

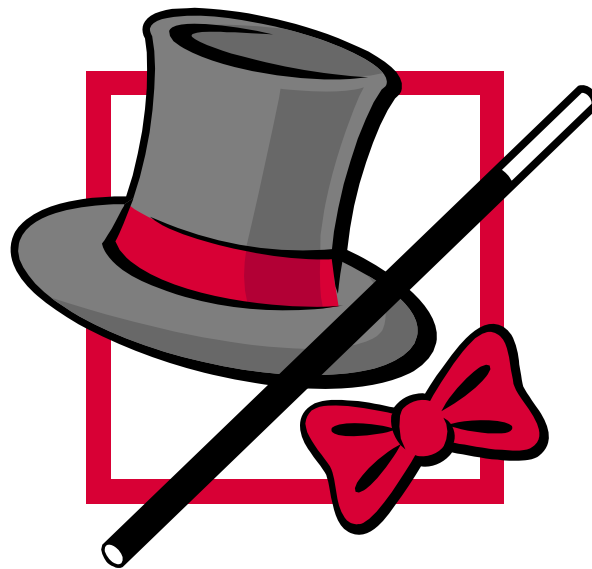
Wilbur Cross High School

181 Mitchell Drive, New Haven, CT 06511

Tel: (203) 946-8748 Fax: (203) 946-6932

Course Selection Guide

2009 – 2010



“The Governors”

Rose Coggins
Principal

Reginald Mayo, Ph.D.
Superintendent of Schools

Wilbur Cross High School

MISSION STATEMENT

Wilbur Cross High School is a richly diverse community committed to the pursuit of academic excellence and social responsibility. With the help of family and the community, we strive to provide a safe environment that fosters respect for self and others. Through rigorous instruction based upon high standards and accountability, we challenge students to become lifelong learners and empowered citizens.

Building a Community of Learners

Adopted by the WCHS Faculty, March 6, 2006

Escuela Superior Wilbur Cross

DECLARACIÓN DE MISIÓN

La Escuela Wilbur Cross es una comunidad de gran diversidad, dedicada a la excelencia académica y la responsabilidad social. Con la ayuda de la familia y la comunidad, nos esforzamos en proveer un ambiente sano que promueva respeto para sí mismo y los demás. A través de la instrucción rigurosa basada en altas metas y responsabilidad, retamos a todos los estudiantes a convertirse en estudiantes para toda la vida y ser ciudadanos ejemplares.

Construyendo una Comunidad de Estudiantes

Adoptado por la facultad de la Escuela Wilbur Cross, 6 de Marzo de 2006

Expectations for Student Learning

Academic Expectations

Wilbur Cross students will:

1. communicate effectively through speaking and writing for a variety of purposes and audiences;
2. read, understand, and respond to a variety of materials;
3. use mathematical concepts and principles to analyze and organize data, to reason logically, to solve problems, and to draw accurate conclusions;
4. acquire and evaluate information in order to interpret events, issues and/or ideas, to understand historical and social patterns, and to make informed judgments and responses;
5. apply the principles and processes of the sciences to analyze phenomena, conduct inquiry-based investigation, and solve problems related to the natural/physical world;
6. use technology and other information systems to obtain, organize, and present information, and to engage in discourse beyond the Wilbur Cross community;
7. strengthen their education by studying the fine arts, the practical arts, healthy living, and world languages;
8. develop plans and goals for the future and be prepared for college, other post-secondary education, the work force and/or the military.

Social Expectations

Wilbur Cross students will:

1. develop teamwork, communication, and leadership skills, and demonstrate the ability to work collaboratively and independently;
2. demonstrate the ability to make informed choices, and adopt behavior that positively affects learning, health, safety, and the well-being of self and others;
3. develop an awareness of global issues, and understand, respect and appreciate the diversity of cultures and beliefs in our school, our community, and the world;
4. identify and access support services in the school and community;
5. display appropriate behavior in school and other settings, and show respect for self, peers, school and the community;
6. develop integrity, responsibility, empathy, respect for differences, and sense of fairness.

Civic Expectations

Wilbur Cross students will:

1. be capable of responsible decision-making and independent action;
2. understand the democratic process, be aware of the rights and responsibilities of a citizen in a democratic society, and recognize the importance of participation in a democracy;
3. voice support and dissent in appropriate forums, including advocacy for the rights and welfare of others;
4. contribute in a positive way to the school and community via community service and/or involvement in community organizations and institutions.

A Letter from Ms. Coggins

Dear Parents and Students:

The Wilbur Cross High School administration and staff have prepared this guide for your use. It contains the information you need to understand the programs offered at Wilbur Cross High School. Each department has explained its courses to help you determine your best course of studies. This guide is also available on our website in PDF format.

You should examine the minimum diploma requirements first so that you may select courses necessary to fulfill the graduation requirements, and then complete your program with courses that complement your interests and future goals. ***In addition to the diploma requirements listed, all students must attain proficiency in each area of the Connecticut Academic Performance Test (CAPT). Students who do not attain proficiency in their sophomore year will be able to retake the test during their junior year. If you have not attained proficiency by your senior year, you will be given additional opportunities to successfully complete an alternative program/course of study that will satisfy this requirement.***

Please note that there are specific requirements for courses in English, Science, Mathematics, Social Studies, Physical Education, and Fine/Unified Arts. The remainder of the graduation requirements should be chosen from World Languages, Art, Music, Business, Family and Consumer Science, and Technology.

Each student must select at least six (6) courses per semester; most courses are one year long. You are encouraged to select additional courses. We ask that you make course selections carefully based on your future plans and interests. ***If you do not complete a course selection sheet, your counselor is designated to fill one out for you, and you must abide by these selections.*** Please be advised that not all courses listed in this catalog will necessarily take place. Student interest/enrollment and staffing issues will determine whether or not a course is offered.

Wilbur Cross High School offers a range of resources and opportunities for you to pursue a broad education. We hope that you will take advantage of these opportunities during your years at Wilbur Cross.

Sincerely,

Rose Coggins, Principal
Wilbur Cross High School

Table of Contents

Mission Statement.....2

Expectations for Student Learning3

A Letter from Ms. Coggins4

Table of Contents.....5

Telephone Numbers.....6

General Information and Regulations7

English Language Learners (ELL) Program10

Special Education10

Important Terms to Know.....11

WILBUR CROSS HIGH SCHOOL – COURSE OFFERINGS.....12

English12

Mathematics17

Science23

History30

World Languages.....36

Business Education.....42

Family and Consumer Sciences47

Technology Education.....48

Fine Arts.....51

Physical Education57

Independent Study and Seminar Program (ISSP).....60

Miscellaneous Electives62

Telephone Numbers

MAIN OFFICE

Main Telephone 946-8748
Fax 946-6932

PRINCIPAL

Rose Coggins 946-6983

PRINCIPAL ON SPECIAL ASSIGNMENT

Carl Babb 946-5835

ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS

Eric Barbarito 946-5809
Myrta Bonilla 946-8739
Steve Ciarcia 946-5250
Larry Conaway 946-7527
Michele Sherban-Kline 946-5364
Sheila Williams 946-8732

GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT

Devra Doolin 946-8735
Douglas Finocchi 946-8737
Linda Grant 946-6986
Katherine Monahan 946-8738
James Pechette 946-6984
Yoselin Roman 946-8736
Michelle Ryan 946-6985

Guidance Secretaries

Diane Horton 946-5859
Barbara Lucibello 946-2200
Guidance Fax 946-2201

ADVANCED PLACEMENT STUDIES

Linda Powell 946-5518

ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

Robert Marone 946-7580

ATTENDANCE OFFICER

Lisa Garrett 946-5231

BODY SHOP

Clarice Begemann, RN 946-8752
Reception 946-6651

BUSINESS MANAGER

Dominic Landolfi 946-8774

CAREER SERVICES

Michael Howell 946-6369
Sara Maldonado 946-8271
Fax 946-8161

CUSTODIANS

Office 946-8747

DAYCARE

Lorraine DaLuz 946-8536

DROPOUT PREVENTION

Luz Afanador 946-8922
Melvin Crespo 946-5447

INDEPENDENT STUDY PROGRAM

Anne Townsend 946-5518

LIBRARY MEDIA CENTER

Soraya Potter 946-8746
Sharman Tait 946-8746

LOW VISION TEACHERS

Lynda Dodge 946-5517
Joanne Pompano 946-5517

NEW HAVEN WORK PROGRAM

Mark Caruso 946-8570

NURSE

Tanya Harris 946-5515
Cathy Schwartz 946-8753

SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGIST

Daniel Cotton 946-5189
Jonathan Hayes 946-5189

SECURITY

Office 946-6480

SOCIAL WORKERS

Dina Pollock 946-5188
Sandy Walker 946-8720

SPECIAL EDUCATION OFFICE

Karen Bonanno 946-8734

General Information and Regulations

REQUIREMENTS FOR GRADUATION: To graduate from Wilbur Cross High School, students must accumulate a minimum of 24 credits (2010, 2011) and 26 credits (2012, 2013)*. The required credits are designed to provide a core liberal arts education. Additional units of credit may extend and broaden this education, or may be devoted to specialized vocational or academic work. *In addition to the credit requirements, each student must demonstrate proficiency on all sections of the Connecticut Academic Performance Test.*

Definition of credit: Credit is granted for successful completion of any course in grades nine (9) through twelve (12).

Attendance Policy: The WCHS attendance policy provides for a loss of credit due to excessive absences. Refer to the Student Handbook for more information.

Minimum Requirements for Graduation: Twenty-four (24) credits are required for graduation in 2010 and 2011.
Twenty-six (26) credits are required for graduation in 2012 and 2013.

The required credits are:

English	4 credits
Math.....	3 credits
Social Studies	
U.S. History 1.....	1 credit
U.S. History 2.....	½ credit
Civics.....	½ credit
Elective.....	1 credit
Science.....	3 credits
Physical Education.....	1 credit
Fine Arts/Unified Arts	1 credit
One required course must be elected from Fine Arts (Music, Art, Drama) or Unified Arts (Technology Education, Family and Consumer Science Technology, Business Technology)	
Total Required Courses	15 credits
Electives.....	9 credits (2010, 2011)
.....	11 credits (2012, 2013)
Minimum Total Requirements	24 credits (2010, 2011)
.....	26 credits (2012, 2013)*

All grade 9–12 students must take seven (7) credits per year. Graduation requirements for special education students are prescribed in their Individualized Education Plan (IEP).

**Beginning with the class of 2012 students will need twenty-six (26) credits in order to graduate.*

GRADE STATUS: Your grade status will be determined by the number of credits that you have earned to date:

0 – 5 credits.....	9 th grade
6 – 11 credits.....	10 th grade
12 – 17 credits.....	11 th grade
18 or more credits.....	12 th grade

GRADING SYSTEM: The grade that you earn each marking period will count toward your final grade in that course. Each marking period will represent 20% of your final grade. The midterm and final exams will each represent 10% of your final grade. Remember that your teacher does not give you a grade; your grade represents the quality of your work.

Scholastic achievement grades are based upon the following standards:

- A (90 - 100 average).....Excellent
- B (80 - 89 average).....Above Average
- C (70 - 79 average).....Average
- D (60 - 69 average).....Below Average
- F (0 - 59 average).....Failing (no credit)

IN.....(INCOMPLETE)
Students who receive an *incomplete* will have two weeks to complete the required coursework before the *incomplete* is automatically changed to a grade of **F** (no credit).

HONORS FOR THE YEAR: Honors for the Year is a status that is determined by the student’s quality point average and academic achievement. In order to qualify for Honors for the Year, a student must not receive a final course grade below a B- in any course, and the student must have been on the Honor Roll for three of the four marking periods. It should be noted that in the case of a senior for Honors for the Year, a student must have carried the equivalent of five credits for the entire academic year.

DROPPING A COURSE: A student may not drop a required course. A student may not drop a course without an administrator’s approval and written consent from his/her parent or guardian. The written consent must be on file in the guidance department. In the event that a student drops an elective course after the mid-point of the 1st marking period, a grade will be recorded for the 1st marking period and a DR (Drop) will be recorded for the 2nd marking period. No courses can be dropped after October 1st without receiving a grade of ‘WF’. AP courses may have additional requirements.

CLASS RANK: Cumulative class rank is determined at the end of the 11th grade. Weighted quality points are assigned to all courses except physical education and pass/fail courses. In addition, all students may elect two non-required courses during grades 10 through 12 that are assigned no quality points. Approval must be obtained in writing through the guidance department by October 1 of the year in which the course is taken. No late decisions are permitted. This will allow a student to select courses in business, industrial technology, fine arts, etc. (which have a low quality point level) without affecting their class standing. Students may also select more difficult courses such as calculus, advanced sciences, and third and fourth year languages without affecting their quality point average.

DIPLOMAS: Wilbur Cross High School awards two types of diplomas:

Honors Diploma: To receive an honors diploma a student must meet all the requirements for a regular diploma and have received Honors for four years and achieved a quality point average of at least 13 for each of those years. Wilbur Cross High School honor standards will apply in assessing the transcripts of transfer students. The quality points for any year that a student is not enrolled in the New Haven Public School System will be determined by the Guidance Department.

Regular Diploma: A regular diploma will be awarded to students who demonstrate proficiency on all sections of the Connecticut Academic Performance Test, **and** meet all of the graduation requirements of Wilbur Cross High School and the New Haven Board of Education.

QUALITY POINTS: All courses receive quality points unless they are exempt (see CLASS RANK above). The following table can be used to determine the number of quality points that a student will receive based on the course level and grade earned:

QUALITY POINTS					
Grade Earned		Course Level			
Grade	Average	AP/Level 4	Level 3	Level 2	Level 1
A+	96 – 100	20	19	17	14
A	94 – 95	19	18	16	13
A	90 – 93	18	17	15	12
B+	86 – 89	17	16	14	11
B	84 – 85	16	15	13	10
B-	80 – 83	15	14	12	9
C+	76 – 79	14	13	11	8
C	74 – 75	13	12	10	7
C-	70 – 73	12	11	9	6
D+	66 – 69	11	10	8	5
D	64 – 65	10	9	7	4
D-	60 – 63	9	8	6	3
F	0 – 59	0	0	0	0

GRADE POINTS: All courses receive grade points unless they are exempt (see CLASS RANK above). The following table can be used to determine the number of grade points (GPA):

GRADE	GPA	GRADE	GPA
A+ 96-100	4.0	C+ 76-79	2.3
A 94-95	4.0	C 74-75	2.0
A- 90-93	3.7	C- 70-73	1.7
B+ 86-89	3.3	D+ 66-69	1.3
B 84-85	3.0	D 64-65	1.0
B- 80-83	2.7	D- 60-63	.7
		F 0-59	0

COLLEGE ENTRANCE EXAMINATIONS: Nearly all colleges in the eastern part of the United States require applicants to sit for the Scholastic Aptitude Test, commonly called the SAT Reasoning Test. The SAT Reasoning Test is an evaluation of your verbal (English), mathematical, and writing skills given on a Saturday morning at a school in your neighborhood.

The PSAT, or Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test, is offered to all sophomores and juniors in October. Taking the PSAT gives you a clear idea of what to expect when you take the SAT Reasoning Test in the spring of your junior year. The results of this first attempt at the SAT Reasoning Test may be used as part of your college applications, but most colleges prefer that you take the SAT Reasoning Test again early in your senior year. We recommend that you take the SAT Reasoning Test at least twice to maximize your chances of a better score. Schools will consider your best verbal and best math score even if they are the results of two different test sessions.

Competitive colleges may require that you take the SAT Subject exams. These are hour-long tests given in particular subject areas (math, literature, science, foreign language etc.). Students who are considering applying to highly competitive colleges are urged to take the SAT Subject exams soon after they have completed their high school courses in those subjects. Although you may take up to 3 SAT subject exams in one day, we recommend that you attempt no more than 2.

The TOEFL exam (Test of English as a Foreign Language) should be taken by all students planning to attend college in the USA who are foreign-born and for whom English is not their first language. Many colleges will substitute the score on the TOEFL exam for the English portion of the SAT Reasoning Test. This exam can be taken several times, and again, at least two test experiences are recommended for maximizing your score. Students born in Puerto Rico are strongly encouraged to take the TOEFL.

The Prueba de Aptitud Académica, or PAA exam, is the Spanish Language equivalent of the SAT Reasoning Test and may be required by some selective colleges and universities in Puerto Rico.

A CURRENT PHOTO ID IS REQUIRED FOR ALL EXAMS. Your Guidance Counselor will help you obtain applications for all these exams.

English Language Learners (ELL) Program

The vision of the program is for English Language Learners to acquire the academic English language necessary to be successful in core courses and post secondary studies.

ACCELL Course Description

English Language Learners who are at the *beginning or intermediate* stages of English language proficiency according to the state mandated LAS Links Assessment, (Language Assessment Scales) who scored LAS levels I-III qualify to participate in the ACCELL Content Support Classes. The ACCELL classes support Sheltered Content (SC) classes such as: (9-12): SC English, SC History, SC PhyChem, SC Algebra I, SC Geometry, SC Human Physiology, and SC Biology. The focus of the ACCELL Content Block is:

- To provide additional opportunities for students to support their learning in the SC classes by focusing on the teaching of academic skills/concepts and expanding the basic content area vocabulary.
- Vocabulary development will include the pre-teaching and post-teaching of content related topics to help expand and support students' reading comprehension and academic knowledge
- The course will afford students the opportunity to further develop the four domains of language: listening, speaking, reading, and writing necessary for academic success in the content areas. The course also introduces students to research-based instructional strategies such as summarizing and note-taking skills.

ACCELL ELL SUPPORT (9200)

This course emphasizes intensive instruction in English as a Second Language and English Literacy development. Students will develop English Language skills in the four domains of language: Listening, Speaking, Reading, and Writing, in order to participate in social interactions/social settings and to succeed in core academic content areas.

Special Education

Wilbur Cross High School provides a variety of special education program options in accordance with federal and state laws. Each student's eligibility for special education courses is determined through a Planning and Placement Team (PPT), which serves as the vehicle for placement, establishing goals and objectives, and monitoring progress for individual students. The programs currently in place at Wilbur Cross High School include the following: resource; math, history and science; multi-handicapped; and life skills classes. The student's schedule is determined by the I.E.P (Individual Educational Plan).

Important Terms to Know

The following terms will help you to understand the course selection process:

School Code: 070520.

Advanced Placement Course (AP): A college level course, the successful completion of which allows the student to take the Advanced Placement Exam. A student who passes the exam will not only receive high school credit but may receive college credit as well. Criteria considered for enrollment in AP classes include grade in previous honors level class, teacher recommendation, AP Potential score, and other standardized test scores when available. An AP Contract must be signed by both student and parent for the student to complete enrollment. All AP courses may have additional requirements.

College entrance examinations: Tests given in particular subject areas (math, literature, physics, foreign languages etc.). The results are used by colleges to evaluate student applications.

Elective course: A course that you take because of a personal interest or in order to meet college entrance requirements.

Extra-curricular activities: Any school-related or community service activities that you have participated in while in high school (includes team sports, performance groups and clubs).

Level 4 courses: Advanced Placement and college courses. These are the most demanding classes offered and are assigned the highest number of quality points. They prepare students for entry into selective colleges. For students with skills above grade level. See criteria listed above under AP.

Level 3 courses: Top level courses in English, Math, Science, History, Foreign Language. ECA and ISSP classes are also Level 3 courses. They prepare students for entry into selective colleges. For students with skills above grade level.

Level 2 courses: College preparatory classes in all academic subjects for students intending to continue on to college. For students with reading and math skills at grade level.

Level 1 courses: Classes in all academic subjects for students who have difficulty with the abstract ideas presented in Level 2 courses. For students with reading and math skills at or below grade level.

Post-secondary school: Any school attended after having been graduated from high school. The term includes colleges, universities, community colleges and technical or training schools.

Prerequisite: A course that you must pass before you may take another one. For example: Biology is a pre-requisite for Chemistry.

Quality points: The number of points assigned to a class based on the level of difficulty. A student receiving a grade of "A" in a Level 3 course will receive more quality points than a student receiving an "A" in a Level 2 course. The number of quality points earned will affect the student's standing when his/her graduating class is ranked.

Rank: The numerical position of the student in his/her graduating class based on final grades received in classes taken through the junior year.

Required course: A course that you must take in order to meet graduation requirements.

Secondary school: High School.

TOEFL Exam: Test of English as a Foreign Language.

Transcript: Your transcript is a complete listing of courses you've taken, final grades that you have received and credits that you have earned. Senior year transcripts sent with college applications contain 9th, 10th, and 11th grade final grades, the grades of your first semester in your senior year, your rank in class, and SAT scores.

WILBUR CROSS HIGH SCHOOL – COURSE OFFERINGS

English

The vision guiding the English program is driven by the national and state language arts standards. We believe that all students must have the opportunities and resources to develop the language skills they need to pursue life's goals and to participate as informed productive members of society. These standards are reflected in the district's curriculum with specific power standards, significant tasks, and assessments comprising 40-60% of instructional time in each course. This still allows ample room for innovation and creativity as well as monitoring and adjusting objectives for differentiating instruction, all of which are essential for teaching and learning.

ENGLISH 1 (1 credit)

107 - Level 2	Required Course
110 - Level 2 SC	Grade: 9
111 - Level 3 (Honors)	Duration: Year

Prerequisite: *None.*

This course focuses on developing analytical/critical reading, writing and viewing skills which are necessary for meeting the standards of the Connecticut Academic Performance Test (CAPT) and for higher education. Course objectives are met by using various literary genres (novels, short stories, plays, poems, and essays) that are selected to reflect the essential question "Who Am I?" as outlined in the curriculum. Students' grades are based on effort (15-25%), class work (15-25%), homework (15-25%), tests and quizzes (15-25%), writing/writing processes (essays, projects 15-25%).

ENGLISH 2 (1 credit)

115 - Level 2	Required Course
120 - Level 2 SC	Grade: 10
121 - Level 3 (Honors)	Duration: Year

Prerequisite: *Successful completion of English 1.*

As in English 1, the English 2 Program focuses on developing analytical/critical reading, writing and viewing skills, increasing vocabulary levels, and improving study skills, which are necessary for meeting the standards of the Connecticut Academic Performance Test (CAPT), and for higher education. Course objectives are met by using various literary genres (novels, short stories, plays, poems, and essays) that are selected to reflect a multicultural approach. The essential question addressed in the curriculum for English 2 is "How Can I Make an Impact in the World?" Students' grades are based on effort (preparedness, homework, attendance; 15-25%), participation (listening, sharing; 15-25%), independent reading (15-25%), writing/writing process (essays, projects, quizzes; 15-25%), class work (15-25%).

ENGLISH 3 (1 credit)

124 - Level 2	Required Course
126 - Level 2 SC	Grade: 11
127 - Level 3 (Honors)	Duration: Year

Prerequisite: *Successful completion of English 2.*

English 3 focuses on increasing vocabulary levels, improving study skills, and developing analytical/critical reading, writing and viewing skills, which are necessary for higher education. Course objectives are met by using various literary genres (novels, short stories, plays, poems, and essays) that are selected to focus on American literature through the lens of the essential question, "What is an American?" Students are required to produce a 3-5-page research paper, demonstrating the MLA Style of documentation. Students' grades are based on homework and class work (20-30%), effort (reading, attendance, participation; 20-30%), essays and projects (40-60%).

ENGLISH 4**(1 credit)**

130 - Level 2
131 - Level 2 SC
132 - Level 3 (Honors)

Required Course
Grade: 12
Duration: Year

Prerequisite: *Successful completion of English 3.*

English 4 focuses on developing analytical/critical reading, writing and viewing skills, increasing vocabulary levels, and improving study skills, which are necessary for higher education. Course objectives are met by using various literary genres (novels, short stories, plays, poems, and essays) that are selected from British and World literature. Research skills, including the MLA Style of Documentation are reinforced, and students are required to produce a 3-5 page research paper implementing the MLA Style. Emphasis is also placed on the preparation of the college essay, on preparing students for post-secondary education, and for entering the workplace. Students' grades will be based on class participation (15-25%), tests/quizzes (15-25%), homework (15-25%), essays and other writing (15-25%), and journals (15-25%).

INTERMEDIATE ENGLISH 4**(1 credit)**

139 - Level 3

Elective Course
Grade: 12
Duration: Year

Prerequisite: *Accuplacer testing AND Department Recommendation.*

This course emphasizes active reading and writing strategies to achieve comprehension and retention rates demanded by college reading. Students learn to recall, question, interpret, and analyze an extensive selection of academic material. Successful completion of this course will result in three (3) credits at Gateway Community College. Students' grades will be based on a combination of class work and homework (20%), and writing assignments (80%).

AP ENGLISH LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION**(1 credit)**

137 - Level 4/AP

Elective Course
11, 12
Duration: Year

Prerequisite: *B+ or higher average in Honors English 2 or 3 and Recommendation of current English Teacher. Students taking AP Lit. their junior year must have administrative approval.*

The AP English Literature and Composition course is offered for high school students who wish to gain college credit by exam. The course provides in-depth study of poetry, novels, drama and essays, and the opportunity to write sophisticated literary analyses. It is designed to encourage you to view literature as an art form, and recognize the effectiveness of different stylistic and literary tools. The course also teaches you to recognize how literature is affected by the changing societies in which it was created. The course provides you with a broad overview of literary ages, drawing from plays from ancient Greece through modern literature. We will closely examine older and more complex literary works in depth, viewing them in historical context, with the expectation that you will read and analyze more accessible works on your own. Some the year's reading will include: Drama and Comedy from the Golden Age of Greece, poetry written in Anglo-Saxon, including *Beowulf*, medieval literature, including *The Canterbury Tales*, Renaissance drama (likely *Hamlet*), Restoration comedy, 18th century satire, and a variety of works representing Victorian and Romantic movements, and modern and post-modern eras. AP Literature and Composition is also the place for poetry lovers, with roughly one quarter of course devoted to unveiling the ways poems function, revealing what it is about them that touch us so deeply and emotionally. While the AP English Language & Composition course emphasizes writing as a craft and the reading of non-fiction, the AP English Literature & Composition course focuses on literature and literary criticism. Students' grades will be based on homework and class work (20-30%), effort (reading, attendance, participation; 20-30%), essays and projects (40-60%). **Students must take the AP Exam in order to earn AP level credit for this course. An AP contract must be signed by both student and parent for the student to complete enrollment. All AP courses may have additional requirements.**

AP ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND COMPOSITION**(1 credit)**

138 - Level 4/AP

Elective Course

Grade: 11, 12

Duration: Year

Prerequisite: *B+ or higher average in Honors English 2 or 3 and Recommendation of current English teacher.*

The Advanced Placement English course is designed to prepare students for college work and to take the AP Exam, which is administered nationally each spring. AP English Language & Composition focuses on the study of the writing and rhetoric at advanced levels, for those students who wish to pursue college credit. Its goal is to enable students to read complex texts with understanding and to write prose of sufficient richness and complexity to communicate effectively with mature readers. The texts for this course will be drawn primarily from important voices and themes in American prose. While the AP English Literature & Composition course focuses on literature and literary criticism, the AP English Language & Composition course emphasizes writing as a craft and the reading of non-fiction. Students will make extensive use of journals and participate in writing workshops to develop essays in a variety of genres. They will be graded on effort (20-25%), participation (20-25%), reading (20-30%), writing (20-30%), and quiz-style assignments (20-25%). **Students must take the AP Exam in order to earn AP level credit for this course. An AP contract must be signed by both student and parent for the student to complete enrollment. All AP courses may have additional requirements.**

JOURNALISM (Same course as listed in history dept.)**(1/2 credit)**

140 - Level 2

Elective Course

Grade: 10, 11, 12

Duration: Semester

(Honors level option for additional course requirements; administrator and teacher approval required.)

Prerequisite: *None.*

This elective focuses on practicing and acquiring the skills necessary in all types of journalism from school newspaper publication to broadcast news and other careers in journalism. Students who take this course must love to read and write and must be willing to submit writing for possible publication in the school newspaper. Students are also encouraged to join the Proclamation staff. They will be graded as follows: writing/submissions to the Proclamation (40%), quizzes and tests (20%), homework/class work (20%), class participation (20%).

WOMEN'S STUDIES LITERATURE**(1 credit)**

145 - Level 2

Elective Course

Grade 11, 12

Duration: Semester

(Honors option for additional course requirements, administrator and teacher approval)

Prerequisite: *Completion of sophomore year, motivation and skills needed for success in an honors course, teacher recommendation, and an interest in the topic.*

What are the unwritten rules for boys and girls in our society? Where do these rules come from? And should we continue to follow them? This class addresses these questions and more as we examine how women (and men) are portrayed in modern literature and other texts. In a seminar setting, students will explore how gender, race, social class, sexual orientation, religion and other factors contribute to our perceptions of ourselves and others. Readings may include *The Handmaid's Tale*, *Bastard Out of Carolina*, *The Joy Luck Club*, *Woman Hollering Creek and Other Stories*, *The Bluest Eye*, *Tar Baby*, and *Reviving Ophelia*, as well as poetry, short stories, and essays. We'll also examine images of women in popular culture, through music, television and film. Students will make extensive use of journals and participate in writing workshops to develop persuasive and analytical essays. They will be graded in their preparation, engagement, reading and writing as follows: informal writing (20%), formal writing (20%), tests (20%), quizzes (20%), class discussion and participation (20%). *This course does not meet the graduation requirements for English.*

CREATIVE WRITING**(1/2 credit)**

154 - Level 2

(Honors level option for additional course requirements; administrator and teacher approval required.)

Elective Course

Grade: 11, 12

Duration: Semester

Prerequisite: *None.*

This is an elective course for students who enjoy reading and writing in a workshop setting. Students will read a wide variety of texts — much of it self-selected — from many genres. Focuses will be on memoir and personal narrative, short fiction, short non-fiction, poetry, and journal writing. Students and the teacher will choose reading from current and well-known authors. Students will create a wide variety of written pieces, about a broad array of topics. Major writing will include personal narrative/the college essay, short story, “academic” essay, poetry, and journal writing. Much, though not all, of the work for the course will be done in the workshop, and will require that students work collaboratively with their classmates. Daily reading and writing, peer editing of writing, sharing of journal writing about reading, informal talks about student work and relevant topics, visits by working writers, and one-on-one meetings with the teacher will be integral parts of class. Students are graded on the following: effort (20%), participation (20%), journals (10%) writing workshop/working drafts (30%), final drafts/projects (20%). *This course does **not** meet the graduation requirements for English.*

SHAKESPEARE’S WORLD**(1/2 credit)**

148 - Level 2

Elective Course

Grade: 10, 11, 12

Duration: Semester

Prerequisite: *Completion of freshman year, a desire to have fun and to learn about Shakespeare’s plays and yourself; a willingness to take risks and perform; Recommendation of current English teacher.*

This is a course for students who like to be the center of attention or who like to exercise their imaginations to have fun with language. Using Shakespeare’s sonnets and plays, students will explore the world his words create. We will spend class time approaching Shakespeare on his terms; after all, he was a PLAYwright who wrote PLAYS for PLAYERS to be PLAYED in a PLAYHOUSE.

By getting up on their feet, students will bring Shakespeare’s words to life. This is not an acting or theatre class. But students need to be willing to participate productively each day, and a significant portion of their grade will be based on their attendance and involvement in the class. The primary writing will be in journals. Students will also have the opportunity to go on field trips to see Shakespeare’s plays performed in area theaters, and to work with trained actors. Students will also be encouraged to compete in the English Speaking Union’s Shakespeare Monologue Competition.

Students will be graded on their preparation (25%), engagement (25%), willingness to “play”(25%), and ability to make sense of Shakespeare for themselves (25%). *This course does **not** meet the graduation requirements for English.*

READ 180**(1 credit)**

100

Elective Course

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Duration: Year

Prerequisite: *None*

Read 180 is designed to help meet the needs of any student who needs additional reading support. This is an intervention course offered *in addition to* English 9, 10, 11, or 12. This will run as a pass/fail course with an English teacher and reading consultant. Students’ grades will be based class participation and preparedness (10%), independent reading (30%), computer work with the READ 180 software (30%), and small group work (30%).

SAT PREP ENGLISH**(1/2 credit)**

160 - Level 2

Elective Course

Grade: 11, 12

Duration: Semester

Prerequisite: *Successful completion of English 1 and English 2.*

This course is designed to introduce students to the SAT I verbal section and to improve upon students' vocabulary. Students will take weekly vocabulary quizzes and draw worksheets directly from the SAT I verbal section as a basis of daily work. This course focuses on test taking strategies and familiarization with the various SAT test items such as analogies, sentence completion and critical reading passages. *This course does **not** meet the graduation requirements for English.*

DRAMATIC ARTS**(1 credit)**

147 - Level 2

Elective Course

Grade: 10, 11, 12

Duration: Year

Prerequisite: *None.*

The Dramatic Arts/American Musical Theatre course is a comprehensive course designed to introduce students to the history of American Musical Theatre (dance, music, voice and vocal production) as well as acting styles and technical elements including lighting and set design and construction, costuming and makeup, props, and stage management. Students will also study well known directors, choreographers, and acting techniques including improvisations, mime, and Stanislavsky Method. Students must be willing to participate in ALL aspects of this class including performances, tests, etc. *This course does **not** meet the graduation requirements for English.*

CRITICAL ANALYSIS OF NARRATIVE FILM (also listed in History) (1/2 credit per semester)010 (1st semester) – Level 2011 (2nd semester) – Level 2**Elective Course**

Grade: 11, 12

Duration: Semester

Prerequisites: Open mind and high interest in film; interest in watching classic, older, and silent films. B or higher average in previous English and history courses; special permission required from history and English department chair for sophomores interested in taking this class.

The Critical Analysis of Narrative Film course is open to any junior or senior interested in critically viewing narrative film as art. The course is divided into two sections.

Section 1 focuses on basic elements of constructing a visual narrative (storyboard) for filmmaking, and an introduction to film history. Students will view early silent films and analyze how these are constructed to tell a story without words. Students will construct a shot-by-shot screenplay or storyboard for a short, narrative silent film. Students will also view films about films. The course will include viewing and writing about films that are truly considered classics in that they mark a movement in film history or technique.

Section 2 follows the historical development of American film through the twentieth century. The course provides a study of different movements in the art of narrative film, and presents how films have reflected the way we view ourselves — and how film has opened our views to events in history and paradigm shifts in society.

ASSESSMENT AND PERFORMANCE CRITERIA:

Students will be graded on class participation and work produced, including storyboards, group work on developing a script, film reviews, and presentations. Students will be expected to seek publication of their film reviews in the school newspaper, in local newspapers, in on-line journals, on the school website, or through other media.

Mathematics

The vision guiding the mathematics program is driven by the national and state standards. These standards encourage the development of curriculum and instruction that makes productive use of the algebraic and geometric abilities that form the foundation for higher level math courses. These standards are reflected in the district's curriculum with specific power standards, significant tasks, and assessments comprising 40-60% of instructional time in each course. This still allows ample room for the innovation and creativity essential to teaching and learning. It is recommended that **all** students study **four years** of mathematics.

Recommended 4-Year Mathematics Sequences

Grade				
9	Pre-Algebra	Algebra 1	Honors Algebra 1	Honors Geometry
10	Algebra 1	Geometry	Honors Geometry	Honors Algebra 2/Trig
11	Geometry	Algebra 2	Honors Algebra 2/ Trig	Honors Pre-Calculus
12	Algebra 2 or Col. Elementary Algebra	Pre-Calculus, Statistics or Intermediate Algebra	Honors Pre-Calculus and/or Statistics	AP Calculus, Statistics, or AP Statistics

PRE-ALGEBRA

(1 credit)

203 - Level 1
206 - Level 1 SC

Required Course
Grade: 9
Duration: Year

Prerequisite: *None.*

Pre-Algebra is the first course in a 4 year college preparatory program. Pre-Algebra is designed for the freshman who needs a more solid foundation before Algebra 1. Students will explore arithmetic applications, such as integers, ratios, fractions, percents, data, statistics, and geometry.

ASSESSMENT AND PERFORMANCE CRITERIA:

Assessment varies according to the needs of the group: generally, 30-40% tests; 20-30% Quizzes; 15-25% homework; 15-25% class-work.

ALGEBRA 1

(1 credit)

210 - Level 2
211 - Level 2 SC
213 - Level 3 (Honors)

Required Course
Grade: 9, 10
Duration: Year

Prerequisite: *None.*

Successful completion of this course is required for a high school diploma. It is a foundational course in a standard 4 year math sequence. Topics emphasized include: Algebraic Foundations; Graphing; Linear, Quadratic and Exponential, equations and functions; Probability and Statistics.

ASSESSMENT AND PERFORMANCE CRITERIA:

Assessment varies according to the needs of the group: generally, 30-40% tests; 20-30% Quizzes; 15-25% homework; 15-25% class-work.

GEOMETRY 1A**(1 credit)**

214 - Level 1

Required Course

Grade: 9, 10

Duration: Year

Prerequisite: *None.*

A course designed to introduce inductive and deductive geometric reasoning. Topics include measurement and construction, properties of parallel lines and geometric figures, including Pythagorean Theorem, perimeter, circumference, area, volume, similarity, and congruency. Emphasis on hands-on learning for students who have difficulty with the abstract reasoning that a typical geometry course entails.

ASSESSMENT AND PERFORMANCE CRITERIA:

Assessment varies according to the needs of the group: generally, 20-30% tests; 10-20% quizzes; 15-25% homework; 15-25% classwork/projects; 15-25% notebook.

GEOMETRY**(1 credit)**

218 - Level 2

219 - Level 2 SC

Required Course

Grade: 10, 11, 12

Duration: Year

Prerequisite: *C or better in Algebra 1 or departmental permission.*

This course is the second of at least a three-year sequence recommended for students considering further education after high school. Topics include deductive and inductive reasoning, measurement and construction, properties of parallel lines and geometric figures including Pythagorean Theorem, perimeter, circumference, area and volume, similarity, congruency, spatial relations, and formal and informal proof.

ASSESSMENT AND PERFORMANCE CRITERIA:

Assessment varies according to the needs of the group: generally, 25-35% tests; 15-25% quizzes; 20-30% homework; 10-20% classwork/projects; 5-15% notebook.

HONORS GEOMETRY**(1 credit)**

221 - Level 3

Required Course

Grade: 10, 11, 12

Duration: Year

Prerequisite: *B or better in Algebra 1 or departmental permission.*

This is an advanced course covering topics in plane and solid geometry. Coordinate geometry, analytical proofs, Cartesian coordinates, and right triangle trigonometry are explored in depth. Heavy emphasis on abstraction and on the connections between algebra and geometry.

ASSESSMENT AND PERFORMANCE CRITERIA:

Assessment varies according to the needs of the group: generally, 30-70% tests; 0-30% quizzes; 20-30% homework; 10-20% classwork/projects; 0-15% notebooks.

ALGEBRA 2/TRIGONOMETRY**(1 credit)**227 - Level 2
228 - Level 2 SC**Required Course**
Grade: 11, 12
Duration: Year**Prerequisite:** *Geometry.*

This course extends the content of both Algebra I and Geometry. It is the third course of at least a three year sequence recommended for students considering further education after high school. Topics include: linear equations and systems of linear equations, quadratic equations and functions, higher order polynomial functions, simplifying rational expressions, combinations and permutations, and right triangle trigonometry.

ASSESSMENT AND PERFORMANCE CRITERIA:

Assessment varies according to the needs of the group: generally, 0-15% attendance; 0-20% Class participation; 0-30% Class Assignments/Significant Tasks; 20-25% homework; 25-75% Tests and Quizzes.

HONORS ALGEBRA 2/TRIGONOMETRY**(1 credit)**

229 - Level 3

Required Course
Grade: 11, 12
Duration: Year**Prerequisite:** *B or better in Geometry*

This is an advanced course covering all topics in Algebra 2, as well as complex numbers; trigonometric functions; rational equations and functions; matrices and determinants; and probability and statistics.

ASSESSMENT AND PERFORMANCE CRITERIA:

Assessment varies according to the needs of the group: generally, 30-40% tests; 20-30% Quizzes; 15-25% homework; 15-25% class-work.

TOPICS IN MATHEMATICS**(1 credit)**

272-Level 2

Elective Course
Grade: 11, 12
Duration: Year**Prerequisite:** *Successful completion of Algebra 2*

This course covers an array of topics. After a brief review of Algebra II, students will study functions, sequences and series, probability and statistics, and trigonometry. The focus will be on real world applications and modeling data. The graphing calculator will be used to facilitate the understanding of these concepts. SAT review will also be a part of this course. Students who have earned a credit in Pre-calculus & Trigonometry are not eligible to take this course for credit.

ELEMENTARY STATISTICS**(1 credit)**

240- Level 3

Elective Course
Grade: 11, 12
Duration: Year**Prerequisite:** *C or better in Algebra 2*

Elementary Statistics is an introductory course to prepare you for a college level statistics class. You will learn how to collect, organize, analyze, and interpret data. Understanding statistics will help you evaluate reactions to statistical information that you will hear or read about: in social science classes like psychology, sociology and anthropology, in business, and economics, in political science and government, in law and in every branch of science. This course will also provide you the opportunity to learn how to make good decisions using data and become an informed consumer.

COLLEGE ELEMENTARY ALGEBRA**(1 credit)**

243 - Level 2

Elective Course

Grade: 12

Duration: Year

Prerequisite: *Accuplacer Test and Recommendation from Math Department.*

This course combines pre-algebra and introductory algebra. Pre-algebra is the study of the real number system and operations performed concentrating on the rational numbers. This section has an in-depth review of fractions and decimal numbers. Introductory algebra covers variable expressions, solving equations, proportions, percents, polynomials, factoring, linear equations in two variables, and inequalities. It also introduces radical expressions. (This course is in collaboration with Gateway Community and Technical College and is a college remedial course.)

ASSESSMENT AND PERFORMANCE CRITERIA:

Assessment varies according to the needs of the group: generally, 30-50% tests; 20-40% Quizzes; 10-30% homework; 0-15% class participation.

COLLEGE INTERMEDIATE ALGEBRA**(1 credit)**

244 - Level 2

Elective Course

Grade: 12

Duration: Year

Prerequisite: *Completion of Algebra 2, Accuplacer Test and recommendation from the Math Department*

This course reviews fundamental algebraic concepts and then furthers the study of algebra with concentration on polynomials, rational expressions, radicals, first and second degree functions, first and second degree equations and inequalities, systems of equations and factoring. It also includes pre-calculus topics such as exponential and logarithmic functions. Additional topics may include an overview of series, sequences and conic sections. (This course is in collaboration with Gateway Community and Technical College and provides 3 course credits after successful completion of Accuplacer testing.)

ASSESSMENT AND PERFORMANCE CRITERIA:

Assessment varies according to the needs of the group: generally, 30-50% tests; 20-40% Quizzes; 10-30% homework; 0-15% class participation.

PRE-CALCULUS**(1 credit)**

234 - Level 2

Elective Course

Grade: 11, 12

Duration: Year

Prerequisite: *Successful completion of Algebra 2 and Geometry.*

This course consists of a comprehensive treatment of algebra and trigonometry as well as treatment of topics such as theory of equations, exponential functions, logarithms, and limits.

ASSESSMENT AND PERFORMANCE CRITERIA:

Assessment varies according to the needs of the group: generally, 30-40% tests; 20-30% Quizzes; 15-25% homework; 15-25% class-work.

HONORS PRE-CALCULUS**(1 credit)**

237 - Level 3

Elective Course

Grade: 11, 12

Duration: Year

Prerequisite: *B or better in Algebra 2/Trig and Geometry; Teacher recommendation.*

This course prepares the student for AP calculus, or a 1st semester Calculus course in college. It is primarily an analysis of the basic functions: polynomial, rational, exponential and logarithmic, and trigonometric. We end the year with a study of limits and an introduction to calculus.

ASSESSMENT AND PERFORMANCE CRITERIA:

Assessment varies according to the needs of the group: generally, 0-15% attendance; 0-20% Class participation; 0-30% Class Assignments/Significant Tasks; 20-25% homework; 25-75% Tests and Quizzes.

AP CALCULUS AB**(1 credit)**

239 – Level 4/AP

Elective Course

Grade: 11,12

Duration: Year

Prerequisite: *B or better in Pre-Calculus.*

This course covers the material usually presented in the first year of a college course in calculus: limits, differentiation, definite integrals, anti-derivatives, related rates, maxima-minima problems, differentials, area, volume, slope fields, exponential and logarithmic functions, integration by substitution, and the Fundamental Theorem of Calculus. **Students must take the AP Exam in order to earn AP level credit for this course.** **An AP contract must be signed by both student and parent for the student to complete enrollment.** **All AP courses may have additional requirements.**

ASSESSMENT AND PERFORMANCE CRITERIA:

Assessment varies according to the needs of the group: generally, 40-50% tests; 20-30% Quizzes; 10-20% homework; 10-20% class-work.

AP CALCULUS BC**(1 credit)**

260 - Level 4/AP

Elective Course

Grade: 12

Duration: Year

Prerequisite: *B or better in AP Calculus AB or a 3 or higher on the Calculus AB exam*

This course covers the material covered in the second semester of a first year college calculus class (including reinforcement of the topics covered in AP Calculus AB): analysis of curves in parametric, polar, and vector forms, Euler's method, L'Hopital's Rule, polynomial approximation and series (including series of constants and Taylor series), and additional applications and methods of integration. **Students must take the AP Exam in order to earn AP level credit for this course.** **An AP contract must be signed by both student and parent for the student to complete enrollment.** **All AP courses may have additional requirements.**

ASSESSMENT AND PERFORMANCE CRITERIA:

Assessment varies according to the needs of the group: generally, 30-40% tests; 20-30% Quizzes; 15-25% homework; 15-25% class-work.

AP STATISTICS**(1 credit)**

241 - Level 4/AP

Elective Course

Grade: 12

Duration: Year

Prerequisite: *B or better in Pre-Calculus, or an A in Algebra II, or permission from department.*

AP Statistics is an introductory, non-calculus based college course in statistics. The purpose of AP Statistics is to introduce students to the major concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing, and drawing conclusions from data. Students will be exposed to four broad conceptual themes: exploring data, planning a study; anticipating patterns and statistical inference. **Students must take the AP Exam in order to earn AP level credit for this course.**

An AP contract must be signed by both student and parent for the student to complete enrollment. All AP courses may have additional requirements.

ASSESSMENT AND PERFORMANCE CRITERIA:

Assessment varies according to the needs of the group: generally, 10-15% unit tests; 15-20% Quizzes; 25-30% homework and In-class activities; 20-30% group projects/individual projects or 30-40% Investigative tasks.

CAPT MATH**(1/2 credit)**

258 – (Pass/Fail)

Elective Course

Grade: 12

Duration: Semester

Prerequisite: *None.*

This course provides students with the opportunity to build and practice the skills necessary to demonstrate proficiency in Mathematics. Successful completion of this course is one way that students may meet the CAPT Mathematics graduation requirement if they have not been successful on the State CAPT.

S.A.T. PREP MATHEMATICS**(1/2 credit)**

259 - (Pass/Fail)

Elective Course

Grade: 11, 12

Duration: Semester

Prerequisite: *Algebra I and Geometry.*

Students will learn how to approach the SAT Mathematics Exam. They will learn strategies for solving math questions and general test taking strategies, such as, when and how to make an educated guess; back solving; and when to use a calculator. Students will become familiar with the content, structure, thinking and testing skills of the SAT Math Test. **(Does not fulfill mathematics requirement for graduation)**

Science

The vision guiding the science program is driven by the national and state standards. These standards are reflected in the district's curriculum with specific power standards, significant tasks, and assessments comprising 40-60% of instructional time in each course. This still allows ample room for the innovation and creativity essential to teaching and learning.

Recommended 4-Year Science Sequences

Grade		
9	Phy-Chem	Honors Phy-Chem
10	Biology	Honors Biology
11	Chemistry	Honors Chemistry
12	Science Elective	Physics or AP Science Elective

PHY-CHEM

(1 credit)

402 - Level 2
404 - Level 2 SC

Required Course
Grade: 9
Duration: Year

Prerequisite: *None.*

Phy-Chem is the first course in a four year sequence required for all students. It is designed to provide the ninth grade student with an insight into the means by which scientific knowledge is acquired. Phy-Chem provides a basic background for more advanced courses in the science sequence and prepares students with the skills necessary for success on the CAPT. Topics include: matter and heat, atoms and bonding, chemical bonding and polymers, bio-geo-chemical cycles, human impact on the environment, electrical circuits, and the sources and impacts of all forms of energy.

ASSESSMENT AND PERFORMANCE CRITERIA:

Assessment varies according to the needs of the group: generally, 20-40% Tests/Quizzes; 20-40% Classwork/homework; 20-30% Labs; 10-15% notebook; 5-10% participation.

HONORS PHY-CHEM

(1 credit)

406 - Level 3
408 - Level 3 SC

Required Course
Grade: 9
Duration: Year

Prerequisite: *None.*

Honors Phy-Chem is the first course in a four year sequence recommended for all highly motivated students. This course focuses on experimental design and scientific inquiry. It is designed to provide the ninth grade student with an insight into the means by which scientific knowledge is acquired. Honors Phy-Chem provides the necessary background for more advanced courses in the science sequence and prepares students with the skills necessary for success on the CAPT. Topics include: matter and heat, atoms and bonding, chemical bonding and polymers, bio-geo-chemical cycles, human impact on the environment, electrical circuits, and the sources and impacts of all forms of energy.

ASSESSMENT AND PERFORMANCE CRITERIA:

Assessment varies according to the needs of the group: generally, 20-40% Tests/Quizzes; 20-40% Classwork/homework; 20-30% Labs; 10-15% notebook; 5-10% participation.

BIOLOGY**(1 credit)**410 - Level 2
412 - Level 2 SC**Required Course**
Grade: 10
Duration: Year**Prerequisite:** *Successful completion of Phy-Chem.*

Biology is the second course in a four year sequence recommended for all students. Biology is the study of living organisms, both plant and animal in terms of the biological, chemical and physical laws which govern the universe. Experiments are integrated into unit objectives. Critical thinking skills are emphasized, especially in lab work. Topics include: chemistry of living things; cells, bacteria, and viruses; heredity/genetics; evolution; diseases and populations.

ASSESSMENT AND PERFORMANCE CRITERIA:

Assessment varies according to the needs of the group: generally, 20-40% Tests/Quizzes; 20-40% Classwork/homework; 20-40% Labs/projects; 10-20% participation/attendance.

HONORS BIOLOGY**(1 credit)**

414 - Level 3

Required Course
Grade: 10
Duration: Year**Prerequisite:** *A grade of B or better in Phy-Chem.*

Honors Biology is a Pre-AP level science course and the second course in a four year sequence recommended for all college bound students. Biology is the study of living organisms, both plant and animal in terms of the biological, chemical and physical laws which govern the universe. Experiments are integrated into unit objectives. Critical thinking skills are emphasized, especially in lab work. Topics include: chemistry of living things; cells, bacteria, and viruses; heredity/genetics; evolution; diseases and populations.

ASSESSMENT AND PERFORMANCE CRITERIA:

Assessment varies according to the needs of the group: generally, 20-40% Tests/Quizzes; 20-40% Classwork/homework; 20-40% Labs/projects; 10-20% participation/attendance.

CHEMISTRY**(1 credit)**417 - Level 1
418 - Level 2
420 - Level 2 SC**Required Course**
Grade: 11, 12
Duration: Year**Prerequisite:** *Algebra 1, Phy-Chem and Biology*

Chemistry is the third course in a four year sequence recommended for all students. Chemistry is a laboratory course where students learn the basic concepts, facts, formulas and principles of chemistry. The course strategy is based upon an integration of lecture objectives with laboratory experiments. Critical thinking skills are emphasized, especially in lab work. Topics include: atomic structure and bonding, chemical reactions, stoichiometry, kinetic molecular theory, gas laws, acids and bases.

ASSESSMENT AND PERFORMANCE CRITERIA:

Assessment varies according to the needs of the group: generally, 30-40% tests; 20-30% Quizzes; 15-25% homework; 15-25% class-work.

HONORS CHEMISTRY 1

(1 credit)

422 - Level 3

Required Course

Grade: 11, 12

Duration: Year

Prerequisite: *Geometry and a B or better in Biology.*

Honors Chemistry 1 is a first year chemistry course. Students learn the basic concepts, facts, formulas and principles of chemistry. The course strategy is based upon an integration of lecture objectives and laboratory investigations. Topics covered include: matter and energy; atomic structure and bonding; chemical formulas and equations; stoichiometry; gas laws; periodic law; solutions; acids and bases; and an introduction to organic chemistry. Critical thinking skills are stressed, especially in lab work. Topics are covered in more depth than in Chemistry. Groups are studied with an emphasis on the relationship between structure and function. Extensive experiments and demonstrations are integrated into the standard content.

ASSESSMENT AND PERFORMANCE CRITERIA:

Assessment varies according to the needs of the group: generally, 30-40% tests; 20-30% Quizzes; 15-25% homework; 15-25% class-work.

PHYSICS

(1 credit)

438 - Level 2

Elective Course

Grade: 11, 12

Duration: Year

Prerequisite: *Algebra 2 and Geometry.*

Physics is the fourth course in a four year sequence recommended for all college bound students. Physics is the fundamental science of the physical world. The major topics covered in the course are mechanics, light, sound, electricity, and magnetism. Experimentation and demonstrations are integrated into the course. Critical thinking skills are emphasized, especially in lab work.

ASSESSMENT AND PERFORMANCE CRITERIA:

Assessment varies according to the needs of the group: generally, 40-60% tests; 10-20% Labs; 10-20% homework; 10-20% class-work.

HONORS PHYSICS

(1 credit)

441 - Level 3

Elective Course

Grade: 11, 12

Duration: Year

Prerequisite: *Algebra 2 or Pre-calculus*

Physics is the fundamental Science; it encompasses all the sciences that precede it: Biological, Chemical, and Environmental. "You can't fully appreciate your surroundings until you understand the rules of nature." (Hewitt) Physics describes nature in an elegant manner using mathematically built physical structures to interpret its rules. This course is ideal for students who want a background in physics before they take AP Physics, or who want an introduction to Physics before they leave High School. This course covers mechanics, light, sound, electricity and magnetism. Algebra and trigonometry are used and applied regularly throughout the course. At least one project is required each marking period.

ASSESSMENT AND PERFORMANCE CRITERIA:

Assessment varies according to the needs of the group: generally, 40-60% tests; 10-20% Labs; 10-20% homework; 10-20% class-work.

HUMAN PHYSIOLOGY

(1 credit)

425 - Level 2
426 - Level 2 SC

Elective Course
Grade: 11, 12
Duration: Year

Prerequisite: *Successful completion of Biology.*

We study the anatomy (structure) and physiology (function) of the human body, using an organ systems approach to learning. Body systems or organ systems examined include: integumentary (skin), skeletal, muscular, nervous, endocrine, cardiovascular, lymphatic, respiratory, digestive, urinary, and reproductive systems. Considerable emphasis is placed on laboratory work, including dissection (fishes, amphibians, reptiles, birds, mammals). We compare these other vertebrate types with the human body to better understand how we protect ourselves from the environment, support ourselves, move, respond to stimuli, maintain equilibrium, think, metabolize, grow and develop, transport cells and dissolved materials, defend against infection, respire, process food, eliminate waste, and reproduce. We follow current events in health and medicine, and we develop computer skills in the study of the human body.

ASSESSMENT AND PERFORMANCE CRITERIA:

Assessment varies according to the needs of the group: generally, 30-40% tests; 20-30% Quizzes; 15-25% homework; 15-25% class-work.

MACY HONORS HUMAN PHYSIOLOGY

(1 credit)

429 - Level 3

Elective Course
Grade: 11, 12
Duration: Year

Prerequisite: *Grade of B or better in Biology and Chemistry I.*

We use several approaches to the study of the structure and functioning of the human body: (1) case studies/patient simulations using actual medical stories provided by the University of Southern Illinois, School of Medicine, where we question, examine and clinically and diagnostically test “our” patients; (2) comparative anatomy & physiology using vertebrate models (fishes, amphibians, reptiles, birds, mammals); (3) extensive laboratory work including dissection (shark, bony fish, frog, birds, and mammals – pig, mink, cat, deer); (4) current events, with emphasis on world issues of health and illness. In previous years, we have studied outbreaks of bubonic plague in India, Ebola Virus in Zaire, anthrax infection in the United States, and disease following the catastrophic tsunami in East Asia. In addition, we develop computer skills relating to the study of the human body, and we consider career paths in health and medicine. The course is designed for those interested in advanced study of anatomy and physiology, and for some, future professional work in the health sciences.

ASSESSMENT AND PERFORMANCE CRITERIA:

Assessment varies according to the needs of the group: generally, 30-40% tests; 20-30% Quizzes; 15-25% homework; 15-25% class-work.

HEALTH SCIENCE

(1 credit)

444 - Level 1

Elective Course

Grade: 12

Duration: Year

Prerequisite: *None.*

Health Science provides practical knowledge for living a healthy existence. The physical and mental self in relationship to others is the major focus. Key topics include nutrition, immunization, genetic dysfunction, hygiene, physical fitness, sexual education, AIDS, and other contemporary issues relating to health. Health career options are presented.

ASSESSMENT AND PERFORMANCE CRITERIA:

Assessment varies according to the needs of the group: generally, 20-40% tests/ Quizzes; 20-40% homework/classwork; 20-30% Labs; 10-15% notebook; 5-10% participation.

WEATHER AND CLIMATE

(1 credit)

469 - Level 2

Elective Course

Grade: 11, 12

Duration: Year

Prerequisite: *C or better in Phy-Chem or teacher recommendation.*

Students will learn weather basics such as temperature and pressure, weather disasters (hurricanes and tornadoes), and how climate has shaped civilization.

ASSESSMENT AND PERFORMANCE CRITERIA:

Assessment varies according to the needs of the group: generally, 30-40% tests; 20-30% Quizzes; 15-25% homework; 15-25% class-work.

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

(1 credit)

434 - Level 2

Elective Course

Grade: 11, 12

Duration: Year

Prerequisite: *Successful completion of Biology and Chemistry*

Environmental Science is the study of the interrelationship between the physical/natural world and its biological environments as well as the affect of mankind on the environment. Environmental science embraces a wide variety of topics from different areas of study. Major topics studied in this course are: physical environments of the land, water, oceans and air and their related ecosystems; the interdependence of Earth's systems; climatology; the affect of natural and manmade impacts on the environment; pollution; renewable and nonrenewable energy resources; and human population dynamics.

ASSESSMENT AND PERFORMANCE CRITERIA:

Assessment varies according to the needs of the group: generally, 20-40% tests; 20-30% Projects; 20-30% homework/classwork; 10-20% Quizzes; 10-20% Labs.

AP BIOLOGY**(1 credit)**

433 - Level 4/AP

Elective Course

Grade: 11, 12

Duration: Year

Prerequisite: *A grade of B or better in Biology and Chemistry.*

This course is an extension of the first year biology course. The material from the previous course is studied in greater depth and new topics are introduced. The new topics include bacteriology and virology; plant anatomy and physiology, embryology of vertebrates; genetics; DNA structure and Genetic Engineering, and vertebrate anatomy and physiology. There is extensive dissection of the cat and research projects are a requirement. **Students must take the AP Exam in order to earn AP level credit for this course. An AP contract must be signed by both student and parent for the student to complete enrollment. All AP courses may have additional requirements.**

ASSESSMENT AND PERFORMANCE CRITERIA:

Assessment varies according to the needs of the group: generally, 30-40% tests; 20-30% Quizzes; 15-25% homework; 15-25% class-work.

AP CHEMISTRY**(1 credit)**

437 - Level 4/AP

Elective Course

Grade: 11, 12

Duration: Year

Prerequisite: *Algebra 2, B or better in Chemistry or Department permission.*

Chemistry is the study of the composition of matter and the changes it undergoes. AP Chemistry is an advanced study of the concepts encountered in Chemistry where a good mathematics background is imperative to success in the course. Topics covered include all the topics covered in Honors Chemistry with a greater concentration on calculations. Experimentation and demonstrations are integrated into the course. **Students must take the AP Exam in order to earn AP level credit for this course. An AP contract must be signed by both student and parent for the student to complete enrollment. All AP courses may have additional requirements.**

ASSESSMENT AND PERFORMANCE CRITERIA:

Assessment varies according to the needs of the group: generally, 30-40% tests; 20-30% Quizzes; 15-25% homework; 15-25% class-work.

AP ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE**(1 credit)**

435 - Level 4/AP

Elective Course

Grade: 12

Duration: Year

Prerequisite: *B or better in Biology, Two years successful completion of High School Science, and Teacher recommendation.*

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. Students identify and analyze environmental problems both natural and human-induced, evaluate the relative risks associated with these problems, and examine alternative solutions for resolving and/or preventing them. Environmental science is interdisciplinary; it embraces a wide variety of topics from different areas of study. Major topics for study are: interdependence of Earth's systems; human population dynamics; renewable and nonrenewable resources; environmental quality; global changes; environment and society. A field studies are an essential component of this course.

Students must take the AP Exam in order to earn AP level credit for this course. An AP contract must be signed by both student and parent for the student to complete enrollment. All AP courses may have additional requirements.

ASSESSMENT AND PERFORMANCE CRITERIA:

Assessment varies according to the needs of the group: generally, 20-40% Tests/Quizzes; 20-40% Classwork/homework; 20-30% Labs; 10-15% notebook; 5-10% participation.

AP PHYSICS B

(1 credit)

442 - Level 4/AP

Elective Course

Grade: 12

Duration: Year

Prerequisite: *Pre-Calculus.*

Physics is the fundamental Science; it encompasses all the sciences that precede it: Biological, Chemical, and Environmental. "You can't fully appreciate your surroundings until you understand the rules of nature." (Hewitt) Physics describes nature in an elegant manner using mathematically built physical structures to interpret its rules. In this Physics course, we will cover Mechanics, Fluid Dynamics, Thermodynamics, Wave Motion, Optics, Electricity and Magnetism, and selected topics in Modern Physics. Extensive application of algebra and trigonometry in solving problems is a major focus of the course. At least one project is required each marking period. **Students must take the AP Exam in order to earn AP level credit for this course. An AP contract must be signed by both student and parent for the student to complete enrollment. All AP courses may have additional requirements.**

ASSESSMENT AND PERFORMANCE CRITERIA:

Assessment varies according to the needs of the group: generally, 40-60% tests; 10-20% Labs; 10-20% homework; 10-20% class-work.

CAPT SCIENCE

(1/2 credit)

459 – (Pass/Fail)

Elective Course

Grade: 12

Duration: Semester

Prerequisite: *None.*

This course provides students with the opportunity to build and practice the skills necessary to demonstrate proficiency in Science. Successful completion of this course is one way that students may meet the CAPT Science graduation requirement if they have not been successful on the State CAPT.

History

The vision guiding the history program is driven by the national and state standards. These standards are reflected in the district's curriculum with specific power standards, significant tasks, and assessments comprising 40-60% of instructional time in each course. This still allows ample room for the innovation and creativity essential to teaching and learning. The history program is designed to enable students to explore traditions and ideas of our diverse nation and its relationship to the world. U.S. History and Civics courses help students understand the foundations of American government and the Constitution.

NOTE: **ALL ADVANCED PLACEMENT COURSES IN THE HISTORY DEPARTMENT ARE OFFERED UNDER THE CONDITION THAT THERE IS SUFFICIENT ENROLLMENT AND THAT FACULTY ARE AVAILABLE TO TEACH THE COURSES.**

WORLD HISTORY **(1 credit)**

301 - Level 2	Required Course
305 - Level 2 SC	Grade: 9
307 - Level 3 (Honors)	Duration: Year

Prerequisite: *None.*

The focus of the World History program is a survey of political, economic and cultural development of Western and non-Western civilizations. The emphasis is on developing basic skills in reading, listening, writing, note taking, research, and geography. Students will work in groups and individually on art projects and will visit appropriate collections in local galleries and museums.

U.S. HISTORY 1 **(1 credit)**

311 - Level 2	Required Course
312 - Level 2 SC	Grade: 10
317 - Level 3 (Honors)	Duration: Year

Prerequisite: *None.*

The U.S. History 1 Program is an inclusive multicultural survey of American history, from Exploration to Reconstruction. Students are introduced to different types of information and material, including primary sources, and are expected to respond to what they read. Emphasis is also placed on current social and political issues and writing persuasive essays as preparation for the CAPT.

CIVICS **(1/2 credit)**

321 - Level 2	Required Course
323 - Level 2 SC	Grade: 11, 12
324 - Level 3 (Honors)	Duration: Semester

Prerequisite: *None.*

This course examines the Constitution and US government and is designed to provide students with 1) an understanding of our form of government, its workings today, and its increasing complexity; 2) an undertaking of the rights and responsibilities of citizenship. Objectives include developing basic skills in reading, listening, writing, note taking, and research. Students will work in-groups and individually. This course content is required for graduation from high.

U.S. HISTORY 2

(1/2 credit)

333 - Level 2
334 - Level 2 SC
335 - Level 3 (Honors)

Required Course
Grade: 11, 12
Duration: Semester

Prerequisite: *Successful completion of U.S. History I and Civics.*

Certain AP courses may meet the US II requirement and can be used in place of US II with permission of the History Department.

U.S. History II is a survey course in American History from 1865 forward. Students are introduced to different types of information and material, including primary sources, and are expected to respond to what they read. Skills that are emphasized include listening, discussion, note taking, research, and the ability to work as a member of a group. Research skills, including the MLA Style of Documentation are reinforced, and students are required to produce short research reports implementing the MLA Style. Emphasis is also placed on current social and political issues and writing persuasive essays.

AP U.S. HISTORY

(1 credit)

336 - Level 4/AP

Elective Course
Grade: 11, 12
Duration: Year

Prerequisite: *Teacher recommendation.*

The Advanced Placement U.S. History course is an intensive study of the political, social and economic history of the United States from the Colonial period through the present century. Research papers and essays are required. Students are required to take the national AP examination at the conclusion of the two-semester course. **Students must take the AP Exam in order to earn AP level credit for this course. An AP contract must be signed by both student and parent for the student to complete enrollment. All AP courses may have additional requirements.**

AP WORLD HISTORY

(1 credit)

340 - Level 4/AP

Elective Course
Grade: 11, 12
Duration: Year

Prerequisite: *Teacher recommendation.*

This course covers the impact of societal interactions; change and continuity across world history periods; impact of technology and demography; social and gender structures; cultural and intellectual developments; and functions and structures of states. The chronological frame of the course is the period from approximately 8000 B.C.E. to the present. **Students must take the AP Exam in order to earn AP level credit for this course. An AP contract must be signed by both student and parent for the student to complete enrollment. All AP courses may have additional requirements.**

AP GOVERNMENT & POLITICS

(1 credit)

343 - Level 4/4P

Elective Course
Grade: 11, 12
Duration: Year

Prerequisite: *Teacher recommendation. B or higher in Honors US History I.*

The Advanced Placement U.S. Government and Politics course covers the constitutional underpinnings of U.S. government; political beliefs and behaviors; political parties; interest groups and mass media; institutions of national government; the Congress; the presidency; the bureaucracy and the federal courts; public policy; civil rights and civil liberties. This course covers our civics requirement.

Students must take the AP Exam in order to earn AP level credit for this course. An AP contract must be signed by both student and parent for the student to complete enrollment. All AP courses may have additional requirements.

AP HUMAN GEOGRAPHY (1 credit)

341 - Level 4/AP

Elective Course

Grade: 11, 12

Duration: Year

Prerequisite: *B or higher in all previous history classes; recommendation of previous history teacher.*

The AP Human Geography course emphasizes the importance of geography as a field of inquiry and briefly discusses the emergence of academic geography in nineteenth-century Europe. It shows how the discipline has evolved into the study of diverse peoples and areas organized around a set of concepts. The main goal of the course is for students to develop skills that enable them to: use and think about maps and spatial data; understand and interpret the implications of associations among phenomena in places; recognize and interpret at different scales the relationships among patterns and processes; define regions and evaluate the regionalization process; characterize and analyze changing interconnections among places. **Student must take the AP Exam to earn AP level credit for this course. An AP contract must be signed by both student and parent for the student to complete enrollment. All AP courses may have additional requirements.**

AP MODERN EUROPEAN HISTORY (1 credit)

342 – Level 4/AP

Elective Course

Grade: 11, 12

Duration: Year

Prerequisite: *B or higher in all previous history classes; recommendation from previous history teacher.*

The study of European History since 1450 introduces students to the cultural, economic, political, and social developments that played a fundamental role in shaping the world in which we live. Without this knowledge, we would lack the context for understanding the development of contemporary institutions, the role of continuity and change, in present-day society and politics, the evolution of current forms of artistic expression and intellectual discourse. In addition to providing a basic narrative of events and movements, the goals of the AP European History course are to develop (a) an understanding of some of the principle themes in modern European history, (b) an ability to analyze historical evidence and historical interpretation, and (c) an ability to express historical understanding in writing. **Student must take the AP European History Exam in order to earn AP level credit for this course. An AP contract must be signed by both student and parent for the student to complete enrollment. All AP courses may have additional requirements.**

PSYCHOLOGY (1 credit)

344 - Level 2

Elective Course

Grade: 11, 12

Duration: Year

Prerequisite: *None.*

The Psychology course is an introduction to five areas of psychology: theories of personality, behaviorism; child, adolescent and adult development; mental illness; and social influence. Research papers reports and essays are required.

PRE-AP PSYCHOLOGY**(1 credit)**

345 - Level 3

Elective Course

Grade: 11

Duration: Year

Prerequisite: *None*

The Psychology course is an introduction to five areas of psychology: theories of personality, behaviorism; child, adolescent and adult development; mental illness; and social influence. In addition to these areas this course will also include statistics, and reading /writing skills which prepare students for the AP Psychology course and the exam in the senior year. Students in this course are committed to take the AP Psychology class in grade 12.

AP PSYCHOLOGY**(1 credit)**

346 – Level 4/AP

Elective Course

Grade: 12

Duration: Year

Prerequisite: *Teacher recommendation. B or higher in previous history classes and Biology.*

The Advanced Placement Psychology course covers the history of psychology and different approaches to as well as the research methods and biological bases of behavior. Topics also include: sensation and perception; states of consciousness; learning; cognition; motivation and emotion; developmental psychology; personality; testing and individual differences; abnormal psychology; treatment of psychological disorders; and social psychology. **Students must take the AP Exam in order to earn AP level credit for this course. An AP contract must be signed by both student and parent for the student to complete enrollment. All AP courses may have additional requirements.**

LATINO/CARIBBEAN HISTORY**(1 credit)**

348 - Level 2

349 - Level 3 (Honors)

Elective Course

Grade: 11, 12

Duration: Year

Prerequisite: *No prerequisite for Level 2. Level 3 requires teacher recommendation.*

The Latino/Caribbean History course offers students an intensive study of events that have influenced the cultures of Latin America and the Caribbean. A variety of tools will be utilized to examine the political, social and economic experiences of Hispanics in the United States and the Caribbean.

AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY AND CULTURE**(1 credit)**

350 - Level 2

Elective Course

Grade: 11, 12

Duration: Year

Prerequisite: *None*

The College African American History course explores the historical and cultural heritage of African Americans. Films, visual art, music and literature are used to study past and present achievements of African Americans throughout history. Research reports, notebooks and essays are required.

HONORS AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY AND CULTURE**(1 credit)**

360 - Level 3

Elective Course

Grade: 11, 12

Duration: Year

Prerequisite: *Teacher recommendation.*

The Honors African American History course offers an intensive study of the historical and sociological experiences of African Americans. The course explores the influence of African antiquity as well as contemporary issues. Research reports, notebooks and essays are required.

WOMEN'S STUDIES: HISTORY**(1 credit)**

361 - Level 2 (Honors level option for additional course requirements; administrator and teacher approval required.)

Elective Course

Grade: 11, 12

Duration: Year

Prerequisite: *Teacher recommendation.*

This course focuses on the experiences of women from diverse backgrounds and their various points of view. It is not simply the study of women, but rather a study that places women's own experiences in the center of the process. It seeks to provide the kind of information that enables women to choose more knowledgeably about how they wish to act and to shape the world. A basic premise of this course is that women's experiences and contributions are integral to understanding our world. Understanding women's experiences and ideas will help you learn what it means to be female in the United States today. A wide variety of women's studies topics from many diverse points of view will be examined. We will be attempting to define women by looking at them in terms of their relationships with others. Other topics include the history of the feminist movement, women's personalities, social roles, women and religion, women and employment, women and politics, women and the law, women and sports, women and the family, women and health, sexuality and relationships, the idea of "female beauty".

JOURNALISM**(1/2 credit)**

140 - Level 2

(Honors level option for additional course requirements; administrator and teacher approval required.)

Elective Course

Grade: 10, 11, 12

Duration: Semester

Prerequisite: *None.*

This elective focuses on practicing and acquiring the skills necessary in all types of journalism from school newspaper publication to broadcast news and other careers in journalism. Students who take this course must love to read and write and must be willing to submit work for possible publication in the school newspaper. Students are encouraged to join the Proclamation. They will be graded as follows: submissions to the Proclamation (40%), quizzes and tests (20%), homework/class work (20%), class participation (20%).

CRITICAL ANALYSIS OF NARRATIVE FILM (also listed in English) **(1/2 credit per semester)**

010 (1st semester) – Level 2
011 (2nd semester) – Level 2

Elective Course
Grade: 11, 12
Duration: Semester

Prerequisites: Open mind and high interest in film; interest in watching classic, older, and silent films. B or higher average in previous English and history courses; special permission required from history and English department chair for sophomores interested in taking this class.

The Critical Analysis of Narrative Film course is open to any junior or senior interested in critically viewing narrative film as art. The course is divided into two sections.

Section 1 focuses on basic elements of constructing a visual narrative (storyboard) for filmmaking, and an introduction to film history. Students will view early silent films and analyze how these are constructed to tell a story without words. Students will construct a shot-by-shot screenplay or storyboard for a short, narrative silent film. Students will also view films about films. The course will include viewing and writing about films that are truly considered classics in that they mark a movement in film history or technique.

Section 2 follows the historical development of American film through the twentieth century. The course provides a study of different movements in the art of narrative film, and presents how films have reflected the way we view ourselves — and how film has opened our views to events in history and paradigm shifts in society.

ASSESSMENT AND PERFORMANCE CRITERIA:

Students will be graded on class participation and work produced, including storyboards, group work on developing a script, film reviews, and presentations. Students will be expected to seek publication of their film reviews in the school newspaper, in local newspapers, in on-line journals, on the school website, or through other media.

World Languages

The vision of the World Language Department is recognizing the importance of teaching the skills of speaking, reading, writing and listening so students can demonstrate proficiency in the preferred language of study. Preparing students with the ability to communicate proficiently in a second language empowers them by studying, understanding and valuing the rich cultural heritage and language background of various countries. An integral part of the study of a foreign language affords students to be successful in their personal growth, academic careers, and in their journey as life-long learners.

FRENCH 1 **(1 credit)**

511 - Level 2

Elective Course

Grade: 9, 10

Duration: Year

Prerequisite: *None*

French 1 is an introduction to French language and culture. It is designed for students with little or no previous background in the language and stresses the development of listening comprehension and speaking skills. Students are introduced to French culture and begin to read short passages and write simple sentences in French.

FRENCH 2 **(1 credit)**

512 - Level 2

Elective Course

Grade: 9, 10

Duration: Year

Prerequisite: *Successful completion of French 1 with a C or better **and** teacher recommendation.*

French 2 is an intermediate level course. More advanced grammar concepts and cultural readings from the French-speaking world are presented. Students read short passages from literature as well as from contemporary sources.

FRENCH 3 **(1 credit)**

513 - Level 3

Elective Course

Grade: 10

Duration: Year

Prerequisite: *Completion of French 2 with a B or better **and** teacher recommendation.*

French 3 continues the development of listening, speaking, reading and writing skills, with added emphasis on the analysis of literature. In class, students are expected to communicate in French. Research papers and oral presentations are also required. Cultural studies focus on the lives and works of French historical figures, authors, or artists.

FRENCH 4 **(1 credit)**

514 - Level 3

Elective Course

Grade: 11, 12

Duration: Year

Prerequisite: *Completion of French 3 **and** teacher recommendation.*

French 4 is designed to help students expand vocabulary through topical readings and analysis of literature. Advanced grammatical structures are presented and reinforced through writing and oral presentations. Cultural studies of the French-speaking world include poetry, drama, short stories, articles and novels. Students are expected to communicate in French.

FRENCH 5**(1 credit)**

515 - Level 3

Elective Course

Grade: 11, 12

Duration: Year

Prerequisite: *Completion of French 4 and teacher recommendation.*

French 5 is an advanced level course in French literature and composition. Stories, plays poems, historical and journalistic writings form the basis for student analysis. Topics for writing and discussion include literary themes, interpretation and Cross-cultural comparisons. Students use advanced vocabulary and grammatical structures in impromptu situations, free writing and directed essays. Cultural studies include history, art, and current topics from the French-speaking world.

ITALIAN 1**(1 credit)**

521 - Level 2

Elective Course

Grade: 9, 10

Duration: Year

Prerequisite: *None*

Italian I is an introduction to Italian language and culture. It is designed for students with little or no previous background in the language and stresses the development of listening comprehension and speaking skills. Students are introduced to Italian culture and begin to read short passages and write simple sentences in Italian.

ITALIAN 2**(1 credit)**

522 - Level 2

Elective Course

Grade: 9, 10

Duration: Year

Prerequisite: *Italian 1 with a C or better and teacher recommendation.*

Italian 2 is an intermediate level course designed to help students further develop their speaking, reading and writing skills. More advanced grammar concepts and cultural materials are presented. Students read short passages from literature as well as from contemporary sources.

ITALIAN 3**(1 credit)**

523 - Level 3

Elective Course

Grade: 10, 11, 12

Duration: Year

Prerequisite: *Italian 2 with a B or better and teacher recommendation.*

Italian 3 continues the development of listening, speaking, reading and writing skills, with added emphasis on the analysis of literature. In class, students are expected to communicate in Italian whenever possible using language that describes events in the past, present and future. Research papers and oral presentations are also required. Cultural studies focus on the lives and works of Italian historical figures, authors, or artists.

ITALIAN 4**(1 credit)**

524 - Level 3

Elective Course
Grade: 10, 11, 12
Duration: Year**Prerequisite:** *Italian 3 with a B or better and teacher recommendation.*

Italian 4 continues the development of listening, speaking, reading and writing skills, with added emphasis on the analysis of literature. In class, students are expected to communicate in Italian whenever possible using language that describes events in the past, present and future. Research papers and oral presentations are also required. Cultural studies focus on the lives and works of Italian historical figures, authors, or artists.

SPANISH 1**(1 credit)**

532 - Level 2

Elective Course
Grade: 9, 10
Duration: Year**Prerequisite:** *None*

Spanish 1 is an introduction to the Spanish language and the culture of the vast Spanish-speaking world. It is designed for students with little or no previous knowledge of Spanish and stresses the development of listening comprehension and speaking skills. Students also begin to read short passages and write simple sentences in Spanish. Students are responsible for the successful completion of the significant tasks in the curriculum.

SPANISH 2**(1 credit)**

535 - Level 2

Elective Course
Grade: 9, 10
Duration: Year**Prerequisite:** *Completion of Spanish 1 with a C or better and teacher recommendation.*

Spanish 2 is an intermediate level course designed to help students further develop their speaking, reading and writing skills in Spanish. More complex language structures are introduced to increase conversational and reading ability. Students are required to give oral presentations and complete significant tasks in the curriculum.

SPANISH 3**(1 credit)**

538 - Level 3

Elective Course
Grade: 9, 10
Duration: Year**Prerequisite:** *Completion of Spanish 2 with a B or better and teacher recommendation.*

Spanish 3 continues the development of listening, speaking, reading and writing skills in Spanish, with added emphasis on Literature, composition and analytical skills. . Written compositions, oral presentations and significant tasks are required. Cultural activities focus on Hispanic literature and events in Latin America, Spain and the USA.

SPANISH 4**(1 credit)**

540 - Level 3

Elective Course

Grade: 11, 12

Duration: Year

Prerequisite: *Completion of Spanish 3 with a B or better **and** teacher recommendation.*

Spanish 4 is an advanced Honors course that continues to build on the previous Spanish 1, 2, and 3. It is designed to help students expand vocabulary through topical readings and analysis of literature. Advanced grammatical structures are presented and reinforced.

SPANISH 5**(1 credit)**

542 - Level 3

Elective Course

Grade: 11, 12

Duration: Year

Prerequisite: *Completion of Spanish 4 **and** teacher recommendation.*

Spanish 5 is an advanced Honors level course in Spanish literature and composition. Stories, plays, poems, historical and journalistic writings form the basis for student analysis. Topics for writing and discussion include literary themes, interpretation and cross-cultural comparisons. Students use advanced vocabulary and grammatical structures in impromptu situations, free writing and directed essays. Cultural studies include history, art, and current topics from the Spanish-speaking world.

AP SPANISH**(1 credit)**

543 - Level 4/AP

Elective Course

Grade: 11, 12

Duration: Year

Prerequisite: *Completion of Spanish 4 or 5 with a B or better **and** teacher recommendation.
Non-native speakers must complete NS Spanish 3.*

AP Spanish Language is a course for those students seeking advanced placement and/or credit toward future college Spanish courses. It is limited to those students who have already developed a high level of proficiency in Spanish and have studied the culture of the Spanish-speaking peoples. The course is conducted at a level comparable to that of a third-year college Spanish class. Students enrolled in AP Spanish must take the AP Spanish Language Exam, administered by the College Board in the month of May. Those students who score 3, 4 or 5 on the exam usually receive college credits and are eligible for advanced placement in college. **Students must take the AP Exam in order to earn AP level credit for this course. An AP contract must be signed by both student and parent for the student to complete enrollment. All AP courses may have additional requirements.**

AP SPANISH LITERATURE**(1 credit)**

544 - Level 4/AP

Elective Course

Grade: 11, 12

Duration: Year

Prerequisite: *B or higher in 4 years of Spanish Language and teacher recommendation.*

The AP Spanish Literature course is designed to provide students who are fluent in Spanish language with a learning experience equivalent to that of a third year college course in Spanish Peninsular as well as Latin American literature. Students will read a diversity of literature and reflect on the many voices and cultures included in this rich literature. Texts will be chosen from several periods including the Medieval and Golden Age, as well as the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. **Student must take the AP Spanish Literature Exam in order to earn AP level credit for this course. An AP contract must be signed by both student and parent for the student to complete enrollment. All AP courses may have additional requirements.**

NATIVE SPEAKER SPANISH 1**(1 credit)**

545 - Level 2

Elective Course

Grade: 9, 10

Duration: Year

Prerequisite: *Spanish-speaking home background and basic knowledge of Spanish.*

This class is intended for beginners at different skill levels. It is not intended for recent arrivals that are fluent speakers of Spanish. Students will practice language in its cultural context and expand their global awareness as they learn the history and culture of the twenty -plus Spanish speaking countries that make up the Hispanic world. They will also explore Latinos in the USA and their contributions to society, science, and the arts.

NATIVE SPEAKER SPANISH 2**(1 credit)**

546 - Level 2

Elective Course

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Duration: Year

Prerequisite: *Completion of NS Spanish 1 with a C or better and teacher recommendation.*

Spanish NS2 is a continuation of Spanish NS1. It is not intended for recent arrivals that are fluent speakers of Spanish. Students will continue expanding their vocabulary and usage through classroom readings and independent readings. Students will work on more advanced grammatical forms and to learn about the history and culture of the Spanish speaking world.

NATIVE SPEAKER SPANISH 3**(1 credit)**

547 - Level 3

Elective Course

Grade: 11, 12

Duration: Year

Prerequisite: *Completion of NS Spanish 2 and teacher recommendation*

Spanish NS3 is the last level in the heritage language continuum. It is the equivalent of a Spanish 4 class. Recommended for students who have completed NS2 or new students with a formal educational background in Spanish, either in another country or in the Bilingual Education Program. Students will read historical, literary and journalistic selections, as well as films and current media. The goal of this course is, not only to advance and refine the knowledge of the Spanish language, but to also expose students to people and events so that they will gain insight and achieve a global understanding of the issues facing these countries in the 21st century. Students who successfully complete NS3 will be promoted to Spanish 5/Advanced level.

LATIN 1**(1 credit)**

551 - Level 2

Elective Course

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Duration: Year

Prerequisite: *None.*

Latin 1 is an introduction to the fundamentals of Latin grammar, with an emphasis on logic and analysis. Latin vocabulary, which is the basis of more than half of English, is stressed through the study of Latin derivatives in English. The culture, history and mythology of Rome are introduced in Latin readings and enrichment activities. Students read and translate simplified passages of the Aeneid and begin to construct Latin sentences.

LATIN 2**(1 credit)**

553 - Level 2

Elective Course

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Duration: Year

Prerequisite: *Latin 1.*

Latin 2 continues the study of Latin grammar, with emphasis on the understanding and utilization of more complex grammatical constructions. Students read and translate selections from Roman history and continue study of Latin derivatives in English. The study of Roman mythology is expanded through activities which center around further readings of the Aeneid; students study about Caesar's life and works in depth. Translation of famous myths in Latin.

LATIN 3**(1 credit)**

555 - Level 3

Elective Course

Grade: 10, 11, 12

Duration: Year

Prerequisite: *Latin 2.*

In Latin 3, students continue the study of advanced Latin grammar. They read and translate historical selections, which focus on eminent figures such as Caesar, and on descriptions of life during the Roman Empire. Students read selections from famous writers such as Cicero, Ovid, Livy, Cato, Plautus, and Pliny, and study Cicero's life and work in depth. Supplementary vocabulary study emphasizes Latin terms concerning the body, clothing, plants, etc.

LATIN 4**(1 credit)**

557 - Level 3

Elective Course

Grade: 11, 12

Duration: Year

Prerequisite: *Latin 3.*

Students complete study of advanced Latin grammar. There is a strong emphasis on student writing and advanced translation at this level. Students will read and translate Ulysses' Adventures, Hercules and Jason and the Argonauts. Students will do activities emphasizing advanced grammar. Supplementary vocabulary study and activities include Latin terms from law and medicine. The epic poem is studied as a genre through Virgil's **Aeneid**. Latin meter and Poetry is studied also.

LATIN 5**(1 credit)**

558 - Level 3

Elective Course

Grade: 12

Duration: Year

Prerequisite: *Latin 4.*

Course content is varied. It is a detailed translation of Cicero's Orations against Cataline.

CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

The Career and Technical Education Department consists of three programs: **Business Education, Family & Consumer Sciences, and Technology Education.**

Business Education

The vision of the Business and Information Technology Department is to prepare students in acquiring the needed competencies to keep abreast of the continual technological advancements in the marketplace, the projected needs of the business community for workers, and the expected output of trained students. Additionally, we provide students with the academic preparation, personal growth, career exploration and hands-on-experience necessary in enabling them to apply skills acquired in the classroom to “real life” experiences, including post secondary studies.

The Business Education program will:

1. Provide varied and on-going opportunities for students to develop and apply skills in communication, computation, critical thinking and decision-making.
2. Help students to understand and apply economic and personal finance concepts.
3. Prepare students to understand and apply technology in the workplace.
4. Develop the students’ appreciation for the role of business in a global economy.
5. Help students to understand the responsibility of each worker in business and finance enterprises.
6. Help students to understand the legal and ethical aspects of business.
7. Prepare students to make informed career choices.

Business Education Grading Philosophy:

Grading for all courses will include the following components:

- 05 - 10% Homework
- 20 - 30% Attendance/Behavior/Participation
- 20 - 30% Tests & Quizzes
- 40 - 50% Projects

The business education teachers and courses may vary within these ranges, but all components are considered to be major factors in assessment.

RECOMMENDED SEQUENCE OF COURSES

Business Pathways & Sequences

Accounting Path

- I – Computer Literacy (1 yr)
- II – Personal Finance (1/2 yr) & Business Management (1/2 yr)
- III – Accounting I (1 yr)
- IV – Accounting II (1 yr)

Management Path

- I – Computer Literacy (1 yr)
- II – Personal Finance (1/2 yr) & Business Management (1/2 yr)
- III – Accounting I (1 yr)
- IV – Business & Personal Law (1 yr)

Marketing Path

- I – Computer Literacy (1 yr)
- II – Personal Finance (1/2 yr) & Business Management (1/2 yr)
- III – Marketing (1 yr)
- IV – Entrepreneurship (1 yr)

Computer Information Systems Pathways & Sequences

Graphics & Design Path

- I – Computer Literacy (1 yr)
- II – Microsoft Office (1 yr)
- III – Desktop Publishing (1/2 yr) & Web Design I (1/2 yr)
- IV – Web Design II (1 yr)

Information Tech Path

- I – Computer Literacy (1 yr)
- II – Microsoft Office (1 yr)
- III – Desktop Publishing (1/2 yr) & Web Design I (1/2 yr)
- IV – Office Technology (1 yr)

Course Offerings:

804 **ACCOUNTING I**

Grade: 10th, 11th & 12th

Prerequisite: Algebra I (C or better).

1 Credit

This course is designed to present the introductory concepts and procedures of double-entry accounting and the accounting cycle. It is applied to both service and merchandising business for a single proprietorship and partnership. The development and presentation of a business simulation is the culminating activity of the course.

Students are encouraged to apply for the Tech prep program where they can receive college credit in accounting for taking Accounting I and Accounting II over 11th & 12th grade.

805 **ACCOUNTING II**

Grade: 11th & 12th

Prerequisite: Accounting I (C or better) or Instructor's permission

1 Credit

This course is designed to reinforce the accounting concepts and procedures learned in Accounting I and to further the students' understanding and use of a variety of accounting procedures and documents for a corporation. Students will use automated accounting systems and spreadsheet software for entering accounting data and the preparation of financial statements. The development and presentation of a business simulation is the culminating activity of the course.

Students are encouraged to apply for the Tech prep program where they can receive college credit in accounting for taking Accounting I and Accounting II over 11th & 12th grade.

808 PERSONAL FINANCE**½ Credit**Grade: 9th, 10th, 11th & 12th

Prerequisite: Algebra I (C or better).

This course provides students an opportunity to learn how to manage their money and provides them with an understanding of the rights and responsibilities of an enlightened consumer. Students will also have the opportunity to learn all about investing money from career selection to financial independence.

820 COMPUTER LITERACY**1 Credit**Grade: 9th, 10th, 11th, & 12th

Prerequisite: None.

This introductory course is designed to teach students the “touch” method of keyboarding, file management, computer literacy and foundations, as well as an introduction to MS Word, MS Excel, and MS PowerPoint. This course is a prerequisite for all other computer courses.

Students are encouraged to apply for the Tech Prep program in their junior year.**824 MICROSOFT OFFICE 1 Credit**Grade: 10th, 11th, & 12th

Prerequisite: Computer Literacy (C or better)

This course further introduces students to the applications of Microsoft Office. Students will apply previous introductory skills and understandings while learning more advanced skills and understandings of the following applications: Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint and Access. Students will learn the MS Office applications and develop strategies for success in the information technology career field.

Students are encouraged to apply for the Tech Prep program in their junior year.**828 OFFICE TECHNOLOGY****1 Credit**Grade: 12th

Prerequisite: Desktop Publishing & Web Design I (C or better in both).

This is the culminating course in the Information Technology pathway and is open to seniors only. Office Technology is designed to give students the opportunity to work collaboratively and independently in a simulated Business environment. This course is designed to train students in the use of business technology, procedures, communications, and company practices. Students will also explore the evolving technology available within the business world throughout the year. Work ethic, decision-making skills, and teamwork are a large part of this business course. Business and computer skills previously mastered are applied to office and real-life situations, as well as formal and informal business documents.

Students are encouraged to apply for the Tech Prep program in their junior year.**831 BUSINESS AND PERSONAL LAW****1 Credit**Grade: 9th, 10th, 11th & 12th

Prerequisite: Junior standing

What is “the law”? Is there a difference between “the law” and “laws”? How are laws made, changed and interpreted? How do laws influence the business and personal decisions that individuals make? How do businesses and individuals influence the development and interpretation of laws? These are some of the questions that will engage students who undertake the study of business and personal law. The course provides a solid foundation in understanding legal issues and an important familiarity with the core topics of business law, integrated with the most relevant personal law topics.

836 BUSINESS MANAGEMENT**½ Credit**Grade: 9th, 10th, 11th & 12th

Prerequisite: Sophomore Standing

This course provides a general overview of the American Free Enterprise system. A study is made on various forms of business ownership, the internal organization and management functions of a business, and the financing process. Considerable emphasis is placed on the managerial process and the management functions of planning, organizing, staffing, directing and controlling.

838 **WEB DESIGN 1****½ Credit**Grade: 11th & 12th

Prerequisite: Microsoft Office (C or better).

This course will introduce students to the basic fundamentals of web site design using Dreamweaver. Students will be designing web sites with specific formats, as well as being able to express their own creativity in designing a personal web site.

Students are encouraged to apply for the Tech Prep program in their junior year.**839** **WEB DESIGN 2****1 Credit**Grade: 12th

Prerequisite: Web Design 1 & Desktop Publishing (C or better in both).

This course is a continuation of Web Design I. Application of the Dreamweaver software and web site design will continue. Additional Dreamweaver applications will be applied, as well as incorporating animation and graphics into web sites using Flash and Fireworks.

840 **DESKTOP PUBLISHING****½ Credit**Grade: 11th & 12th

Prerequisite: Microsoft Office (C or better).

This course introduces students to the applications of MS Publisher. Activities and projects develop student skills and abilities in creating graphics, documents, newsletters, flyers, greeting cards, and using clip art. Students will also learn proofreading skills, setting up pages, editing, and how to manipulate various computer tools for business related correspondence. Students will learn the basic elements of page design and layout to produce documents and presentations.

Students are encouraged to apply for the Tech Prep program in their junior year.**844** **MARKETING I****1 Credit**Grade: 10th, 11th & 12th

Prerequisite: Personal Finance & Business Management (C or better in both).

Students will learn management, merchandising, distribution, economics, advertising, and selling techniques. Students will also explore wholesale, retail, and service careers – the fastest growing occupational career. Real world experience is gained from participating in the operation of the school store. Students may continue their education within the Marketing pathway by taking Entrepreneurship in their senior year.

845 **ENTREPRENEURSHIP****1 Credit**Grade: 10th, 11th & 12th

Prerequisite: Marketing I (C or better).

Entrepreneurship is a specialized marketing class that enables students to develop the skill needed to effectively organize, develop, create, and manage their own business. Students will assess their entrepreneurial skills, develop a business plan, and learn the importance of being an entrepreneur in a free enterprise system. The Internet and other computer applications will be used to conduct research and develop student skills and abilities. Students will have the opportunity to work with and meet local business leaders including the National Foundation for Teaching Entrepreneurship (NFTE) to assist in establishing their own business.

859 **DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY 1****½ Credit**Grade: 9th, 10th, 11th, & 12th

Prerequisite: None

This introductory level Web 2.0 oriented course introduces students with a basic foundation within the discipline of digital photography. The courses main components include: hands-on camera and scanner usage, a brief history of the evolution of photography, relevant classroom discussions incorporating universal photo capture concepts and critiques thereof, topical and engaging dialogs concerning the cutting-edge field of photography today, extracurricular trips and guest speakers, Career Pathway opportunity emphasis, professional grade photo manipulation techniques via implementation of Adobe Photoshop CS.

860 **DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY 2**

1 Credit

Grade: 10th, 11th, & 12th

Prerequisite: Digital Photography 1 (C or better).

This curriculum designed for the successful Digital Photography I students who are interested in pursuing further Web 2.0 proficiency within the realm of photography. The accompanying template affords a unique immersion opportunity for students to expound their preexisting digital photography skills, knowledge, and confidence.

Students will be creatively challenged to increase their depth of knowledge within both Adobe Photoshop CS as well as the finer points of substantive digital photography techniques. The successful student will be poised for college level photography initiatives.

Note: Compatibility permitting a digital video module may be introduced during the course second semester.

Family & Consumer Sciences

The Family and Consumer Sciences program is designed to help students to gain self-understanding, to develop homemaking and job skills, to practice decision making, and to observe and participate in positive social interactions. Every adult is a homemaker and a consumer. It is also the goal of Family & Consumer Sciences courses to emphasize basic skills in all areas of instruction and to demonstrate the interdependence of academic and special subjects.

The Family and Consumer Sciences program will:

1. Develop students' ability to safely and effectively use resources, processes, concepts, and tools in family and consumer sciences.
2. Help students to understand the relationship between nutrition and wellness.
3. Prepare students to understand and apply related technology.
4. Help students to function effectively as providers and consumers of goods and services.
5. Prepare students to make informed career choices.

Course Offerings:

1018 CULINARY ARTS 1

½ Credit

Grade: 9th, 10th, 11th & 12th

Prerequisite: None

Do you have the desire to work with food? Explore the world of Food Service Careers from restaurants to hospitals. Learn the fundamentals of menu planning, food preparation and service. Obtain experience with assisting in the school-based restaurant "OUR PLACE" and get started towards a career in one of the fastest growing fields: Food Service.

1021 CULINARY ARTS 2

1 Credit

Grade: 10th, 11th & 12th

Prerequisite: Culinary Arts 1; at least 16 years old or teacher approval.

This advanced course is designed to enhance skills learned in Culinary I, to include all areas of restaurant management and food preparation. Students are responsible for the operation of the school-based restaurant, "OUR PLACE". This course prepares students for gainful employment in the Food Service Industry.

Technology Education

The Technology Education program at Wilbur Cross High School is intended to help students become technologically literate citizens. This is done through the use of systems and processes that enable students to explore the world of technology and assist in developing solutions to society's technological problems. The knowledge and skills acquired through these experiences will enable students to actively participate in shaping their future and prepare them for the 21st century.

The Technology Education program will:

1. Evaluate the effects of existing and emerging technologies on people and the environment over time.
2. Recognize the scope of technology and evaluate the impact and influence technology has on society, culture and the environment – past, present and future.
3. Develop and use strategies for adjusting to new technologies and changing interactions among science, technology and society.
4. Develop cognitive and psychomotor problem-solving skills through applied research, design, production, operation and analysis of technological systems (informational, physical and biological).
5. Safely and effectively use resources, processes, concepts and tools of technology.
6. Create devices for solving problems, using creativity and concepts of design and technology.
7. Understand the influences of technology on consumer and career choices.

Technology Education Grading Philosophy:

Grading for all courses will include the following components:

- 05 - 10% Homework
- 20 - 30% Attendance/Behavior/Participation
- 20 - 30% Tests & Quizzes
- 40 - 50% Projects

The technology education teachers and courses may vary within these ranges, but all components are considered to be major factors in assessment.

Course Offerings:

853 ROBOTICS

½ Credit

Grade: 10th, 11th, & 12th

Prerequisite: Algebra 1.

This ½ year elective course introduces students to the field of robotics. The LEGO system will teach students the principles of design, software programming, troubleshooting and application. Students interested in the field of engineering should enroll in this basic class as well as students who have an interest in how computers operate robots.

857 COMPUTER AIDED DESIGN 1

1 Credit

Grade: 10th, 11th, & 12th

Prerequisite: Computer Literacy

For pre-engineering and students interested in drafting. The curriculum offers students the opportunity to enter the field of drafting and design using Auto-CAD computer software. Students will learn the rules and principles of drafting design while completing assignments in the classroom and on computers. The course follows curriculum that give students the opportunity to gain a basic understanding of CAD and progress on to advanced CAD operations, The theories of Isometric and Orthographic projection will be covered in detail.

1012 AUTOMOBILE TECHNOLOGY 1**1 Credit**Grade: 10th

Prerequisite: None

This course is designed for students who wish to acquire some knowledge of auto mechanics but who are not necessarily interested in a career in the field. Students are introduced to the basic concepts of auto mechanics, including basic engine operation, cooling system, and other systems of the auto. This course employs both lecture and hands-on teaching styles.

1013 AUTOMOBILE TECHNOLOGY 2**1 Credit**Grade: 11th & 12th

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Automobile Technology 1.

This course is designed for students who are considering a career in auto mechanics. Topics include: vehicle construction, electronics and diagnostic techniques. Students are expected to demonstrate diagnostic and repair techniques on both demonstration and road worthy vehicles.

1014 COMMUNICATIONS 1: GRAPHIC TECHNOLOGY**1 Credit**Grade: 10th, 11th, & 12th

Prerequisite: None

This course is intended to introduce students to the areas of computer design and graphic communication. Students will explore their interests in this area in order to determine whether or not to pursue other technology courses.

1015 COMMUNICATIONS 2: ADVANCED GRAPHIC TECHNOLOGY**1 Credit**Grade: 11th & 12th

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Communications 1.

This course is designed for students who are interested in a career in the field of graphic arts. It concentrates on the area of pre-press, including computer design and graphics, and presswork consistent with what is accepted in the commercial printing industry. Students are given extensive experience in all aspects of printing.

Fine Arts

INTRODUCTION TO ART

(1 credit)

602 – Level 1

Elective Course

Grade: 9, 10

Duration: Year

Prerequisite: *None.*

Introductory art offers an opportunity to focus on basic designs that deal with the elements and principals of art. The course focuses on the development of creativity and skills in projects that involve drawing, design, painting, printmaking, crafts, sculpture, cartooning and art history, as well as involvement with school related activities.

CERAMICS

(1/2 credit)

607 - Level 2

Elective Course

Grade: 10

Duration: Semester

Prerequisite: *Introduction to Art.*

This course is designed to develop an understanding of three-dimensional form (design) through clay. All areas of hand building will be explored -- slab, coil and sculpture.

ADVANCED CRAFTS

(1/2 credit)

610 - Level 2

Elective Course

Grade: 10

Duration: Semester

Prerequisite: *Introduction to Art.*

The crafts course provides the opportunity for students to learn how things are made by hand. It can develop discrimination and an appreciation of craftsmanship and design. Students work on a number of different projects, such as glass etching, stained glass, Oriental paper cutting, mask making, stitching and stenciling. Class is centered on “making things” rather than the more traditional art class or drawing class.

ADVANCED DRAWING

(1/2 credit)

614 - Level 2

Elective Course

Grade: 10

Duration: Semester

Prerequisite: *Introduction to Art.*

Concentration on different techniques of drawing starting with beginning exercises (e.g.) Continuous contour); delve into Shading, Movement Drawings, Peephole, Scratch book Drawing, Nature and Animal Drawings. Students will also work with a variety of mediums; e.g. pen charcoal, pen and ink, markers.

ADVANCED PAINTING**(1/2 credit)**

624 - Level 2

Elective Course

Grade: 10

Duration: Semester

Prerequisite: *Introduction to Art.*

This course focuses on the student's individual creative expression through water color, tempera, acrylic and oil painting techniques.

ART OF DRAMA**(1 credit)**

626 - Level 2

Elective Course

Grade: 10, 11, 12

Duration: Year

Prerequisite: *Introduction to Art.*

The Art of Drama course will encompass the following: set designing, stage makeup, set crew, prop creations, lighting and sound, costume design and mask making. This course will seek to expand each student's knowledge of the Arts through extensive use of the technology needed to research, design, and produce various plays and productions here at Wilbur Cross High School. All students within the class will become an extremely important part of our Theatre Arts Department.

INTERIOR DESIGN**(1/2 credit)**

627 - Level 2

Elective Course

Grade: 10, 11, 12

Duration: Semester

Prerequisite: *Introduction to Art.*

Students learn how to arrange space inside a building as well as to design a house to scale, draw blueprints and floor elevations. Students learn how to select and sometimes design the furniture, lighting, floor covering, draperies and wall coverings, and select the colors, textures and shapes to make the inside of a building attractive and appropriate to use. At the end of this eight week course, students will have designed their own "Dream Home" inside and out.

PRINTMAKING**(1/2 credit)**

628 - Level 2

Elective Course

Grade: 10, 11, 12

Duration: Semester

Prerequisite: *Introduction to Art.*

A print is a picture or design made from a plate, block or roll on which a design has been permanently cut, incised, or achieved by a chemical process. Projects tried during this eight week course include silk-screening (printing T-shirts), stenciling, and batik (Oriental printing) and Acid Etching.

PHOTOGRAPHY 1 (FINE ART)**(1/2 credit)**

639 - Level 1

Elective Course

Grade: 10, 11, 12

Duration: Semester

Prerequisite: *Introduction to Art.*

This course introduces the fundamentals of the 35 mm camera mechanics and basic darkroom techniques. Students will develop individual but specific assignments involving black and white film exposure and development, printing, mounting and matting. Special concern will be given to photographic design and composition. Students will study the techniques of master photographers.

PHOTOGRAPHY 2 (FINE ART)**(1 credit)**

640 - Level 2

Elective Course

Grade: 10, 11, 12

Duration: Year

Prerequisite: *C or better in Photography 1 (Fine Art).*

This course is offered to students who have completed one year of photography and are ready to move on to the next level. Advanced projects such as table top photography, studio portraiture, sepia toning and photo coloring are among the techniques that will be explored as well as techniques of contemporary art photographers.

Educational Center for the Arts**(1 credit)**

ECA 1 711

ECA 2 712

ECA 3 713

ECA 4 714

Elective Course

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Duration: Year

Prerequisite: *None.*

The Educational Center for the Arts is a half-time, inter-district magnet arts high school that has served South Central Connecticut since 1973. ECA offers intensive training under the tutelage of professional artists.

CHORUS 1**(1 credit)**

728 – Level 1

Elective Course

Grade: 9, 10

Duration: Year

Prerequisite: *Must take Music Theory IA, auditions with teacher approval.*

Chorus 1 is a vocal group of mixed male and female voices for grades 9 & 10. The aim of chorus I is to acquaint and train students in choral and general music. This course is open to students with the gift and talents for singing. This course will also develop proper vocal techniques, styles and music reading skills as well as solo and part singing in performing a variety of music in many different styles. All chorus participants will be required to perform in many school and community performances. Auditions with teacher approval are required to qualify for advanced chorus.

CHORUS 1A**(1/2 credit)**

729 - Level 1

Elective Course

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Duration: Semester

Prerequisite: *Must take Music Theory 1A, auditions with teacher approval.*

Chorus 1A is a vocal group of mixed male and female voices for grades 9 through 12. The aim of chorus 1A is to acquaint and train students in choral and general music. This course is open to students with the gift and talents for singing. This course will also develop proper vocal techniques, styles and music reading skills as well as solo and part singing in performing a variety of music in many different styles. All chorus participants will be required to perform in many school and community performances. Auditions with teacher approval are required to qualify for advanced chorus.

ADVANCED CHORUS**(1 credit)**

731 - Level 2

Elective Course

Grade: 10, 11, 12

Duration: Year

Prerequisite: *Auditions with teacher approval.*

The Advanced Chorus of mixed male and female voices. The music performed by this group will be of a more challenging nature, singing a wide variety of music such as classical, show tunes, popular, spirituals, etc. The Advanced group is required to perform in scheduled school and community performances as well as participation in state competitions.

MUSIC THEORY 1**(1/2 credit)**

738 - Level 2

Elective Course

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Duration: Semester

Prerequisite: *None*

This course will teach fundamental notation and music reading skills. Students will gain an understanding of tonality, intervals, simple sight singing and simple composition. This course is recommended for students with no musical background.

MUSIC THEORY 1A**(1/2 credit)**

739 - Level 2

Elective Course

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Duration: Semester

***Corequisite:** *Chorus 1 or Advanced Chorus*

This course will teach fundamental notation, reading a musical score for chorus, sight singing, tonality, intonation, intervals, composition, proper use and care of the voice, choral posture, understanding part singing, pronunciation, enunciation, stage deportment, beats, etc. **This course is required for all students in Chorus I.**

AP MUSIC THEORY**(1 credit)**

744 - Level 4/AP

Elective Course
Grade: 10, 11, 12
Duration: Year**Prerequisite:** *None*

This course will teach music reading, notation, dictation, sight singing, composition, and analysis skills while preparing students for the AP Music Theory test. Students will gain an understanding of tonality, intervals, part writing, form, and simple composition. No previous experience with music is required. **Students must take the AP Exam in order to earn AP level credit for this course. An AP contract must be signed by both student and parent for the student to complete enrollment. All AP courses may have additional requirements.**

ASSESSMENT AND PERFORMANCE CRITERIA:

20% class participation; 40% tests/quizzes; 40% homework.

PREP BAND**(1 credit)**

746 - Level 1

Elective Course
Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12
Duration: Year**Prerequisite:** *None. Instrument inventory is limited. Students may be required to rent an instrument.*

This is a full-year elective course, which focuses on the techniques, skills and musical experiences that are associated with a beginning-intermediate level course in instrumental music. Students may learn how to play a musical instrument for the first time or review previously learned musical skills by electing this course. A strong commitment to participating in public performances is expected of each class member; this class will play in at least two concerts during the year. Proper performance attire required.

ASSESSMENT AND PERFORMANCE CRITERIA:

30% daily participation, attitude, and behavior (focusing on development and application of music ensemble skills); 50% performances; 20% written and playing tests. NOTE: students who do not participate in concerts without a valid excuse will fail the course. No exceptions!

CONCERT BAND**(1 credit)**

749 - Level 3

Elective Course
Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12
Duration: Year**Prerequisite:** *Ability to play an instrument and to read music.*

This is a full-year elective course which focuses on the techniques, skills, and musical experiences that are associated with an intermediate level course in instrumental music. In addition, instruction in music of the wind band repertory and the history of music will be provided. Students who elect this course should have at least beginning-advanced proficiency on their instrument. Students interested in playing the drums for this class must see the instructor for an audition. Performances will include playing at athletic events and other school functions. A strong commitment to participating in public performances is expected of each class member. Proper performance attire required.

ASSESSMENT AND PERFORMANCE CRITERIA:

30% daily participation, attitude, and behavior (focusing on development and application of music ensemble skills); 50% concert and public performances; 20% written and playing tests. NOTE: students who do not participate in concerts without a valid excuse will fail the course.

JAZZ ENSEMBLE**(1 credit)**

755 - Level 3

Elective Course

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Duration: Year

Prerequisite: *Ability to play an instrument and read music.*

This is a full-year elective course, which focuses on the techniques, skills and musical experiences that are associated with an intermediate level course in instrumental music. In addition, instruction in music of the jazz repertory and improvisation will be provided. Students who elect this course should have at least beginning-advanced proficiency on their instrument. Students interested in playing drum set, piano, or bass guitar for this class must see the instructor for an audition. A strong commitment to participating in public performances is expected of each class member. Proper performance attire required.

ASSESSMENT AND PERFORMANCE CRITERIA:

30-80% daily participation, attitude, and behavior (focusing on development and application of music ensemble skills); 0-50% concert and public performances; 20% written and playing tests. NOTE: students who do not participate in concerts without a valid excuse will fail the course.

Physical Education

PHYSICAL EDUCATION (FRESHMAN)

(1/2 credit)

901

Required

Grade: 9

Duration: 2 Quarters

Prerequisite: *None*

Students will participate in the physical education program two semesters of their freshman year. Freshman PE classes will meet in Gym 2 and participate in a variety of individual and team activities. Students will be introduced to the positive aspects of sports and physical fitness, along with several nutrition and health lessons. Prerequisite, grade nine students only and students must be healthy and physically cleared through the school.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

(1 credit)

904

Required

Grade: 10, 11, 12

Duration: Year

Prerequisite: *None*

Students in grades 10-12 will be participating in a variety of team and individual games along with weight room training and physical fitness assessments. Students will be graded on a variety of skill assessments, quizzes, exams, the CT Physical Fitness Test and written works. Students will become familiar with all aspects of sport, proper etiquette, impacts on society and advantages of living an active healthy lifestyle. Prerequisite, students must be healthy and physically cleared through the school.

NUTRITION AND WEIGHT TRAINING

(1/2 credit)

914

Elective

Grade: 10, 11, 12

Duration: Semester

Prerequisite: *None*

Students must dress and participate daily in a variety of fitness related activities. These activities will be geared towards personal fitness and weight training. Students will learn a variety of basic lifts, along with how to properly use all machinery within our weight room. Nutritional aspects will cover a proper diet, hydration, food as an energy source, portion size and how to make an informed nutritional choice when eating. Prerequisite, students must have passed Freshman PE.

ANATOMY AND TRAINING

(1/2 credit)

912

Elective

Grade: 10, 11, 12

Duration: Semester

Prerequisite: *None*

Students in grades 10-12 will learn basic assessments of sport related injuries and treatments towards those injuries. Proper methods of rehabilitation along with strengthening exercise will also be covered. This class is geared toward those students interested in the sport medicine field. Students applying must have a sound biology and physiology background and be willing to participate in group activities and a large quantity of course work. Prerequisite, students must have passed Freshman PE.

FIRST AID AND CPR**(1/2 credit)**

913

Elective

Grade: 10, 11, 12

Duration: Semester

Prerequisite: *None*

Mrs. Malfitani, our resident EMT, will instruct her students on the basics of first aid and CPR along with AED training. This is a well-instructed and valuable class offered to all students grades 10-12. Only serious students willing to study, practice and become certified should apply. Prerequisite, students must have passed Freshman PE.

HISTORY OF SPORT IN SOCIETY**(1/2 credit)**

916

Elective

Grade: 10, 11, 12

Duration: Semester

Prerequisite: *None*

Learn the many ways that sports has shaped society over the years. This class will uncover the root of sport and its progression through the years, while also emphasizing a moral and political impact on society along the way. Students grades 10-12 are encouraged to sign-up for this informational class. Papers, group projects and community volunteering should be expected! Prerequisite, students must have passed Freshman PE.

SWIMMING**(1/2 credit)**

907

Elective

Grade: 10, 11, 12

Duration: Semester

Prerequisite: *None*

Whether you are learning to swim or perfecting your strokes, all will benefit from this well structured and safe aquatic environment. Students will learn all major swimming strokes, cover basic diving and participate in a number of pool games such as basketball and water polo. Students are expected to swim daily and provide their own toiletries for showering pre/post swim. Prerequisite, students must have passed Freshman PE.

ADVANCED WEIGHT TRAINING**(1/2 credit)**

915

Elective

Grade: 11, 12

Duration: Semester

Prerequisite: *Nutrition & Weight Training*

This class is geared towards those students who have completed Nutrition & Weights and are ready to kick things up to the next level. All Olympic Lifts will be covered along with core training, proprioceptive exercises and fitness running. Prerequisite, students must have successfully passed Freshman PE and receive departmental permission to register for this class.

PILATES**(1/2 credit)**

917

Elective

Grade: 11, 12

Duration: Semester

Prerequisite: *Successful completion of one year of Physical Education*

Students will change into their Pilates clothes and participate daily in variety of Pilates exercises in Rm C101. Only those students who are dedicated to intense daily exercise and are prepared to sweat should enroll! The class size is limited to 15 students, so sign-up as quickly as you can! Prerequisite, students must have successfully passed Freshman PE.

YOGA**(1/2 credit)**

935

Elective

Grade: 11, 12

Duration: Semester

Prerequisite: *Successful completion of Freshman Physical Education*

Students will change into their Yoga clothes and participate in variety of Yoga stretches and exercise designed to increase flexibility, cardiovascular endurance and improve balance. Yoga classes meet daily in Rm C101 only those students who are dedicated to daily exercise and participation should enroll! The class size is limited to 15 students, so sign-up as quickly as you can! Prerequisite, students must have successfully passed Freshman PE.

Independent Study and Seminar Program (ISSP)

Facilitator: Anne Townsend

Phone number: 946-5518

Fax number: 946-5272

Independent Study and Seminar Program (ISSP) is one of Connecticut's oldest and most established high school programs for talented and gifted students, having been in continuous existence since 1967. It is a program for gifted and potentially gifted high school students. ISSP may include a seminar, a college course, a Yale-affiliated program, independent course work, and/or an independent project with a Wilbur Cross High School mentor or coordinating teacher.

PLEASE NOTE: ISSP can not take the place of courses currently offered at Wilbur Cross High School.

Philosophy and Goals: The Independent Study and Seminar Program responds to the expectations of students and their parents through a commitment to help ISSP students grow in self-awareness, in academic preparation, and in practical experience.

The overall objective of ISSP is to provide training that seeks to help students to:

- Learn how to pursue a subject on one's own and transfer that knowledge to other areas of study
- Focus interest goals
- Extrapolate, synthesize, and interpret critically
- Learn by understanding that one question leads to others
- Develop inventiveness in problem solving
- Note the value of interdisciplinary studies
- Find a course of study not provided in the regular classroom
- Encourage give-and-take in group discussion
- Learn through experience outside of the classroom
- Foster creativity and originality
- Recognize that failure, frustration, and success are part of the learning process
- Develop humility and open-mindedness
- Appreciate the emotional involvement in the learning process

Application Process:

The Differential Aptitude Tests (DATS) and Torrance Test of Creativity are administered sometime during the third marking period to 9th and 10th grade students who have been recommended by a teacher or guidance counselor. Also used to identify potential ISSP students are scores on the PSAT and SAT exams, demonstrated special projects, and personal interviews.

Prior to taking an ISSP course, students are required to complete an ISSP contract which includes: course goals and objectives, student and teacher responsibilities, course content, texts, exams, presentations, and course hours. It is the prospective student's responsibility to seek out and work with the proposed teacher/mentor on completing the contract. Upon completion, the proposal must be approved by the Coordinating Teacher, Independent Study Coordinator, Department Administrator, and parent.

How Should Students Proceed?

Students must speak to the ISSP Coordinator to discuss the proposed ISSP course, and obtain the ISSP contract. Once the contract is completed, it should be returned for the coordinator's approval.

Prerequisites for ISSP Courses:

- Previous involvement in TAG or recommendation by a teacher/counselor and personal interview with ISSP coordinator
- Meet the goal on DAT's and/or Torrance Test.
- Meet requirements on ISSP contract.

Prerequisites for College Courses:

- Must be a junior or senior
- Earn required PSAT/SAT scores and grade averages for individual colleges
- Attend mandatory orientation sessions for Yale and University of New Haven classes and meet with ISSP coordinator
- Take required placement tests for some college courses

Yale University

- ISSP juniors and seniors only
- SAT or PSAT scores of 1700 or higher (critical reading + math + writing)
- A minimum average of B+ in every high school class
- Attendance is *mandatory* at Yale orientation
- Students must earn a B or above to continue

Southern Connecticut State University

- ISSP juniors and seniors only (critical reading + math + writing)
- SAT or PSAT scores of 1500 or higher
- A minimum average of B in every high school class

Gateway Community College

- Juniors and seniors only
- B average in most classes
- Must be a full time WCHS student taking four or more Cross classes
- Take the *Accuplacer* Test at Gateway
- Registration day attendance is mandatory

University of New Haven

- Juniors and seniors only
- SAT or PSAT of 1500 or higher (critical reading + math + writing)
- A minimum average of B in every high school class
- Registration day attendance is mandatory

Miscellaneous Electives

FRESHMAN SEMINAR (CAPT PREP)

(1/2 credit)

7002 – (Pass/Fail)

Elective
Grade: 9
Duration: 2 Quarters

Prerequisite: *None.*

Freshman Seminar is designed to help students prepare for high school and postsecondary success by building superior skills in critical thinking, close reading, concise writing, inquiry, collaboration, and organization through a variety of readings, discussions, and lessons connected to core content areas of study. In addition to providing students with practice and application of real-world and content literacy skills, teachers often supplement class lessons with study and research skills that may help them with other classes. This course is required of all freshmen and lessons are differentiated to meet the needs of all students.

SENIOR SEMINAR

(1 credit)

197-Level 2

Elective
Grades: 11, 12
Duration: Year

Prerequisite: *None.*

This course for juniors and seniors is designed for them to prepare for and ease their transition from high school to college. The course is separated into two segments: during the first semester students, will focus on the college selection and admissions process, SAT preparation, locating and obtaining scholarships and other financial aid, college study skills including practical skills and strategies for a successful campus experience. During the second semester, students will focus on writing with the goal of increasing skills and preparation for college level writing expectations. Students will receive a review of writing mechanics, and use a combination of fiction and non-fiction to regularly compose various types of essays. Students will use peer-editing and the revision process to create finished writing products of high quality.

Course Assessment: Homework/class work – 30%; essays/quizzes – 30%; projects – 25% class participation – 15%.

PARENTING / FAMILY LIFE

(1 credit)

7003

Elective
Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12
Duration: Year

Prerequisite: *None.*

The purpose of this course is to prepare students for the emotional, nutritional and physical development of children.

PEER LEADERSHIP (SENIOR BUDDIES)

(1 credit)

7004

Elective

Grade: 12

Duration: Year

Prerequisite: *Approval of facilitator; attendance at retreat.*

This course is for seniors working in the Senior Buddy program. Working in small groups, Senior Buddies present weekly lessons to freshman classes on subjects related to the themes of “achieving school success” and “making wise decisions.” Students in this course receive training in group dynamics, peer counseling, lesson design, speaking in groups, and class management. Seniors must apply in the spring of their junior year and must attend a 2-3 day training retreat in the summer before their senior year. Students must conduct themselves as excellent role models, attendance being of particular importance.

INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

(1 credit)

7025

Elective

Grade: 11, 12

Duration: Year

Prerequisite: *Department Approval.*

This is an advanced course that is designed to integrate school-based and work-based learning into a working model that will allow the student to be better prepared for employment. **There is an enrollment limit of ten (10) students for this course.**

WORK EXPERIENCE

(1 credit)

7028

Elective

Grade: 11, 12

Duration: Year

Prerequisite: *Recommendation from teachers and on IEP.*

Students receive community work experience based on their individual needs.