments, and formal assessments in a seminar classroom setting. Students who successfully complete the course are encouraged to take the Advanced Placement Examination (at their own expense), administered in May of each school year.



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**AMERICAN LEGAL SYSTEMS (0206)    Grades 10, 11, 12    0.5 credit    1 semester**

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American Legal Systems is designed to provide students with a realistic understanding of law and the legal system in the United States. Emphasis will be on practical, participatory education concerning the law, legal rights and responsibilities, engagement in the democratic process, and the criminal justice system. The course is designed to improve basic skills, including observation, problem solving, critical thinking, and reasoning. The curriculum includes a balance of legal knowledge and application of this knowledge through discussion and activities such as legal case studies and a mock trial. This course also exposes students to real-life situations related to law by providing field trip opportunities to local courts. This course will give students an introduction to the knowledge and skills that are required for a legal career, but it is not limited to those considering such a vocation.



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**COMMUNITY SERVICE LEARNING (0207ONL)    Grades 11, 12    0.5 credit    1 semester**

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**Prerequisite: A valid driver’s license, be able to provide transportation to and from the site, be in good standing with attendance and grades and have no disciplinary suspensions**

Students enrolled in community service will engage in active participation in community service at delegated, local, non-profit or for-profit community agencies/sites. These sites include but are not limited to hospitals, nursing homes, libraries and day-care centers. After an orientation period, students will meet weekly for one period of classroom instruction and four periods of field experience at the community service site. Evaluations will be based on the completion of a set of competencies, including, but not limited to: 54 hours of documented community service, a daily journal, weekly class attendance, individual/group projects and online proficiency. This course may not be repeated.



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# Fine Arts Course Offerings

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## Art Offerings

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<b>COMPUTER ART: GRAPHICS AND DESIGN (0607)</b>	<b>Grades 10, 11, 12</b>	<b>0.5 credit</b>	<b>1 semester</b>
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This course will introduce students to Adobe Photoshop and Illustrator through the creation of unique compositions. Students will learn how to use the computer as an art tool to manipulate, edit, and reproduce their own computer-generated images. The elements of art and principles of design will be studied during the creation of art and graphic design projects.



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<b>ART I (0600)</b>	<b>Grades 9, 10, 11, 12</b>	<b>0.5 credit</b>	<b>1 semester</b>
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Art I serves as a foundation course for those interested in taking 2-dimensional art classes here at the high school. Art I incorporates exercises and major projects designed to increase visual skills and knowledge of the elements of Art using a wide variety of materials. Art I stresses design principles in compositions with organized expression. Projects may include drawing, painting, color theory, still life or textural studies. This course is designed to increase art appreciation in the students through a hands-on exploration of Art History. A sketchbook is required for this course.



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<b>ART II (0601)</b>	<b>Grades 9, 10, 11, 12</b>	<b>0.5 credit</b>	<b>1 semester</b>
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**Prerequisite: Completion of Art I**

Art II is a one-semester course that serves as a continuation of the concepts introduced in Art I. Students will further explore the study of color, theory, and the elements of Art and design principles. Drawing and painting skills will continue to be developed. A sketchbook is required for this course.



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<b>ADVANCED ART III, IV, V (0623)</b>	<b>Grades 10, 11, 12</b>	<b>1.0 credit</b>	<b>1 year</b>
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**Prerequisite: Completion of Art II with a "B" or higher or Teacher Recommendation**

This is an advanced level course providing many of the opportunities featured in Advanced Art I Honors, but offered for only one semester for the student with a special ability and skill in art. This course is a must for those students interested in the visual arts as a career or serious avocation. Students will work towards the following goals: independence, quality craftsmanship, innovative solutions, high productivity and mastery of techniques. In addition to in-class projects, students will be required to complete out-of-class sketchbook assignments. A sketchbook is required for this class.



**CERAMICS I (0604)****Grades 10, 11, 12****0.5 credit****1 semester**

This basic pottery class will include extensive studio work in hand-building and wheel-throwing techniques. Hand-built techniques will explore coil, pinch-pot, drape and/or slab as well as sculpture construction in clay. Wheelwork will include cylindrical forms (straight and shaped) handles and bowl forms. Various firing/glazing techniques and historical/cultural aspects of ceramics will be discussed and reviewed.

**CERAMICS II (0605)****Grades 10, 11, 12****0.5 credit****1 semester****Prerequisite: Completion of Ceramics I**

This advanced pottery class will include extensive studio work in hand-building and wheel-throwing techniques. Students will build upon and refine skills established in Ceramics I. Experimentation in glazing techniques and wheel-thrown forms and development of individual styles will be addressed. Hand-built techniques will explore additive and subtractive sculpture in clay. Wheelwork will include bottle forms, plates, multiple attached forms and teapots (realistic/abstract).

**CERAMICS III: SCULPTURE AND GLASS (0622)****Grades 11, 12****0.5 credit****1 semester****Prerequisite: Completion of Ceramics II with a "B" or higher or Teacher Recommendation**

This is an advanced level course offered for only one semester for the student with a special ability in hand building. This semester course provides in-depth opportunities to further explore the art of hand building with a focus on large scale ceramic pieces as well as plaster, wire sculpture, glass and copper within an open environment. Students will work towards the following goals: independence, quality craftsmanship, innovative solutions, high productivity and mastery of techniques. Art will also be explored historically and critically. Students may choose to take either the Hand Building section (semester 1) or the Wheel Throwing section (semester 2) or may also choose to take both.

**CERAMICS III: WHEEL THROWING (0621)****Grades 11, 12****0.5 credit****1 semester****Prerequisite: Completion of Ceramics II with a "B" or higher or Teacher Recommendation**

This is an advanced level course offered for only one semester for the student with a special ability in wheel throwing. This semester course provides in-depth opportunities to further explore the art of wheel thrown ceramics with a focus on large scale multiple attached pieces, altered wheel forms, double wall forms, as well as lidded pieces within an open environment. Students will work towards the following goals: independence, quality craftsmanship, innovative solutions, high productivity and mastery of techniques. Art will also be explored historically and critically. Students may choose to take either the hand building section (semester 1) or the Wheel Throwing section (semester 2) or may also choose to take both.

**CERAMICS HONORS (0616)****Grades 11, 12****1.0 credit****1 year****Prerequisite: Completion of Ceramics II and Teacher Recommendation**

The Honors Ceramic course is designed for students who are seriously interested in the practical experience of ceramic art and wish to develop mastery in the concept, composition, and execution of their ideas. Students will experience a variety of concepts, techniques, and approaches for the wheel as well as hand-building, designed to help them demonstrate their abilities and versatility with techniques, problem solving, and ideation. This is a college-level course designed to provide the student with an in-depth look into different media and techniques in an open environment.



## Music Offerings

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### **A JOURNEY THROUGH MUSIC (0672)      Grades 9, 10, 11, 12      0.5 credit      1 semester**

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#### ***Pending School Board Approval***

This course offers students a comprehensive exploration of music, designed for learners of all backgrounds and skill levels. Through the study of various music genres, students will explore the cultural, historical, and social impact of music, exploring topics such as songwriting, music analysis, and the role of music in media and technology. Students will also learn the fundamentals of music theory, developing an understanding of melody, harmony, rhythm, and notation. Basic recording and production techniques will be introduced through hands-on experience with digital audio workstations and recording equipment. By the end of the course, students will have the tools to create and critically engage with music, both as performers and informed listeners. No prior musical experience is required, just a passion for learning and creativity!



### **DIGITAL AUDIO PRODUCTION I (0625)      Grades 10, 11, 12      0.5 credit      1 semester**

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Digital Audio Production is a course in creative musical composition and audio pre/postproduction for any high school student regardless of their musical background. This course will provide opportunities for students to understand, create and synthesize music and sound effects through the development of skills in music composition, Foley Artistry, sound effect production, ADR and many pre/post audio production skills in the electronic medium. Basic musical elements will be the focus on which students will develop creative musical ideas using electronic keyboards/synthesizers and music computer software applications.



### **DIGITAL AUDIO PRODUCTION II (0626)      Grades 11, 12      0.5 credit      1 semester**

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#### **Prerequisite: Completion of Digital Audio Production I**

Digital Audio Production II is a continuation of the options to explore musical composition, Foley Artistry, sound effect production, ADR and many pre/post audio production skills in the electronic medium, using electronic keyboards/synthesizers and music computer software applications with an emphasis on the refinement, development and extension of creative ideas. Composition and electronic demonstration of student created musical art will be developed in larger musical forms. Projects will focus on musical composition, and its application and coordination with visual media.



### **CONCERT BAND (0627)      Grades 9,10,11,12      1.0 credit      1 year**

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This course provides an opportunity for the developing students to acquire additional technical skills beyond the middle school experience and become acquainted with the vast and ever-growing band repertoire. The repertoire will consist of selections from the march, show, orchestra and contemporary idioms. Emphasis will be placed upon ensemble playing and music interpretation and analysis. Students may be tested on their ability to play individual music selections and knowledge of terms and symbols. Performance of the band repertoire is an ultimate goal. Performance opportunities exist for students to perform as soloists, in trios, quartets and in County, District, and Regional band festivals. The Concert Band serves primarily underclassmen. Concert Band typically performs three concerts during the year. Dress rehearsals for public performances may be scheduled beyond the school day as needed. The class meets daily for a scheduled period.



<b>CONCERT CHOIR (0632)</b>	<b>Grades 10, 11, 12</b>	<b>1.0 credit</b>	<b>1 year</b>
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Concert Choir provides an opportunity for developing the music student to acquire additional vocal technique in a large mixed ensemble through the continued study of music reading, vocal technique, music theory, and music history. A varied repertoire, consisting of traditional, Broadway, popular, as well as folk and jazz literature may be explored and performed. Several performances are presented each year and frequently the choir performs in festivals. Opportunities exist for qualified students to perform as soloists, in trios, or quartets at County, District, Honors, Regional and All-State chorus festivals.



<b>ACAPELLA ADRENALINE (0662)</b>	<b>Grades 10, 11, 12</b>	<b>1.0 credit</b>	<b>1 year</b>
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**Prerequisite: Teacher Recommendation and Audition**

This course is a vocal ensemble for building a high-level performance in contemporary acapella singing. It is open to students in grades 10-12 who have successfully auditioned. The ensemble will perform, analyze, and research popular music of the 20th and 21st Centuries. Students will learn a variety of vocal styles using appropriate tone quality, intonation, diction, rhythms, musicianship, and microphone technique for performing acapella, commercial/pop music. In addition to the vocal experience, this class will equip the student with basic music literacy skills- clefs, notes, staves, keys, rhythm, etc. Focus parts are: Vocal Percussion, Soprano, Mezzo, Alto, Tenor, Baritone, and Bass. Performing and touring is a key part of this ensemble.



<b>JAZZ BAND (0636)</b>	<b>Grades 10, 11, 12</b>	<b>1.0 credit</b>	<b>1 year</b>
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**Prerequisite: Teacher Recommendation and Audition**

Jazz Band is designed to provide orientation to all pertinent jazz techniques for the established instrumental music students. The content of the course includes an explanation of chords and the use of chord structure, articulations, relative note values and special effects. Great emphasis is placed on the student's developing creative abilities and instrumental technique, as well as improvisation skills. The goal is for students to understand the style and to develop proficiency in jazz and jazz-rock idioms. Performance opportunities occur as many as five times per year and dress rehearsals for these events may be scheduled outside of the school day.



<b>PIANO/SONGWRITING LAB (0640)</b>	<b>Grades 9,10,11,12</b>	<b>0.5 credit</b>	<b>1 semester</b>
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Keyboard Lab will provide students with the opportunity to develop beginning, intermediate and advanced piano and electronic keyboard skills. Students will work independently at their level of experience and progress through developmentally appropriate materials and literature. There will also be opportunities for students to participate in keyboard lab ensembles and to demonstrate their skill in a comfortable performance arena. Students will also analyze songs and to develop their own through keyboard improvisation and the development of basic music composition skills.



<b>MIXED CHOIR (0653)</b>	<b>Grade 9</b>	<b>1.0 credit</b>	<b>1 year</b>
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Mixed Choir is a performing ensemble primarily for freshmen. Vocal technique, music reading, IPA and increased musical awareness are stressed. Traditional, popular, jazz, folk, and Broadway selections are performed. This group performs independently and with the other choirs at least twice per year and serves as a preparatory experience for membership in Concert and Symphonic Choirs. Opportunities exist for qualified students to perform as soloists, in trios, quartets and in County, District, Honors, Regional and All-State chorus festivals.



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<b>ADVANCED PLACEMENT MUSIC THEORY (0641)</b>	<b>Grades 11, 12</b>	<b>1.0 credit</b>	<b>1 year</b>
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Advanced Placement Music Theory is a course designed for music students with an advanced level of performance skill and theoretical knowledge. Generally, students who are on a career path in music or who have successfully completed courses in Keyboarding, Music Theory, Digital Audio Production I & II, or who can demonstrate prerequisite skills necessary to enter this course should enroll. Students who complete this course are expected to take the Advanced Placement Exam in Music. The exam is held in May and is at the student's expense. This is an excellent course for a student who is pursuing a music major in college.

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<b>MUSIC THEORY (0642ONL)</b>	<b>Grades 9,10,11,12</b>	<b>0.5 credit</b>	<b>1 semester</b>
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Music Theory introduces students to the fundamentals of music, including rhythmic notation, intervals, scales, chords, melody writing, harmonization, and orchestration. Using interactive lessons and computer software, students will build a strong foundation for a career in music or deepen their appreciation for music as a passion.

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<b>ORCHESTRA (0643)</b>	<b>Grades 9,10,11,12</b>	<b>1.0 credit</b>	<b>1 year</b>
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Orchestra is a performing ensemble, which continues to extend technical skills leading to "hands-on" performance of representative string and symphony orchestra literature. Style, technical execution, ensemble playing and interpretation and critical analysis are aspects of study leading to two (2) or more public performances per year. Outstanding instrumentalists will also have an opportunity to qualify for individual performance opportunities as potential participants in honors ensembles, which may include Honors Orchestra, District Orchestra, Regional Orchestra and All-State Orchestra. Limited additional rehearsals may be scheduled outside of school as needed.

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<b>SYMPHONIC CHOIR (0649)</b>	<b>Grades 10, 11, 12</b>	<b>1.0 credit</b>	<b>1 year</b>
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**Prerequisite: Teacher Recommendation and Audition**

The Symphonic Choir is an advanced mixed choir that performs all styles of choral literature. Study includes vocal techniques, as well as music reading, music theory, music history and a survey of the vast choral repertoire. Several performances are presented each year and frequently the choir performs in festivals and adjudication festivals. Opportunities exist for qualified students to perform as soloists, in trios, quartets and in County, District, Honors, Regional and All-State chorus festivals.

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<b>WIND SYMPHONY (0657)</b>	<b>Grades 10, 11, 12</b>	<b>1.0 credit</b>	<b>1 year</b>
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**Prerequisite: Teacher Recommendation**

Wind Symphony is designed for advanced instrumentalists, offering challenging literature that demands exceptional musicianship. Students will analyze high-quality concert band compositions and perform at adjudication festivals, public concerts, and other events. Outstanding performers may qualify for honors ensembles, such as District, Regional, and All-State Bands. The ensemble meets daily, with additional rehearsals as needed.

AVTC



# Physical Education & Health Course Offerings

## PERSONAL WELLNESS (0877)

Grade 9

0.5 credit

1 semester

### **Fulfills Health Graduation Requirement**

This course will provide students with the basic framework of knowledge to develop a healthy lifestyle. Students will study mental health, and sexually transmitted diseases, first aid/emergency care, fitness, nutrition, healthy relationships, and substance use/abuse. Students will have the opportunity to apply understanding of health knowledge by incorporating decision-making skills and healthy choices into daily lifestyle practices. This course will make use of a combination of lectures, class discussions, group projects, oral presentations, research, demonstrations, guest speakers\*, and student activities. Each student must pass (show proficiency) in CPR to pass this course. *\*As part of the Personal Wellness curriculum, students will receive a two-day lesson on sexually transmitted infections and HIV/AIDS. Parents are permitted to request an alternate assignment for their child instead of attending these sessions. For more information, visit the Health & Physical Education section on the curriculum page of the district website.*



## PHYSICAL EDUCATION I, II (08501)

Grades 9, 10

0.25 credit

1 semester

The Peters Township Physical Education program represents physical education using wellness, adventure, fitness, lifetime activities, relaxation and expressive movements, and team sports-based curriculum designed to energize and educate healthy lifestyles. Two semesters of Physical Education are needed to meet graduation requirements.



## Elective Offerings

## COMPETITIVE GAMES (0885)

Grades 11, 12

0.5 credit

1 semester

**Prerequisite:** Completion of PE I and PE II

**Recommended for students who earn a grade of “B” or higher in PE I and PE II**

This course is designed for students who enjoy highly competitive team games. This is an elective course for juniors and seniors who have successfully completed PE I and PE II and desire to remain active while developing team concepts and game strategies. Students should expect intense physical activity during PE III games and tournaments.



## PARTNERS PHYSICAL EDUCATION (0860) Grades 10, 11, 12

0.5 credit

1 semester

**Prerequisite:** Completion of PE I, II

This course offers students the opportunity to assist and build partnerships with special needs students and those with medical restrictions, helping them engage in Physical Education activities. Partners must demonstrate good attendance, positive discipline records, and serve as role models. Students will complete an application and interview process for committee approval due to class size limits. This course provides “real world” experience for those interested in careers in education, physical/occupational therapy, social work, or helping others. Partners will complete journals, reflections, and collaboratively design a lesson. The Application for Partners in Physical Education Class (from Counseling Office) must be submitted during scheduling.



The course includes class work in theory of basic vehicle control, driving processes, safe and efficient driving practices, handling complex driving environments, emergency driving skills, financial responsibilities, traffic laws (national and PA specific), and the effects that drugs and alcohol on the driver’s performance and decision making. Associated with the completion of this course is an insurance discount from most major providers. An additional 6 hours of practice instruction with a certified instructor will increase the insurance discount (not provided by PTSD).





# Technology Course Offerings

*One Technology Course is required for graduation; these 4 courses are delineated with an asterisk\*.*

## Business and Information Technology Courses

### **\*AP COMPUTER SCIENCE PRINCIPLES (0805)**

**Grades 9, 10, 11, 12**

**1.0 Credit**

**1 year**

**Prerequisite: Completion of Algebra I**

This course introduces students to the essential ideas of computer science and helps them to understand how technology can influence the world around them. As part of this course, students will be exposed to a broad range of computing tools and skills while creatively addressing real-world issues and concerns. AP CSP encourages creativity and provides the skills necessary to create digital projects – from simple games and apps to programs that can inspire the creation of visual art. The AP exam for this course consists of two project-based assessments and a written test. Both assessments will apply the course objectives learned throughout this year-long course. No coding experience is required. This course will meet the Technology Credit for graduation.



### **CHS COMPUTER PROGRAMMING JAVA (0837)**

**Grades 9,10,11,12**

**0.5 credit**

**1 semester**

This is a beginning level programming course using Java. The focus of this course is on problem analysis and the development of algorithms, along with the writing of computer programs. Some topics students will learn include algorithms, programming fundamentals, statements and control flow; methods (functional abstraction), arrays, objects (data abstraction), and reading and writing files. \*For other information on Pitt's grading, tuition, policies, and procedures, please see your teacher or visit <https://www.chs.pitt.edu/>.



### **\*TECHNOLOGY APPLICATIONS (0812)**

**Grades 9, 10, 11, 12**

**0.5 credit**

**1 semester**

This course is designed to provide students with the necessary skills to perform hands-on computer applications. Students will create business related projects using documents, spreadsheets, presentations and databases within the Microsoft Office 2013 Suite. Specifically, students will learn intermediate and advanced skills in Word, Excel, PowerPoint, and Access. Students will understand the impact of these applications and be able to determine the appropriate time to use them to solve problems in the business world. Using the tools from this course, students can effectively create and design applications they can use within other disciplines in high school and college. Furthermore, the objectives achieved in Technology Applications provide all students with the necessary skills to search for, obtain, and succeed within any career field. This course will meet the Technology Credit for graduation.



### **WEB PAGE DESIGN (0825)**

**Grades 9, 10, 11, 12**

**0.5 credit**

**1 semester**

In this semester course, students will use a variety of web design platforms to organize, create, publish, and manage a web site. Throughout the course, students implement and enhance web pages by using HTML and CSS code. With these skills, students will learn to use different page layout techniques, text formatting, graphics, images, and multimedia while producing a functional website.



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<b>INTRO TO PYTHON (0839)</b>	<b>Grades 10, 11, 12</b>	<b>0.5 credit</b>	<b>1 semester</b>
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This semester course is offered to 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade students. Intro to Python will provide a hands-on introduction to the Python programming language, with a focus on practical applications and projects. Students will design and build programs to solve problems using the CMU CS Academy online platform. As the course progresses, students will learn to work with packages, data structures, and object-oriented programming.



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<b>PYTHON II Honors (0841)</b>	<b>Grades 10, 11, 12</b>	<b>0.5 credit</b>	<b>1 semester</b>
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**Prerequisites:** Completion of Intro to Python

This semester course allows students to explore advanced programming capabilities using Python. Python II is a continuation of Intro to Python that will incorporate complex coding elements into their programs. These components will include loops, lists, returns, images, and sound. Students in this course will use a robust curriculum built and operated by Carnegie Mellon University.



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<b>VIDEO GAME DESIGN (GAMING PROGRAMMING) (0843)</b>	<b>Grades 9, 10, 11, 12</b>	<b>0.5 credit</b>	<b>1 semester</b>
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**Pending School Board Approval**

**Video Game Design** introduces students to the fundamentals of creating interactive digital games. Students will learn essential concepts such as game mechanics, storytelling, character development, and coding. The course covers design principles, programming basics, and the use of industry-standard software to create engaging gaming experiences. Through hands-on projects, students will design and build their own playable games, gaining skills that can lead to careers in game development, animation, or software engineering. No prior programming experience is required.



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<b>C-SUITE (0831)</b>	<b>Grade 10, 11, 12</b>	<b>1.0 credit</b>	<b>1 year</b>
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**Recommended for students who earn a grade of “C” or higher in CHS Programming Java and completion of or concurrently enrolled in AP Computer Science Principles**

This is a full year course that provides the students with the opportunity to learn the following C Programming Languages: C, C#, and C++. Students will receive a strong base in each of the languages to gain experience that is wanted by many college computer science programs. The students will use SoloLearn, an online learning platform to gain knowledge of the three languages.



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<b>ADVANCED PLACEMENT COMPUTER SCIENCE A (0836)</b>	<b>Grades 11, 12</b>	<b>1.0 credit</b>	<b>1 year</b>
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**Recommended for students who earn a grade of “C” or higher in CHS Computer Programming Java or C Suite**

This class is designed to give students a comprehensive understanding of Java and to meet the objectives and standards for the AP Test. Some of the concepts that the students will learn in this course are: methods, classes, and objects, advanced object concepts, input, selection, and repetition, arrays and strings, graphics, introduction to inheritance, advanced inheritance concepts, file input and output, abstraction, and interfaces.



**BUSINESS 101 (0806)****Grades 9, 10, 11, 12****0.5 credit****1 semester**

This course will give you a foundation of business topics that include business basics (pricing, staffing, financing and purchasing), information technology, international business, and human resource management. Students will learn these concepts by using a computerized virtual simulation. Find out the many opportunities that the field of business has to offer! This course will lay the foundation and provide the skills necessary to pursue higher education and careers in business management & administration, finance, information technology, marketing, manufacturing, transportation, distribution & logistics, education & training, government & public administration, hospitality & tourism, human services, law, public safety, corrections and security.

**BUSINESS OPERATIONS I, II, III (0807)****Grades 10, 11, 12****1.0 credit****1 year****Prerequisite: Completion of Business 101**

This course is for the business student who plans to pursue a career in entrepreneurship, management, marketing, or sales. The students in this class will receive real-world experience through the daily operations and management of the school coffee shop, The Coffee Tree Roasters. The students will be responsible for learning every aspect of **operating** this business. The student will be responsible for product design and development, purchasing inventory, scheduling, inventory control, marketing, publicity, bookkeeping, website management, etc. Students may take this course more than once. This course will require students to operate the school store outside of regular school hours. Students interested in enrolling in this class are required to complete a job application and will go through a typical interview process for employment.

**ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND BUSINESS MANAGEMENT (0803)****Grades 10, 11, 12****0.5 credit****1 semester**

Do you want to own your own business someday? Are you going to pursue a career in business? Then come behind the scenes of business operations and learn entrepreneurship, human resources, financial management, communications, marketing, e-commerce, and global integration. The purpose of this course is to provide the student with an understanding of business from the entrepreneur's point of view. Substantial time is spent investigating how an idea is developed into a business and how that business is created and managed using technology, partnerships with businesses, and hands-on activities. This course will lay the foundation and provide the skills necessary to pursue higher education and careers in business management & administration, finance, marketing, education & training, government & public administration, hospitality & tourism, human services, law, public safety, corrections and security.

**CHS MARKETING (0808)****Grades 10, 11, 12****0.5 credit****1 semester****Prerequisite: Completion of Business 101*****Pending School Board Approval***

CHS Marketing is an introductory college course that introduces students to the process of creating, distributing, promoting and pricing products to consumers. Students will learn how business and non-business organizations engage in marketing activities to create and maintain satisfying exchange relationships with consumers. Topics of study include, but are not limited to, the marketing concept/ marketing environment, customer relationship management, distribution, consumer buying behavior, product concepts, the product life cycle, branding, packaging, pricing strategies, marketing research and integrated marketing communications. Interactive projects, case studies, class discussions, presentations and guest speakers will be utilized throughout the course. Over one third of all US occupations are involved in some aspects of marketing. Learning marketing will help you explore different careers, enable you to become a better consumer and prepare you for further collegiate study in the business field. Students successfully completing this course will have the opportunity to earn 3 college credits from Robert Morris University for MARK-2000: Marketing in an Interconnected World



## Media Courses

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<b>*MEDIA I – MASS COMMUNICATION (0028)</b>	<b>Grades 9,10,11,12</b>	<b>0.5 credit</b>	<b>1 semester</b>
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This semester course will provide a survey of forms of mass communication. It creates a practical experience creating mass communication in photography and video. Students will learn photographic techniques, video planning, and editing. It compares and plans visual communication to study a practical experience. This course meets the Technology Credit for graduation.



<b>MEDIA EDITING (0027)</b>	<b>Grades 9,10,11,12</b>	<b>0.5 credit</b>	<b>1 semester</b>
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Students in this semester course will use a variety of software, design principles, and AI to create projects using photographs, video, and text. They will learn to design and share projects for video, print, the web, and social media. Students with Media experience will be given advanced projects to complete.



<b>MEDIA ON-AIR TALENT (0030)</b>	<b>Grades 10, 11, 12</b>	<b>0.5 credit</b>	<b>1 semester</b>
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Students in this course will appear on the Morning Announcements and will teach students how to perform and present on camera for an audience. Students will write for media, prepare for camera appearances, and deliver a variety of television programs. The course puts public speaking in front of a camera and microphone.



<b>MEDIA II, III, IV BROADCAST (0002C)</b>	<b>Grades 10, 11, 12</b>	<b>1.0 credit</b>	<b>1 year</b>
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**Prerequisites: Completion of Media I**

This year-long class will explore various aspects of video production and television fields. Students will learn how to operate a multitude of equipment necessary to produce video projects using editing software that will be used for a variety of live productions. Students will be encouraged to become proficient in equipment usages, media literacy, critical analysis, and the components of live production.



<b>MEDIA II, III, IV PHOTOGRAPHY (0033)</b>	<b>Grades 10, 11, 12</b>	<b>1.0 credit</b>	<b>1 year</b>
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**Prerequisite: Completion of Media I**

This year-long course will explore all areas of composition, exposure and manipulation in photography. The class will combine hands-on training with photographic theory. Students will be encouraged to become proficient in shooting, uploading, and manipulating images. Some specializations may develop as the year goes on, depending on student aptitudes and interests.



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<b>MEDIA II, III, IV JOURNALISM (0007C)</b>	<b>Grades 10, 11, 12</b>	<b>1.0 credit</b>	<b>1 year</b>
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**Prerequisite: Completion of Media I**

Students will produce the content for PTHS Showcase and print news magazine for the high school in this year-long class based on national journalism standards. They will develop skills in photography, video, writing, layout, desktop publishing, editing and design. Students will work within groups and there will be leadership opportunities for students as editors.



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<b>MEDIA II, III, IV YEARBOOK (0013C)</b>	<b>Grade 12</b>	<b>1.0 credit</b>	<b>1 year</b>
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**Prerequisite: Completion of Media II Photography or Media II Broadcast and an Application**

This year-long course will combine production training and practice with national standards of yearbook assembly. Students in this course will ultimately produce the school yearbook. Students will learn to work within an organizational structure that includes student editors. Students will increase their proficiency in desktop publishing, layout design, photography, writing, editing, and fund-raising. Specializations will be assigned depending on student aptitudes, interest, and publication needs. Students will also work to complete the Senior Video Yearbook as well as work on special projects for the school.



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<b>MEDIA III, IV, V, VI TV PRODUCTION (0005C)</b>	<b>Grades 11, 12</b>	<b>0.5 credit</b>	<b>1 semester</b>
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**Prerequisites: Completion of Media II Broadcast and an Application**

This semester class produces the Morning Announcements and will combine pre-production and live production techniques, ultimately producing a variety of live productions, both school related and for Peters Township Community Television. The students will become proficient in all aspects of live production. This course will provide an opportunity for students to explore and utilize new technological advances in the television and communication fields. Students interested in enrolling in this class are required to complete an application.



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<b>CHS MEDIA III, IV, V, VI TV PRODUCTION (0024)</b>	<b>Grades 11, 12</b>	<b>0.5 credit</b>	<b>1 semester</b>
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**Prerequisites: Completion of Media II Broadcast, Media III, IV, V, VI Television Production, and an Application**

This semester class produces the Morning Announcements and will combine pre-production and live production techniques, ultimately producing a variety of live productions, both school related and for Peters Township Community Television. The students will become proficient in all aspects of live production. This course will provide an opportunity for students to explore and utilize new technological advances in the television and communication fields. Students interested in enrolling in this class are required to complete an application. **Upon completion of this course students will have the opportunity to earn up to 3 college credits through a partnership with Point Park University.**



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<b>MEDIA III, IV, V, VI TELEVISION SPORTS PRODUCTION (0023)</b>	<b>Grades 11, 12</b>	<b>0.5 credit</b>	<b>1 semester</b>
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**Prerequisites: Completion of Media II Broadcast**

This semester hands-on course exposes students to sports broadcasting and video production. It will combine pre-production and live production techniques producing a variety of video projects including athlete and coach interviews, sports news packages, highlight videos, and podcasts. Students will have the opportunity to produce sports broadcasts and weekly updates in conjunction with the Peters Township Athletic Department.



## Technology Education and Applied Engineering Courses

### **\*INTRODUCTION TO SCIENCE TECHNOLOGY ENGINEERING MATH (0756) Grade 9,10,11,12 0.5 credit 1 semester**

Introduction to STEM is designed as a basic overview for careers associated with Science, Technology Engineering and Math. Students who complete this course will gain exposure to areas necessary to design and develop concepts necessary to be successful in today's technological society. Exciting hands-on learning activities build skills for success through, research, experiments, and challenges that incorporate STEM concepts. Activities will be designed around problem solving with an emphasis on engineering systems that help meet the needs and wants of consumers. This course will meet the Technology Credit for graduation.



### **AGILE ROBOTICS I (0730) Grades 9,10,11,12 0.5 Credit 1 semester**

Agile Robotics I provides a basic foundation in robotics technology with particular concentration on first generation robotics. Due to the multi-disciplinary nature of robotics, the student is exposed to the many facets of robotics including material from computer, electrical, and mechanical disciplines with a focus on engineering processes. Designed to cultivate students' interest, awareness and application to areas related to technologies necessary to design, develop, install and maintain physical systems. The course features a breadth/depth ratio of 80% lab component and 20% direction instruction component. The laboratory component features basic activities to solidify lecture concepts and team-oriented, hands-on projects to solve basic robotics problems. The STEM system of teaching is employed throughout this course to give the 21st century learner a great experience.



### **AGILE ROBOTICS II (0731) Grades 9,10,11,12 0.5 Credit 1 semester**

#### **Prerequisite: Completion of Agile Robotics I**

This course continues from Agile Robotics I by delving further into the details of robotics technology. Highlights of AR2 include use of discipline-specific software tools, additional details of robotic systems, application of robot control programming, motion planning, and additional applied electronics skills. The course follows a breadth/depth ratio of 50/50. The laboratory component features various projects to solidify lecture concepts and team-oriented, hands-on projects to solve various robotics problems. This course serves to highlight students' awareness of technologies necessary to design, develop, install and maintain physical systems at an advance level. Agile Robotics I is a required course before students enroll in Agile Robotics II.



### **APPLIED ENGINEERING & INNOVATION (0738) Grades 11, 12 0.5 credit 1 semester**

#### **Prerequisite: Completion of Intro to STEM**

This course is focused on collaborative problem-solving in conjunction with neighboring school districts and industry partners. Students will be involved in experiences that take them out of the traditional classroom paradigm to allow for project-based learning mimicking a real-world engineering challenge. Course work is student driven and directed by the challenges presented the industry partners.





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**ARCHITECTURAL ENGINEERING I (0748)      Grades 9,10,11,12      1.0 credit      1 year**

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This course will cultivate student awareness of fundamental skills and concepts necessary for architectural planning, design and drawing. Students will prepare a full set of residential architectural drawings, including floor plans, elevations and pictorial drawings. A portfolio will be developed that will aid the student when pursuing careers in related fields. Architectural parametric software will be the medium for which the student will design their 2D floor plans/3D walk-thru.



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**ARCHITECTURE ENGINEERING II (0733)      Grades 10, 11, 12      0.5 credit      1 semester**

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**Prerequisite: Completion of Architectural Engineering I**

The Architecture and Engineering II course will further investigate how the structure is designed and built beyond the layout of spaces between walls. Students will incorporate green building concepts and sustainable design in architecture. These concepts will be the foundation for students in choosing proper building materials and utility needs. Students will design and fabricate a scale model of their dream home as a culminating project.



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**AUTOMATION ENGINEERING (0749)      Grades 9,10,11,12      0.5 credit      1 semester**

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This course will introduce students to Automated Manufacturing Technology and how the countless products of society are produced. The elements and resources of manufacturing systems will be explained with new technology that is being employed to make our product systems more efficient. Students will see how lasers and robotics can improve manufacturing processes and end products. The use of computers in manufacturing (CAM) and design (CAD), automation, and other new developments will be part of the activities involved with this exciting course. Students taking this course will have the opportunity to create a project using the Technology Education Laboratory resources.



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**COMPETITIVE TECHNOLOGY (0753)      Grades 9,10,11,12      1.0 credit      1 year**

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The course will allow students to apply their knowledge of technology, engineering, math, and science to compete with other students throughout the school, region, and state in problem-solving activities. Activities and competitions sponsored by the Technology Student Association (TSA) and Odyssey of the Mind (OM) will be the foundation of the course. This course is designed to cultivate students' interests in the life and physical sciences along with research and development. Creativity and ingenuity will be emphasized throughout the course. Many of the challenges introduced during the course will allow students to research and develop technology in an independent mode of study.



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**COMPUTER AIDED DRAFTING & DESIGN(0759)      Grades 9, 10, 11, 12      0.5 credit      1 semester**

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The Computer Aided Drafting and Design (CADD) course cultivates the application and design of parametric engineering using *SolidWorks* software and digital content creation tools. Students will use *SolidWorks* to create working drawings of product designs, 3D modeling, assembly animation, and virtual prototyping. Many college engineering programs require use of this software. This course is an innovative course for students who are interested in pursuing advanced studies in any engineering-based career, 3D design and CADD fields.



**PRODUCTION TECHNOLOGY (0755)****Grades 9,10,11,12****0.5 credit****1 semester**

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Production Technology allows students to grow their knowledge of production systems as they relate to manufactured products. Beginning with the study of systems involving the use of inputs and processes, students will change the form of materials using processing and management technologies to produce packaged products. Students taking this course will also have the opportunity to not only design but also create products using various tools within the Technology Education Laboratory. Activities are designed to cultivate student interest and awareness of hand tools and the use of those tools to create products that meet consumer needs and wants. Interactions with other students as part of the production team help foster social and management skills needed in today's society.

**CADD II (0735)****Grades 10, 11, 12****0.5 credit****1 semester**

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***Pending School Board Approval*****Prerequisite: Completion of CADD**

The CADD II course allows students to further their studies in the area of parametric engineering design. Students will obtain hands-on exposure to processes commonly used to rapidly fabricate prototypes. Utilizing *SolidWorks* and *Ansys AIM* software, students will gain the knowledge and insight to select appropriate process/technologies to create student generated designs. Students will utilize the 3D technologies to produce, test and analyze their designs.



# World Language Course Offerings

French, German and Spanish courses are taught by a grammar and proficiency-oriented methodology designed to develop accuracy in listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills. Development of these skills will be done within the context of everyday authentic situations relevant to the student. Each of these skills will be emphasized to varying degrees throughout the five-year sequence; special emphasis will be consistently given to oral communication. In addition to language skills, students will gain an understanding and appreciation of French, German, and Spanish speaking peoples and their historical, literary, and cultural significance. Students will be utilizing technology skills to aid in their acquisition of the language.

All students need to be aware that the rigor and expectations increase with each level of language. Furthermore, the target language is used more frequently as the primary language as the level increases and is used exclusively in the AP level. Lastly, a student may repeat the same World Language course two times only without successful completion.

## French Electives

### FRENCH I (0500)

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

1.0 credit

1 year

The Level I course is a full-year course which introduces students to the study of World Language and culture. The basic skills of listening, speaking, reading, and writing will be taught and practiced with emphasis on student performance in both grammar and vocabulary. Aspects of the culture of French-speaking people will be introduced and discussed.



### FRENCH II (0501)

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

1.0 credit

1 year

**Prerequisite:** Completion of French I

**Recommended for students who earn a grade of "C" or higher in French I**

The Level II course is a full-year course which continues the study of World Language and culture. The basic skills of listening, speaking, reading, and writing will continue to be taught and practiced with emphasis on student performance. More reading and writing is included than in Level I. Various aspects of culture will continue to be discussed, including geography and history.



### FRENCH III (0502)

Grades 10, 11, 12

1.0 credit

1 year

**Prerequisite:** Completion of French II

**Recommended for students who earn a grade of "C" or higher in French II**

The level III course continues the study of French language and culture. The basic skills of listening, speaking, reading, and writing will be taught and practiced with the emphasis on student performance in both grammar and vocabulary. More reading and writing are included than in level II and the course will move at a faster pace than the previous year. Various aspects of the culture of French-speaking people will be introduced and discussed. This will also include some components of geography and history of various francophone countries. For students to be successful, they will participate in daily class discussions, practice taking notes, interpret various authentic texts, and work to improve pronunciation and reading in French.



**Prerequisite: Completion of French II with a “B” or higher or Teacher Recommendation**

At an accelerated pace, Honors Level III is a full-year course that continues the study of the French language and culture. Students taking this course are declaring an intent to continue with language study to Honors Level IV, and eventually AP. The basic skills of listening, speaking, reading, and writing will be taught and practiced with the emphasis on student performance in both grammar and vocabulary. More reading and writing is included than in level II and the course will move at a faster pace than the previous year. Various aspects of the culture of French-speaking people will be introduced and discussed. This will also include some components of geography and history of various francophone countries. In order for students to be successful, they will participate in daily class discussions, practice taking notes, interpret various authentic texts, and work to improve pronunciation and reading in French. This course is taught mostly in the target language, with students focusing on increasing their level of proficiency to prepare for further study.

**Prerequisite: Completion of French III Honors with a “B” or higher or Teacher Recommendation**

The fourth level language course applies fundamental grammar and vocabulary concepts in a more sophisticated contextual setting. This course develops: increased handling of idiomatic expressions to make the student’s speech and written work more authentic; greater skill in pronunciation, rhythm, and intonation; increased knowledge of the social, political and environmental issues of French-speaking peoples; and progression in skills of listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Increased emphasis will be placed on the study of current events and cultures of the French-speaking world and the AP themes. Classroom instruction is exclusively in French. This course provides preparation for the AP program by integrating AP topics, tasks and materials.

**Prerequisite: Completion of French IV Honors with a “B” or higher or Teacher Recommendation**

The AP French Language and Culture course is designed as the final year in a program that begins in 6th grade with an exploratory mini course in three World languages. Students who are enrolled in the AP course are expected to be able to communicate comfortably and effectively in French upon their admission to the course. The course combines a study of history, literature, and contemporary connections to the essential themes of the course. Exploring the development of thought in various eras and disciplines while using and exploring the French language is the focus of the course. The four language skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing are continually addressed and developed as students proceed through the curriculum and across three communicative modes (interpersonal, interpretive, and presentational). The students will develop greater accuracy through a review of grammatical structures and a broadening of their vocabulary. The materials for this class will include standard textbooks designed for the advanced student, College Board AP exam preparation materials, and a compilation of materials from authentic print and audio sources. Students have the opportunity to earn college credits through a partnership with Seton Hill University and/or take the AP exam administered in May. Both options are at the expense of the student.



## German Electives

### GERMAN I (0505)

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

1.0 credit

1 year

The Level I course is a full-year course, which introduces students to the study of World Language and culture. The basic skills of listening, speaking, reading, and writing will be taught and practiced with emphasis on student performance in both grammar and vocabulary. Various aspects of the culture of German-speaking people will be introduced and discussed.



### GERMAN II (0506)

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

1.0 credit

1 year

**Prerequisite:** Completion of German I

**Recommended for students who earn a grade of “C” or higher in German I**

The Level II course is a full-year course which continues the study of World Language and culture. The basic skills of listening, speaking, reading, and writing will continue to be taught and practiced with emphasis on student performance. More reading and writing is included than in Level I. Various aspects of culture will continue to be discussed, including geography, and history.



### GERMAN III (0507)

Grade 10, 11, 12

1.0 credit

1 year

**Prerequisite:** Completion of German II

**Recommended for students who earn a grade of “C” or higher in German II**

This third level language course is a full-year course which continues the study of all aspects of language – listening, speaking, reading, and writing. There is increased emphasis on oral expression and on accuracy in spoken and written language. The students will apply their language skills to increase cultural understanding through authentic texts in the target language. There is an emphasis on the application of previously learned and newly acquired concepts and skills. This level tends to require that students take more responsibility and ownership of reviewing material that was learned in previous levels.



### GERMAN III HONORS (0557)

Grade 10, 11, 12

1.0 credit

1 year

**Prerequisite:** Completion of German II with a grade of “B” or higher or Teacher Recommendation

This third level language course is a full-year course which continues the study of all aspects of language – listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Assessments will be at a greater level of rigor. Emphasis will be placed on instruction mostly in the target language, with students focusing on increasing their level of proficiency to prepare for further study. Students taking this course are declaring an intent to continue with language study in Honors Level IV, and eventually AP. There is increased emphasis on oral expression and on accuracy in spoken and written language. The students will apply their language skills to increase cultural understanding through authentic texts in the target language. There is an emphasis on the application of previously learned and newly acquired concepts and skills. This level tends to require that students take more responsibility and ownership of reviewing material that was learned in previous levels.



**GERMAN IV HONORS (0508)****Grades 11, 12****1.0 credit****1 year****Prerequisite: Completion of German III Honors with a grade of “B” or higher or Teacher Recommendation**

The fourth level language course applies fundamental grammar and vocabulary in a more sophisticated contextual setting. This course develops: increased handling of idiomatic expressions to make the student’s speech and written work more authentic; greater skill in pronunciation, rhythm, and intonation; increased knowledge of German-speaking cultures and perspectives; and progression in skills of listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Classroom instruction is primarily in German. This course provides preparation for the AP program by integrating AP topics, tasks and materials.

**ADVANCED PLACEMENT/CHS GERMAN LANGUAGE (0579) Grade 12****1.0 credit****1 year****Prerequisite: Completion of German IV Honors with a grade of “B” or higher or Teacher Recommendation**

The AP German course is designed to lead students toward mastery of all aspects of the language equal to a third-year college course in composition and conversation. This class is noticeably more rigorous both in and out of class than the other levels. As such, the focus continues to be on the mastery of listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills. Classroom instruction and discussion are in the target language. Students will receive preparation for the AP examination. Students have the opportunity to earn college credits through a partnership with Seton Hill University and/or take the AP exam administered in May. Both options are at the expense of the student.



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**Spanish Electives**

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**SPANISH 1B (0512B)****Grade 9****1.0 credit****1 year****Prerequisite: Teacher Recommendation**

Level 1B is a continuation of the 1A course from the Middle School. Students are exposed to additional vocabulary and grammatical concepts providing them opportunities to expand their knowledge of the target language. Further exploration of cultural components enhances the language learning experience. Successful completion of the Level 1A course, in which the student maintained at least a “C” average, is a prerequisite for the Level 1B course. Students may test into level 1B if they have completed some level of Spanish at another school.

**SPANISH I (0512)****Grades 9, 10, 11, 12****1.0 credit****1 year**

The Level I course is a full-year course, which introduces students to the study of World Language and culture. The basic skills of listening, speaking, reading, and writing will be taught and practiced with emphasis on student performance in both grammar and vocabulary. Various aspects of the culture of Spanish-speaking people will be introduced and discussed.





<b>SPANISH II (0513)</b>	<b>Grades 9, 10, 11, 12</b>	<b>1.0 credit</b>	<b>1 year</b>
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**Prerequisite: Completion of Spanish I**

**Recommended for students who earn a grade of a “C” or higher in Spanish I**

The Level II course is a full-year course which continues the study of World Language and culture. The basic skills of listening, speaking, reading, and writing will continue to be taught and practiced with emphasis on student performance. More reading and writing is included than in Level I, and the course moves at a faster pace. Various aspects of culture will continue to be discussed, including geography and history.



<b>SPANISH III (0514)</b>	<b>Grades 10, 11, 12</b>	<b>1.0 credit</b>	<b>1 year</b>
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**Prerequisite: Completion of Spanish II**

**Recommended for students who earn a grade of a “C” or higher in Spanish II**

Spanish III is a full-year course, which continues to the study Spanish language and culture. There is increased emphasis on oral expression and on accuracy in spoken and written language. The student will use the language skills he/she acquires to increase cultural understanding using authentic texts and audio in the target language. There is an emphasis on the application of previously learned and newly acquired concepts and skills. This level tends to require that students take more responsibility and ownership of reviewing material that was learned in previous levels. The focus of this level is on student communication skills and increasing proficiency.



<b>SPANISH III HONORS (0554)</b>	<b>Grades 10, 11, 12</b>	<b>1.0 credit</b>	<b>1 year</b>
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**Prerequisite: Completion of Spanish II with a grade of “B” or higher or Teacher Recommendation**

At an accelerated pace, Honors Level III is a full-year course that continues the study of the Spanish language and culture. Students taking this course are declaring an intent to continue with language study to Honors Level IV, and eventually AP. There is increased emphasis on oral expression and on accuracy in spoken and written language. The student will use the language skills he/she acquires to increase cultural understanding using authentic texts and audio in the target language. There is an emphasis on the application of previously learned and newly acquired concepts and skills. This level tends to require that students take more responsibility and ownership of reviewing material that was learned in previous levels. This course is taught mostly in the target language, with students focusing on increasing their level of proficiency to prepare for further study.



<b>SPANISH IV HONORS (0515)</b>	<b>Grades 11, 12</b>	<b>1.0 credit</b>	<b>1 year</b>
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**Prerequisite: Completion of Spanish III Honors with a grade of “B” or higher or Teacher Recommendation**

The fourth level language course applies fundamental grammatical concepts in a more sophisticated contextualized setting. This course develops: increased handling of idiomatic expressions to make the student’s speech and written work authentic; increased knowledge of the social, political, and environmental issues of the Spanish-speaking peoples; and progression in skills of listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Classroom instruction and discussions are almost exclusively in the target language. Students are expected to exhibit greater independence in their own acquisition of the language, especially within the previously learned and newly acquired concepts. This course provides preparation for the AP program by integrating AP themes, tasks and materials and focusing on increasing student proficiency within the target language.



**Prerequisite:** Completion of Spanish IV Honors with a grade of “B” or higher or Teacher Recommendation

Advanced Placement/CHS Spanish Language is approximately the equivalent of an upper-intermediate college or university course in Spanish language and culture. The four language skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing are continually addressed and developed as students proceed through the curriculum and across three communicative modes (interpersonal, interpretive, and presentational). Additionally, students will develop greater accuracy through a thorough review of grammatical structures and a broadening and sophistication of their vocabulary. The materials utilized in this course will include standard textbooks designed for the advanced student and AP exam preparation materials, enhanced by a rich variety of materials from authentic print and audio sources. 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning is achieved through the frequent use of technology on a weekly basis. Students have the opportunity to earn college credits through a partnership with Seton Hill University and/or take the AP exam administered in May. Both options are at the expense of the student.



General Language Elective

**Prerequisites:** Completion of or concurrently enrolled in a level II language

This is a semester elective course that will focus on one’s role as an individual within the global community. Students will develop global competency skills through the integration of culture, communication, communities, comparisons, and connections within and between global societies. Students will study language through cultural comparisons and the effect of communication on culture. Students will analyze the importance of cultural identity and cultural sensitivity, and prepare to represent themselves effectively and appropriately in a globalized market. This course is taught in English.



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# Western Area Career & Technology Center

## Course Offerings

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At Western Area Career and Technology Center (WACTC), students gain hands-on experience, industry certifications, and real-world skills that prepare them for high-demand careers. WACTC programs are designed for students in grades 10-12 who are eager to explore technical education while completing their high school requirements at Peters Township High School. Interested students should speak with their school counselor to learn more about eligibility and application deadlines. Applications for WACTC are submitted electronically.

### Programs Offered

WACTC offers a wide range of career pathways (See descriptions below). For a complete listing with detailed descriptions and shop requirements, go to [WACTC Secondary Programs](#) and select "Programs."

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<b>AUTOMOTIVE MECHANICS (1105)</b>	<b>Grades 10, 11, 12</b>	<b>3.0 credit</b>	<b>1 year</b>
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The three-year Automotive Mechanics program is for 10th, 11th, and 12th grade students. This program will prepare students for employment in the auto repair industry working with parts, tune-ups, brakes, transmissions, electrical and fuel systems. The program will also assist in the diagnosis and repair of various drivability conditions and routine vehicle maintenance.

**TDL**

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<b>AUTOMATION &amp; ROBOTICS ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY (1120)</b>	<b>Grades 10, 11, 12</b>	<b>3.0 credit</b>	<b>1 year</b>
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This three-year course focuses on all aspects of industrial and commercial machines and robotics and is designed to prepare students for work in industry or continued education in engineering-related fields. The program includes design activities and instruction in operation, set-up, maintenance, troubleshooting, and repair of machines and systems found in commercial, packaging, medical, and food production facilities where high tech equipment is used. Curriculum and instruction include the areas of Electricity, Electronics, Sensor Technology, Machine Operations and Maintenance, Industrial Electronics, Computer Machine Controls, Machine Repair, Motors and Control Applied Physics, Fluid Power, Mechanical Components, Schematic Interpretation and Quality Control. Students are trained on a wide variety of tools for preventative maintenance and construction of equipment. Individuals entering this career should possess good mechanical aptitude, eye-hand coordination, math skills, manual dexterity, critical thinking skills, and the ability to work as a team member.

**STEM**

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<b>CARPENTRY (1107)</b>	<b>Grades 10, 11, 12</b>	<b>3.0 credit</b>	<b>1 year</b>
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This three-year program prepares 10th, 11th, and 12th graders for all phases of residential carpentry. The course is taught in sequence with the construction of a house. Site layout, footer layout and forming, rough framing, exterior finish and roofing, insulation, drywall, and interior finish are covered. Each unit is taught in conjunction with related safety, estimating, and blueprint reading. Those who complete the course acquire skills needed to obtain employment as a carpenter.

**AC**

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<b>COLLISION REPAIR TECHNOLOGY (1103)</b>	<b>Grades 10, 11, 12</b>	<b>3.0 credit</b>	<b>1 year</b>
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Through theory and related hands-on classroom instruction, students in this program will learn the latest techniques in five major topics. Instruction utilizes the I-Car curriculum, and numerous techniques and technologies are used to keep abreast of current industry trends and standards. Martin Senour Paint Systems are used throughout with an emphasis on waterborne systems.

**TDL**

<b>COSMETOLOGY (1109)</b>	<b>Grades 10, 11, 12</b>	<b>3.0 credit</b>	<b>1 year</b>
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Cosmetology is a three-year course for tenth, eleventh, and twelfth grade students. The course will be operated by the Western ACTC under the regulations of the State Board of Cosmetology. Students with regular attendance will receive the required 1250 hours of training needed to take the State Board exams for licensing.

**HS**

<b>CULINARY ARTS &amp; BAKING (1117)</b>	<b>Grades 10, 11, 12</b>	<b>3.0 credit</b>	<b>1 year</b>
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Instruction includes theory and applications related to food preparation, menu and banquet planning, food and beverage purchasing, quality control, cost analysis, safety, and sanitation. Students learn the safe and proper use of hand and power tools of the industry. Program components include Commercial Baking, Catering, Institutional Foods, Meat Cutting, Cooking Methods, Nutrition, Safety, and Sanitation. Program completion qualifies students for positions in the food service industry or advanced study at a culinary institute or college. A Hospitality component will complement this three-year program, which will include instruction and practical experiences in lodging management, office operation, leadership and management, marketing, food and beverage service, and operation of the physical plant.

**HT**

<b>EMERGENCY AND PROTECTIVE SERVICES (1116)</b>	<b>Grades 10, 11, 12</b>	<b>3.0 Credit</b>	<b>1 Year</b>
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This course provides three years of classroom and practical experience for entrance in the field of public safety via in-depth training to perform duties as a police officer, firefighter, emergency medical technician, and other public safety related careers. The application of math, English, communications, science, and physics, is demonstrated throughout the course. Students receive training in social and psychological skills, vehicle and equipment operations, the judicial system, pre-hospital emergency medical crew, fire prevention and control, hazardous materials, and emergency management.

**LPCS**

<b>ELECTRICAL OCCUPATIONS (1111)</b>	<b>Grades 10, 11, 12</b>	<b>3.0 credit</b>	<b>1 year</b>
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10th, 11th, and 12th grade students are prepared for employment in the fields of residential, commercial, and industrial wiring, installation, and maintenance of equipment including electrical motors, transformers, control systems, communications systems, wired fiber optics, and related equipment. Those who complete the three-year course receive West Penn Wire CDT (fiber optics) certification.

**STEM**

<b>HEALTH OCCUPATIONS (1112)</b>	<b>Grades 10, 11, 12</b>	<b>3.0 credit</b>	<b>1 year</b>
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This course prepares students for careers in the health field. Students are provided clinical and shadowing experiences in long-term care facilities and doctors' offices to enhance the learning experience and assist in the transition to employment. Core curriculum includes an Overview of Health Careers, Basic Anatomy and Physiology, Medical Terminology, Clinical Laboratory, Procedures, Universal Precautions, Legal and Ethical Aspects of Health Care, and Communication Skills. Students are also provided instruction to qualify them for certification in First Aid, CPR and CNA.

**HS**

<b>HEATING, VENTILATION &amp; AIR CONDITIONING (1113)</b>	<b>Grades 10, 11, 12</b>	<b>3.0 credit</b>	<b>1 year</b>
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Heating Air Conditioning is a three-year program that prepares 10th, 11th, and 12th grade students for employment to assist the mechanic in the servicing and installation of residential and commercial heating and cooling systems. Students are also prepared for the EPA certification exam for safe refrigerant handling.

**AC**

<b>MACHINE TOOL TECHNOLOGY (1135)</b>	<b>Grades 10, 11, 12</b>	<b>3.0 credit</b>	<b>1 year</b>
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This three-year course provides 10th, 11th, and 12th graders the skills needed for entry into the machining field through basic hands-on machining practice on lathes, milling machines and grinders. Topics include set-up, tool selection, and methods used on various materials such as steel, aluminum, and brass. Computer-part programming and machine operation are also included in the training.

**M**

<b>MASONRY (1130)</b>	<b>Grades 10, 11, 12</b>	<b>3.0 credit</b>	<b>1 year</b>
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This three-year instructional program prepares students in brick, block, stone, concrete, tuck pointing, and artificial stone construction. Students learn the types and sizes of masonry materials, various applications for materials, blueprint reading, masonry symbols, use of measuring instruments, leveling instruments, layout and design, bonds, hand tools, masonry equipment, mortar mixing, concrete mixing, estimation, practical problems in mathematics, preparation of material lists, masonry saw, tile saw, 14" dry cut saw, hammer drill, demolition, fireplaces, chimneys, barbecues fireplaces, steps, walls, scaffold construction, etc.

**AC**

<b>NETWORKING (1119)</b>	<b>Grades 10, 11, 12</b>	<b>3.0 credit</b>	<b>1 year</b>
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This three-year program provides 10th, 11th, and 12th graders with meaningful training toward a career and/or further study in the rapidly expanding occupational area through gainful, positive experiences whether or not they are coming from districts having their own networking programs. This program provides information and hands-on activity leading to certifications such as Cisco, Microsoft Certified Engineer, A+ and others. Networking topics include Software, Hardware, Operating Systems, Installation, and Solutions.

**STEM**

<b>REHABILITATION AIDE/SPORTS MEDICINE (1127)</b>	<b>Grades 10, 11, 12</b>	<b>3.0 Credits</b>	<b>1 year</b>
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This three-year program offers students the career opportunity to pursue jobs in the fields of Personal Trainer, Coach, Rehabilitation Aide, Athletic Trainer, Physical Therapist Assistant. This program will teach key components of rehabilitation and exercise training through a foundation of human sciences and hands on lab training. Students will receive certifications in; OSHA OCC Safety & Health Administration, ACSM Personal Training, AMCA Physical Therapy Aide, First Aide, CPR AED certification. Other certifications that will be available are; Bloodborne Pathogens, OSHA 10, Mandate Reporting training concussion training.

**HS**

<b>WELDING (1118)</b>	<b>Grades 10, 11, 12</b>	<b>3.0 credit</b>	<b>1 year</b>
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This course prepares students in oxy-fuel, shielded metal arc, gas metal arc, gas tungsten arc, flux core welding, carbon arc, plasma cutting, manual and radiograph cutting, and oxy-fuel brazing processes. 10th, 11th, and 12th grade students learn the use of measuring instruments, hand tools, portable grinders, metallurgy, blueprint reading, electrical principles, layout and design, fabrication, practical problems in math, preparation of material lists, cost estimating, and quality assurance methods. Successful students will be given the opportunity to earn AWS certifications.

**M**