

PERTH AMBOY HIGH SCHOOL



PROGRAM OF STUDIES 2017-2018

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Perth Amboy High School Administration

Mrs. Daisy Rodriguez

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9th Grade Vice Principal ~ South Campus

Mr. Robert Dahill

Supervisor of Social Studies, CTE, & NJROTC

Mr. Shamus Burke

Instructional Leader for Language Arts

Ms. Mala Maharana

Instructional Leader for Mathematics

Ms.Carolynn O'Connor

Instructional Leader for Science

Mr. Michael Saulnier

Supervisor of School Counseling & Related Services

Department of School Counseling and Related Services

Purpose: School Counselors provide guidance and counseling in the areas of social/emotional, educational, and career development at the elementary, middle, and high school levels. Student Assistance Counselors (SAC's) at the middle and high school level provide counseling to students who are at risk or affected by substance abuse.

Mission Statement: The Perth Amboy School District Counseling and Related Services Program maximizes and supports student achievement through a comprehensive and developmentally appropriate program that addresses the academic, career, and personal/social growth of all students. In partnership with students, staff, parents/guardians, and the community, school counselors assist all students to develop the skills and competences needed for college and career readiness and success in a global society.

School Counseling Staff:

MAIN CAMPUS

COUNSELOR	Ext.	Email	CASELOAD
Ms. Haren Kahn	23432	harekahn@paps.net	Last Name A - B
Ms. Brandi Caboy	23429	brancaboy@paps.net	Last Name C - E
Ms. Allison McMorrow	23479	allimcmorrow@paps.net	Last Name F - H
Ms. Jere Karnilaw	23431	jerekarnilaw@paps.net	Last Name I- Mi
Ms. Donna Montalvo	23421	donnmontalvo@paps.net	Last Name Mo - P
Ms. Melissa Otterbine	23426	meliotterbine@paps.net	Last Name Q- Sa
Ms. Lori Zaretsky	23430	lorizaretsky@paps.net	Last Name Sc - Z
Ms. Vanina Gimenez	23433	vanigimenez@paps.net	ELL (A - L) Level 1-3
Ms. Carolina Benitez	23428	carobenitez@paps.net	ELL (M - Z) Level 1-3
Ms. Kristy Roman	23482	krisroman@paps.net	STUDENT ASSISTANCE COUNSELOR
Ms. Laverne Green	23443	lavegreen@paps.net	POST-SECONDARY ADVISOR

EAST CAMPUS - 9TH GRADE

Mr. Briem Towns	36420	brietowns@paps.net	TEAM C
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SOUTH CAMPUS- 9TH GRADE

Ms. Bernadette Hubbs	37421	bernhubbs@paps.net	TEAM B
Ms. Alicia Nunez	37423	alicnunez@paps.net	TEAM A
Ms. Jackelin Santiago	37450	jacksantiago@paps.net	MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELOR

EDUCATION CENTER CAMPUS

Ms. Maria Cepin	31426	maricepin@paps.net	LEARNING PROGRAMS
Ms. Danice Lampkin	31430	danilampkin@paps.net	ACCELERATED PROGRAM
Ms. Erica Mateo-Baez	31451	ericmateo-baez@paps.net	POST-SECONDARY ADVISOR

Graduation Requirements

COURSE REQUIREMENTS	CLASS OF 2018		CLASS OF 2019		CLASS OF 2020		CLASS OF 2021	
	YEARS	CREDITS	YEARS	CREDITS	YEARS	CREDITS	YEARS	CREDITS
English/Language Arts/ESL	4	20	4	20	4	20	4	20
Health & Physical Education	4	16	4	16	4	16	4	16
Mathematics	3	15	3	15	3	15	3	15
Science	3	18	3	18	3	18	3	18
Social Studies	3	15	3	15	3	15	3	15
World Languages	2	10	2	10	2	10	2	10
21st Century Life & Careers	1	5	1	5	1	5	1	5
Financial, Economic Literacy	1/2	2.5	1/2	2.5	1/2	2.5	1/2	2.5
Visual and Performing Arts	1	5	1	5	1	5	1	5
Additional Electives	As needed		As needed		As needed		As needed	
Total credits required:	130		130		130		130	
TESTING REQUIREMENTS								
ELA (any one of the following)	CLASS OF 2018 PASSING SCORE		CLASS OF 2019 PASSING SCORE		CLASS OF 2020 PASSING SCORE		CLASS OF 2021 PASSING SCORE	
PARCC ELA Grade 9	>=	750	>=	750	>=	750	NOT APPLICABLE	
PARCC ELA Grade 10	>=	750	>=	750	>=	750	>= 750	
PARCC ELA Grade 11	>=	725	>=	725	>=	725	NOT APPLICABLE	
"Old" SAT Critical Reading	>=	400	>=	400	NOT APPLICABLE		PORTFOLIO APPEAL, NO ALTERNATIVE TESTING ACCEPTED	
"New" SAT Reading and Writing Section	>=	450	>=	450	NOT APPLICABLE			
SAT Reading Test	>=	22	>=	22	>=	22		
ACT Reading or ACT PLAN Reading*	>=	16	>=	16	>=	16		
Accuplacer WritePlacer	>=	6	>=	6	>=	6		
Accuplacer WritePlacer ESL	>=	4	>=	4	>=	4		
PSAT Reading (taken before 10/1/15)	>=	40	>=	40	>=	40		
PSAT Reading (taken after 10/1/15)	>=	22	>=	22	>=	22		
ACT Aspire Reading*	>=	422	>=	422	>=	422		
ASVAB-AFQT Composite	>=	31	>=	31	>=	31		
MATH (any one of the following)								
	CLASS OF 2018 PASSING SCORE		CLASS OF 2019 PASSING SCORE		CLASS OF 2020 PASSING SCORE		CLASS OF 2021 PASSING SCORE	
PARCC Algebra I	>=	750	>=	750	>=	750	>= 750	
PARCC Geometry	>=	725	>=	725	>=	750	NOT APPLICABLE	
PARCC Algebra II	>=	725	>=	725	>=	725	NOT APPLICABLE	
"Old" SAT Math	>=	400	>=	400	NOT APPLICABLE		PORTFOLIO APPEAL, NO ALTERNATIVE TESTING ACCEPTED	
"New" SAT Math	>=	440	>=	440	NOT APPLICABLE			
SAT Math Test	>=	22	>=	22	>=	22		
ACT or ACT PLAN Math*	>=	16	>=	16	>=	16		
Accuplacer Elementary Algebra	>=	76	>=	76	>=	76		
PSAT Math (taken before 10/1/15)	>=	40	>=	40	>=	40		
PSAT Math (taken after 10/1/15)	>=	22	>=	22	>=	22		
ACT Aspire Math*	>=	422	>=	422	>=	422		
ASVAB-AFQT Composite	>=	31	>=	31	>=	31		

* Test is no longer administered but can still be used for the graduating year

** Students not meeting the testing requirement must participate in the portfolio appeal process.

Grading Scale

Weighted grade point average or GPA is based on a scale of 0 through 4.3. To account for added rigor, honors courses are given a weight of 0.5 and Advanced Placement (A.P.) courses a full 1 point differential.

Letter Grade	Numerical Equivalent	Unweighted GPA Equivalent	Weighted Honors GPA Equivalent	Weighted AP GPA Equivalent
A+	98-100	4.3	4.7	5.3
A	94-97	4.0	4.5	5.0
A-	90-93	3.7	4.2	4.7
B+	87-89	3.3	3.8	4.3
B	84-86	3.0	3.5	4.0
B-	80-83	2.7	3.2	3.7
C+	77-79	2.3	2.7	3.3
C	74-76	2.0	2.5	3.0
C-	70-73	1.7	2.2	2.7
D	65-69	1.0	1.5	2.0
F	Below 65	0	0	0

Class Rank

Class rank is based on the student's weighted GPA. This average is obtained by multiplying the final average for a course by the credit value of the course. These products are added and then divided by the total number of credits attempted. All courses (academic and nonacademic, passed or failed), in grades nine through twelve are included in the GPA calculation. When a student repeats a course because of a failure, both grades are recorded. All students are ranked with their own grade level according to GPA. Students that transfer in must earn a minimum of 60 credits from Perth Amboy High School in order to be ranked with their graduating class.

College Preparation

Each College has its own admissions requirements regarding high school courses. Beyond specific course requirements most colleges emphasize the following important factors when making admissions decisions:

- Four year academic record
- Scores on college entrance exams
- Extracurricular participation and leadership
- Letters of recommendation
- Essays when required
- Interview when required

Special Education and Related Services

Students with disabilities must meet all graduation requirements, with modifications and accommodations to the curriculum and/or testing procedures, unless exempted as provided for in NJAC 6A:14. The Special Education Program ensures full educational opportunity is provided to all students with disabilities. To the maximum extent possible, students with disabilities are educated in the least restrictive environment and all supplementary aids and services and program modifications are implemented for the student to participate in general education programs when appropriate. Services and placement are based on the student's unique needs and not on their disability. Students with disabilities may participate in all extracurricular and non-academic activities with their non-disabled peers.

Bilingual Education

The Bilingual/ESL Program follows all regulations and procedures required by Title III of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) and by the NJ Department of Education. The Bilingual Education/ESL Program is a full-time program of instruction in all the subjects which a student is required by law or rule to receive, given in Spanish and also in English depending in the student's level of English Language Proficiency. The curriculum for the Bilingual Program parallels the General Program curriculum in all the content areas Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, Health and Physical Education. Students are placed and grouped according to their grade and English proficiency level in English as a Second Language (ESL). English Language Learners (ELLs) must meet all graduation requirements. *For more information you may refer to the Bilingual/ESL Program Handbook.*

College Admissions Testing Information

PSAT 8/9 & PSAT 10

These tests will help students and teachers assess student academic needs and determine areas of focus to ensure college and career readiness. It will also give the student the opportunity to preview the SAT, PSAT/NMSQT by testing the same skills and knowledge, and can connect a student to AP Courses. This exam is given in October; it is required for all sophomores and recommended for all juniors. It is used by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation in order to identify highly qualified juniors for recognition. This exam is free for students, and will be administered in school.

SAT Reasoning Test

This is a three and one-half hour test, divided into three sections, which measure Mathematical, Evidence-Based Reading, and Writing abilities. The score ranges from 200-800 for each section. Students should plan to take the SAT for the first time in the spring of their junior year and consult their school counselors to determine the number of times the test should be taken. Students should consult www.collegeboard.com for registration information. (Fee Waivers for students who receive free/reduced lunch are available in the School Counseling Office)

SAT Subject Tests

Students applying to competitive colleges may be required to take the SAT Subject Tests (formerly SAT II's). The SAT Subject Tests are one hour tests designed to measure students' knowledge in specific subject areas. Each subject score ranges from 200-800. Most students taking SAT Subject Tests do so at the end of their junior year or beginning of their senior year. Students should consult www.collegeboard.com for registration information. (Fee Waivers for students who receive free/reduced lunch are available in the School Counseling Office)

ACT

This exam is given on Saturdays is an alternative to the SAT Reasoning Test. The test can be taken during the student's junior and/or senior years. The ACT is divided into four parts: Math, English, Science Reasoning, and Reading. While optional, the Writing section is strongly recommended for the purpose of college admissions. The student will receive a composite score from 1-36. Students with a solid course background may take the ACT as an alternative or in addition to the SAT Reasoning Test. Students should consult www.act.org for registration information. (Fee Waivers for students who receive free/reduced lunch are available in the School Counseling Office)

ASVAB

This exam is a multiple-aptitude battery that measures developed abilities and helps to predict future academic and occupational success in the military. Scores are also used to determine if you qualify to enlist in the military. It is administered to students in grades 10-12 several times per year at no cost to the students. (Fee Reduction is available for students who receive free/reduced lunch)

NCAA Eligibility Center

The NCAA Core values are:

- To help students keep a good balance between sports, education, and social life.
- To maintain the highest levels of integrity and sportsmanship.
- To help students achieve excellence in both sports and academics
- To make sure student/athletes from all backgrounds have opportunities to participate.

Websites:

www.collegeboard.org
www.actstudent.org

www.ncaa.org
www.ets.org/toefl

www.official-asvab.com

Course Selection and Scheduling

Perth Amboy High School has a nine period day. All students are required to schedule eight classes each day plus one lunch period. The Board of Education reserves the right to offer or not offer particular courses depending upon enrollment and other conditions. The course selection process will occur early in the second half of the year. Each of our departments will offer opportunities for students to learn about their prospective courses. Students are encouraged to discuss the specifics of courses with teachers and school counselors.

DEFINITION OF COURSE LEVELS

Advanced Placement (AP) - These courses follow a curriculum designed by the Collegeboard and that reflects a level of rigor similar to that of a first-year college class. Students of very high academic ability and motivation are recommended by teachers or counselors. Students in the Honors and/or College Level courses typically make a natural progression to the Advanced Placement offerings. AP courses are designed to prepare students for the AP exam in that subject, given each May. Students who score well on AP exams (3 or better out of 5) may be granted college credit or placement consideration, depending upon the institution.

Dual Enrollment – Through a partnership with Middlesex County College’s High School Scholars Program, Perth Amboy High School students may take courses toward graduation that will also earn them college credit. Dual Enrollment courses offered in 2017-2018 are English IV and College Math. Interested students should discuss the specifics with their school counselor. The application can be found on the school counseling website. Certain classes in specific tracks may also qualify for dual enrollment.

Honors - Students scheduled into honors courses are consistently high achievers. These classes are fast-paced and more academically challenging than general course offerings.

College Preparatory (CP) – College preparatory subjects are standard high school courses and are available in mathematics and English. College preparatory adds to the rigor of General Education for students who demonstrate a higher aptitude.

General Education – General-level classes follow a standards-based curriculum and are designed to ensure these students will learn commensurate with their abilities and make progress towards graduation.

CRITERIA FOR HONORS & AP COURSES: The following entrance requirements apply to honors and AP level courses at Perth Amboy High School.

Entrance requirements for honors and advanced placement courses include but are not limited to:

- Cumulative overall average of 85% or higher
- Cumulative average of 85% or higher in the requested subject
- Recommendation from the current teacher in the requested subject
- Acceptable scores on standardized and/or placement tests
- Departmental recommendation

SCHEDULING PROCESS

Please be sure to carefully note required course offerings, elective course offerings, prerequisites and grade levels for each course. Read carefully all course descriptions before making selections. The course selection process involves students, parents, faculty, counselors and administrators. Our primary interest is for each student to advance towards reaching his/her educational and/or career goals.

There are a number of steps in this procedure, some of which include:

- Completion of recommendation process for AP/Honors and courses.
- Individual meetings with counselors and students to review and assess each student’s program, academic progress and secondary plan in order to choose appropriate courses.
- Parental input in the selection of each student’s selection of courses.

Schedule Changes

The following procedures **must be adhered** to when adding or dropping courses:

- Acceptable considerations for schedule changes:
 - a. An error in the scheduling process
 - b. Assignment to a teacher in whose class student previously failed
 - c. A request in course level changes
 - d. Administrative removal for safety of student or staff
 - e. Any other reason deemed necessary by the school
- Unacceptable reasons for schedule changes:
 - a. Social reasons
 - b. Lunch period preference
 - c. Personality conflicts
 - d. Start Time Preference
 - e. Teacher Preference
 - f. Any other reason deemed unnecessary by the school

- After the start of the school year, schedules may not be changed or courses may not be dropped unless careful review is completed by the counselor. Changing of a schedule or dropping of a course is considered the last resort after all other measures to remediate the problem have proven unsuccessful. The final approval for a change must come from the Principal.
- A “drop/add” period will begin on Monday of the second full week of the school year and will last for ten school days. During this period students may discuss and request schedule changes with their counselors.
- Level changes: A student may change the level of an academic class during the school year, however, this change cannot take place until after the first marking period has ended, and must be approved by an instructional leader or administrator.
- All procedures and steps as outlined on the Course Change Form must be followed.

English Department

All students must pass four years of core English courses; elective classes do not count towards the English graduation requirement.

Core English Classes

English I

Grade 9

5 Credits

Prerequisite: English 8

English I is a full-year, five-credit course offered in the first year of high school that is designed to introduce freshmen students to different genres in literature (novel, play, epic, poetry, and memoir) and nonfiction that will foster critical thinking and analytical skills. Students will delve deeply into the texts and analyze them for diction, tone, style and other literary devices. Furthermore, students will develop more scholarly compositional skills and effectively apply their knowledge in the conventions of English to improve their own writing as well as that of their peers.

English I College Prep

Grade 9

5 Credits

Prerequisite: Demonstrated reading proficiency in English 8

English I College Prep adds to the rigor of English I with the emphasis on independent reading and writing. Each student will be challenged to use higher-level thinking and problem solving skills as he/she develops the ability to make his/her own connections between literary text and informational text with less direct guidance from the instructor.

English I Honors

Grade 9

5 Credits

Prerequisite: English 8 Honors with a grade of 85% or higher or English 8 with a grade of 90% or higher & teacher recommendation

English I Honors adds to the rigor of English I College Prep by enhancing the development of communication skills, including grammar, research presentation, composition, and vocabulary. This coursework will be undertaken with the understanding that students manage difficult course material, engage in higher-level thinking, and discuss ideas at length to form connections among literary pieces between academic disciplines. Excellent time-management, organizational, and study skills are vital to student success in Honors classes.

English II

Grade 10

5 Credits

Prerequisite: English I

English II is a full-year, five-credit course offered in the second year of high school. This course will expand on the skills students obtained the previous year through a thematic exploration of American literature. Through the genres of poetry, novels, essays, speeches, historical documents, plays and short stories, students will explore such themes as The American Dream, family relationships, femininity, race, and lost love. Students will engage in reading, literary analysis, research writing, reflective writing, expository writing, whole and group discussions, and public speaking. Higher level thinking skills will be emphasized through interdisciplinary and critical perspectives as reflected in the quality of student performance in oral language, written language, and other media/technology. Previous instruction in research skills will be enhanced by requiring students to demonstrate competence in additional components of a research paper.

English II College Prep

Grade 10

5 Credits

Prerequisite: English I CP

English II College Prep adds to the rigor of English II with the emphasis on independent, critical reading and writing. Each student will be challenged to use higher-level thinking and problem solving skills as he/she develops the ability to make his/her own connections between literacy text and informational text with less direct guidance from the instructor.

English II Honors

Grade 10

5 Credits

Prerequisite: English I Honors with a grade of 85% or higher or English I CP with a grade of 90% & teacher recommendation

English II Honors adds to the rigor of English II by enhancing the development of communication skills, including grammar, research presentation, composition, and vocabulary. This coursework will be undertaken with the understanding that students manage difficult course material, engage in higher-level thinking, and discuss ideas at length to form connections among literary pieces between academic disciplines. Excellent time-management,

organizational, and study skills are vital to student success in honors classes.

English III
Grade 11 **5 Credits**
Prerequisite: English I, II

English III is a full-year, five-credit course offered in the third year of high school that is designed to expose students to various genres of British literature. This course will expand on the skills derived the previous years. Through the genres of poetry, novels and drama, students will explore such themes as social injustice, individuality, and love. In addition, students will engage in close reading of both fictional and non-fictional texts, and be able to effectively synthesize information from various texts to support their opinions in various types of writing. Students will expand upon their vocabulary and grammatical skills to improve their maturity level of written expression.

English III Honors
Grade 11 **5 Credits**
Prerequisite: English II Honors with a grade of 85% or higher or English II with a grade of 90% & teacher recommendation

English III Honors adds to the rigor of English III by enhancing the development of communication skills, including grammar, research presentation, composition, and vocabulary. This coursework will be undertaken with the understanding that students manage difficult course material, engage in higher-level thinking, and discuss ideas at length to form connections among literary pieces between academic disciplines. Excellent time-management, organizational, and study skills are vital to student success in honors classes.

English IV
Grade 12 **5 Credits**
Prerequisite: English I, II, III

English IV is a full-year, five-credit course offered in the fourth year of high school. This course will expand on the skills students obtained the previous years through an exploration of literature from around the world. Through the genres of short stories, poetry, novels, plays, speeches and essays, students will explore the themes of human rights, love, social injustice, cultural change and defining personal identity. Students will engage in close reading of both fictional and non-fictional texts and be able to effectively synthesize information from the various texts to support their opinions in various types of writing.

English IV Honors
Grade 12 **5 Credits**
Prerequisite: English III Honors with a grade of 85% or higher or English III with a grade of 90% or higher & teacher recommendation

English IV Honors adds to the rigor of English IV by enhancing the development of communication skills, including grammar, research presentation, composition, and vocabulary. This coursework will be undertaken with the understanding that students manage difficult course material, engage in higher-level thinking, and discuss ideas at length to form connections among literary pieces between academic disciplines. Excellent time-management, organizational, and study skills are vital to student success in honors classes.

AP Literature and Composition
Grades 11-12 **5 Credits**
Prerequisite: English II Honors with a grade of 90% or higher & teacher recommendation

AP Literature and Composition is a full-year, five-credit course offered in high school. The AP English Literature and Composition course aligns to an introductory college-level literary analysis course. The course engages students in the close reading and critical analysis of imaginative literature to deepen their understanding of the ways writers use language to provide both meaning and pleasure. As they read, students consider a work's structure, style, and themes, as well as its use of figurative language, imagery, symbolism, and tone. Writing assignments include expository, analytical, and argumentative essays that require students to analyze and interpret literary works. This course is a college level course graded using the College Board approved rubric and grading scale.

AP Language and Composition
Grades 11-12 **5 Credits**
Prerequisite: English II Honors with a grade of 90% or higher & teacher recommendation

AP Language and Composition is a full-year, five-credit course offered in high school. The AP Language and Composition course is designed to help students with the skills they need to read, write and think at the college level. The course is organized thematically. Students will "explore the complexities of single issue and synthesize the different viewpoints represented." Each interesting and relevant theme, Education, Gender, Politics, and Popular Culture, is centered on an essential question that engages students to begin thinking critically. Students will learn to read and analyze nonfiction, poetry, fiction

and visual texts for rhetorical concepts, diction and syntax. Students will learn to effectively utilize the writing process to develop multi-drafted essays that demonstrate their ability to analyze and synthesize information from a variety of thematic resources to

make a solid final product. This course is college level and is graded using the College Board approved rubric and grading scale.

English Electives:

Literacy Extensions I

Grade 9

5 Credits

Literacy Extensions is a full year, 5-credit, liberal arts elective course taken during the student's first year of high school. The course is paired with English I as a means to enhance each student's skill in reading and writing. With an emphasis on gauging each student's growth through individualized and small group instruction, the course is intended to prepare students to meet the rigorous demands of reading and writing in a variety of disciplines including English, Social Studies, Science, and Math.

Literacy Extensions II

Grade 10

5 Credits

Literacy Extensions is a full year, 5-credit, liberal arts elective course taken during the student's second year of high school. The course is paired with English II as a means to enhance each student's skill in reading and writing. With an emphasis on gauging each student's growth through individualized and small group instruction, the course is intended to prepare students to meet the rigorous demands of reading and writing in a variety of disciplines including English, Social Studies, Science, and Math.

Literacy Extensions for ELLs I

Grades 9 - 12

5 Credits

Literacy Extensions for ELLs I is a full year, 5-credit, elective course that is paired with ESL level III as a means to enhance each student's skills in reading and writing. With an emphasis on promoting student growth through individualized and small group instruction, the course is intended to prepare students to meet the rigorous demands of reading and writing in a variety of disciplines including English, Social Studies, Science, and Math.

Literacy Extensions for ELLs II

Grades 9 - 12

5 Credits

Literacy Extensions for ELLs II is a full year, 5-credit, elective course that is paired with ESL level IV intended to continue student growth in reading and writing. Through individualized and small group instruction, this course will prepare students to meet

the rigorous demands of reading and writing in a variety of disciplines including English, Social Studies, Science, and Math.

Math/Language Arts Test Preparation

Grade 12

2.5 Credits

This course will provide a thorough preparation for testing in both English and mathematics content areas. It will cover content and skills needed to be successful on standardized tests that fulfill the New Jersey testing graduation requirement. Students will deconstruct the test in order to learn to think like a test maker. Students will build skills each week in order to increase their confidence level throughout the span of the course. This test preparation is further documented in a portfolio that demonstrates the achievement of both math and English skills.

College & Career Seminar

Grade 12

2.5 Credits

This course pairs with the Math/Language Arts Test Preparation class and serves several purposes: primarily, students will be guided through the process of portfolio preparation, which may be necessary to satisfy graduation requirements. Further, students receive coaching and instruction in planning for post-secondary endeavors, including college applications, career exploration, and awareness of military opportunities.

College Research and Writing

Grades 9 - 12

5 Credits

Prerequisite: English I, II, Math/Language Arts Test Prep

College Research & Writing is a full-year, 5-credit, liberal arts elective course taken during the student's third and/or fourth year of high school. Students in this course will be exposed to critical reading and writing with the intention to better prepare students who will be entering college with the skills necessary to be successful. The course will outline ACT preparation, the college application process, a multitude of writing variations with enhancing research and rhetorical approaches (including the college application essay), and special emphasis on adequate note-taking, applicable research and MLA formatting, and oral presentation skills.

Creative Writing**Grades 10-12****2.5 Credits***Prerequisite: English I*

Creative Writing is an elective course of study designed to allow students to use creative abilities in conjunction with language skills to develop original poetry and prose. Students will also examine and analyze examples of poetry and prose to increase their understanding of creative writing skills and techniques. Students in this course will be required to write in a variety of genres and demonstrate a facility for giving and receiving constructive criticism. In addition, students will develop strategies for brainstorming, organizing their thoughts, and transferring them into clear, polished creative and analytical writing.

Journalism**Grades 10-12****5 Credits***Prerequisite: English I*

Journalism is an elective course in which students will study the craft of news stories and written claims. Students will undertake an examination of the history of journalism and learn the appropriate terms associated with the field. In addition, students will understand and apply the steps involved in conducting interviews and gathering appropriate research for a variety of news stories. Students will also learn the various techniques reporters utilize when developing their stories and apply these techniques to their own stories. Throughout the course, students will effectively employ the writing process to develop original journalistic stories.

Mythology**Grades 10-12****2.5 Credits***Prerequisite: English I*

Mythology is an elective course that is offered through the English department. This course includes a survey of the major myths of Greek and Roman antiquity, including the appropriate gods, heroes and heroines, and how these stories reflect the culture and beliefs of the time. Students will compare classical myths with those from other cultures such as African,

Native American, Asian, and Norse. Through the study of themes, students will examine the nature and social function of mythology, and how mythology has helped to shape modern religious beliefs.

Public Speaking**Grades 10-12****2.5 Credits***Prerequisite: English I*

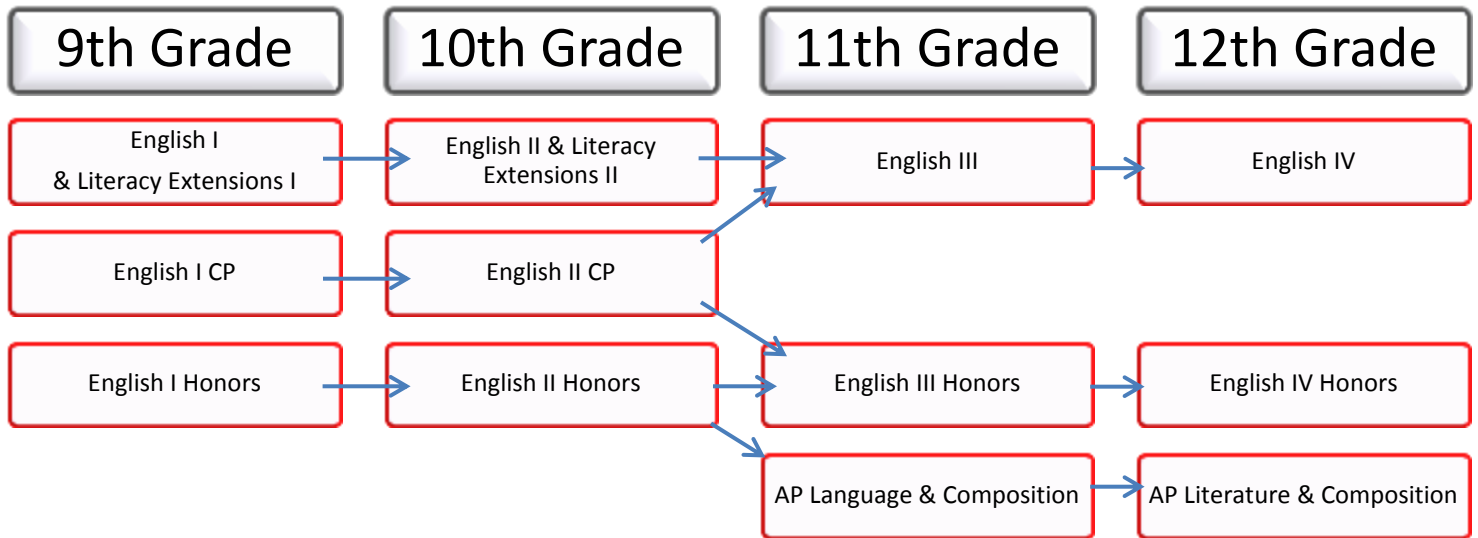
The ability to effectively communicate well with others is one of the most important traits employers look for in their employees. Public speaking is an elective course that provides students with the basics needed in a variety of public and daily interactions. Students will understand the fundamentals of effective verbal and non-verbal communication. They will learn the essentials in developing and delivering speeches. They will understand how important it is to effectively listen and evaluate speakers for more than their messages. Finally, students will gain a sense of confidence in the delivery of both themselves and the topic in which they are presenting.

Science Fiction**Grades 10-12****2.5 Credits***Prerequisite: English I*

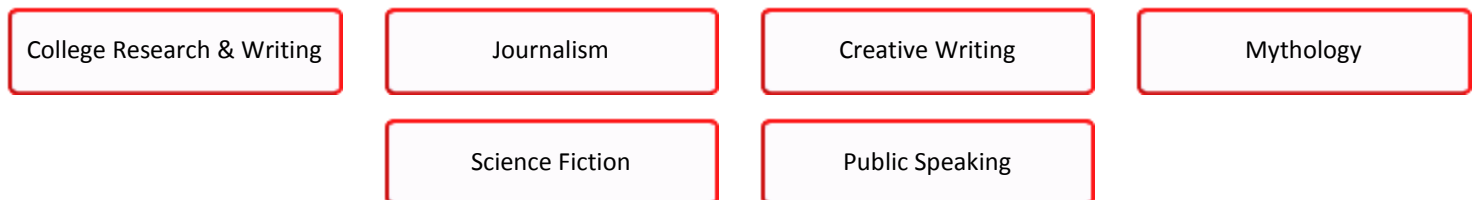
Science fiction, as an elective course, represents a blend of science, social science and arts. It frequently draws inspiration from science, as well as addressing the social issues relevant today by highlighting certain social aspects. Science fiction also serves to popularize science and affects public opinion about scientific, technological, moral and ethical issues. In this elective, students will read, discuss and evaluate authors' commentaries on society through a careful contemplation of the themes explored in the texts. Additionally, students study how science fiction authors use dialogue, point of view, tone, perspective, and proper conventions of fictional writing. Students discuss topics within texts such as artificial intelligence, utopian/dystopian societies, space travel, invasions of planet Earth, life in the future, alternate realities, rapidly evolving computer technology, or a shift in nature.

English Department

Typical Course Sequences



English Electives



Bilingual/ESL (English as a Second Language) Department

Bilingual students must pass a core ESL class for each year they are in the program.

Core ESL Classes

ESL Level I Grades 9-12

5 Credits

The focus of English as a Second Language (ESL) is to develop and provide support in communicative and academic English Language Proficiency. ESL is guided by the mandated English Language Development Standards (ELD) for effective pedagogy. The ESL level 1 course will focus on oral language development. ESL level 1 course includes content area vocabulary, academic language, and concepts related to the curriculum. The ESL Level 1 course there will continue to reinforce phonemic awareness of the sounds of English and pronunciation practice.

ESL Level II Grades 9-12

5 Credits

ESL Level 2 will continue to reinforce phonemic awareness of the sounds of English and pronunciation practice. The development of academic vocabulary and concepts related to the curriculum will increase as Level 2 students approximate the language of native speakers. The focus of ESL is to provide continued support of the English Language.

ESL Level III Grades 9-12

5 Credits

ESL Level 3 will continue to reinforce phonemic awareness of the sounds of English and pronunciation practice. Emphasis on vocabulary development and reading comprehension will be incorporated in this course. The development of academic vocabulary and concepts related to the curriculum will increase as Level 3 students approximate the language of native speakers.

ESL Level IV Grades 9-12

5 Credits

The curriculum for ESL 4 is designed to assist English Language Learners in bridging and reaching proficiency in all four domains of the English Language: listening, speaking, reading, and writing as defined by the English Language Development Standards (ELD) performance standards. The main task of this course is to facilitate and support student language achievement to reach level 5 (bridging) and level 6 (reaching) stages of second language acquisition.

ESL Electives

Spanish Literature I Grades 9 – 12

5 Credits

Spanish Literature I is a full-year, five-credit course offered in high school. The course engages students in the close reading and critical analysis of imaginative literature to deepen their understanding of the ways writers use language. As they read, students consider a work's structure, style, and themes, as well as its use of figurative language, imagery, symbolism, and tone. Writing assignments include expository, analytical, and argumentative essays that require students to analyze and interpret literary works. All reading, writing and discourse will take place in Spanish.

Spanish Literature II Grades 10 - 12

5 Credits

This class is a continuation of Spanish Literature I, and is designed to help students with the skills they need to read, write and express themselves proficiently in Spanish. Interesting and relevant themes such as; Education, Gender, Politics, and Popular Culture, is centered on an essential question that engages students to begin thinking critically. Students will learn to read and analyze nonfiction, poetry, fiction and visual texts for rhetorical concepts, diction and syntax in Spanish. Students will learn to effectively utilize the writing process to develop multi-drafted essays that demonstrate their ability to analyze and synthesize information from a variety of thematic resources to present in Spanish in written form.

Mathematics Department

All students must pass Algebra I, Geometry, and a third core math class that builds upon those two.

Core Math Classes

Algebra IA

Grades 9-10

5 Credits

Prerequisite: Placement determined by math department

Algebra IA is the first course in a two-year program in which students will receive instruction for Algebra I. Topics include functions and their graphs, algebraic concepts, solving and graphing linear and quadratic equations, inequalities and systems of equations and inequalities. Problem solving, calculator application and modeling along with an emphasis on remediating foundational skills will increase student readiness for advanced Algebra I topics.

Students in this sequence must pass Algebra IB in order to satisfy the Algebra I graduation requirement

Algebra I

Grades 9-10

5 Credits

Prerequisite: Grade 8 Math & teacher recommendation

Algebra I provides students with a solid foundation in algebra. Topics include simplifying expressions, solving equations, graphing and writing equations of lines, operations on polynomials, exponents and radicals, factoring polynomials, linear and quadratic functions, statistics, and solving related word problems.

Algebra I Honors

Grade 9

5 Credits

Prerequisite: Grade 8 Math with a grade of 90% or higher or teacher recommendation

Algebra I Honors is designed for students that excelled in Grade 8 Math. All students taking Algebra I Honors will be expected to demonstrate independent thinking, as they explore and solve in-depth problems related to the covered topics in their applications.

Algebra I College Prep

Grade 9

5 Credits

Prerequisite: Grade 8 Math with a grade of 85% or higher & teacher recommendation

Algebra I College Prep adds to the rigor of Algebra I with the emphasis on topics that include simplifying expressions, solving equations, graphing and writing equations of lines, operations on polynomials, exponents and radicals, factoring polynomials, linear

and quadratic functions, statistics, and solving related word problems. In addition, students will be expected to demonstrate independent thinking, as they explore and solve in-depth problems related to the covered topics in their applications.

Geometry

Grades 10- 12

5 Credits

Prerequisite: Algebra I

Geometry is designed to help students develop an understanding of geometric concepts, and an ability to apply them in a variety of situations. Students will use models, computer programs, and other visual aids to develop spatial visualization and solve problems involving algebraic skills. Using reasoning and critical thinking, students will reach conclusions in both mathematical and nonmathematical situations.

Geometry Honors

Grades 9-10

5 Credits

Prerequisite: Algebra I Honors with a grade of 85% or higher or Algebra I CP with a grade of 90% or higher & teacher recommendation

Geometry Honors is designed for those students who have been exceptional students in Algebra I at the high school. This course develops an understanding of geometry using basic properties, postulates and theorems in the study of triangles, quadrilaterals, and congruence. Other topics include similarity, circles, area, volume, coordinate geometry, transformational geometry, and an introduction to the trigonometric functions and their applications in the right triangle.

Geometry College Prep

Grades 10-11

5 Credits

Prerequisite: Algebra I CP with a grade of 85% or higher or Algebra I with a grade of 90% or higher & teacher recommendation

Geometry College Prep adds to the rigor of Geometry with the emphasis on topics that include an understanding of geometry using basic properties, postulates and theorems in the study of triangles, quadrilaterals, and congruence. Other topics include similarity, circles, area, volume, coordinate geometry, transformational geometry, and an introduction to the trigonometric functions and their applications in the right triangle.

Algebra II**Grades 10-12****5 Credits***Prerequisite: Algebra I*

Algebra II is a continuation and extension of the concepts studied in Algebra I. This course reinforces both the arithmetic and algebraic skills with emphasis on problem solving. It also introduces and develops skills in polynomials, rational exponents, rational expressions, functions (linear, quadratic, exponential and logarithmic), and complex numbers. Students enrolled in this course will be expected to become highly knowledgeable of the functionalities of the TI-84 graphing calculator.

Algebra II Honors**Grades 9-12****5 Credits***Prerequisite: Geometry Honors with a grade of 85% or higher or Geometry CP with a grade of 90% or higher & teacher recommendation*

Algebra 2 Honors is designed for those students who have been exceptional students in Algebra I and Geometry. In addition to the topics covered in Algebra I and Geometry, students will be expected to demonstrate independent thinking as they explore and solve in-depth problems related to those topics. Students enrolled in this course will be expected to become highly knowledgeable of the functionalities of the TI-84 graphing calculator.

Pre-Calculus**Grades 10-12****5 Credits***Prerequisite: Geometry and Algebra II*

Pre-Calculus provides an in-depth analysis of functions and their graphs, both algebraically and graphically. The emphasis of the course is on exponential, logarithmic and trigonometric, functions, and the properties of arithmetic and geometric sequences. Students enrolled in this course will be expected to become highly knowledgeable of the functionalities of the TI-84 graphing calculator.

Pre-Calculus Honors**Grades 10-12****5 Credits***Prerequisite: Algebra II Honors with a grade of 85% or higher or Algebra II CP with a grade of 90% or higher & teacher recommendation*

Pre-Calculus Honors is designed for those students who have been exceptional students in Geometry and Algebra2. In addition to the topics covered in Geometry and Algebra 2, students will be expected to demonstrate independent thinking as they explore and solve in-depth problems related to those topics. Students enrolled in this course will be expected to

become highly knowledgeable of the functionalities of the TI-84 graphing calculator.

Calculus I Honors**Grades 11-12****5 Credits***Prerequisite: Pre-Calculus Honors with a grade of 85% or higher or Pre-Calculus with a grade of 90% or higher and teacher recommendation*

Calculus I Honors introduces the student to the concepts and the principles of calculus. Emphasis is placed on the basic techniques and applications of differentiation and integration. Topics studied include limits and continuity, derivatives and their applications, the definite integral, differential equations and mathematical modeling, and applications of definite integrals. A TI-84 graphing calculator or equivalent is required.

AP Calculus AB**Grades 11-12****5 Credits***Prerequisite: Pre-Calculus Honors with a grade of 90% or higher & teacher recommendation*

AP Calculus AB is a college-level mathematics course designed to challenge the talented, motivated math student. The course follows the AP curriculum published by the College Board. Topics include limits, continuity, derivatives, and applications of the derivatives, integration techniques, slope fields, and elementary differential equations. A primary focus throughout the year is preparation for the AP exam given in May of each year. Sample tests supplied by the College Board are used as supplementary exercises to university; the student could be awarded college credit. A TI-84 graphing calculator or equivalent is required.

AP Calculus BC**Grades 11 - 12****5 Credits***Prerequisite: AP Calculus AB with a grade of 85% or higher or Calculus I Honors with a grade of 90% or higher & teacher recommendation*

Calculus BC expands upon the curriculum of AP Calculus AB. This is an accelerated, rigorous, full-year course that strictly follows the course guidelines of the College Board. This course covers, in even greater depth, the topics that are included in the standard calculus course. Additional topics to be studied include definite integrals, integration and differentiation of logarithmic and exponential functions, growth and decay with differential equations, and volumes of revolution. This course is designed to challenge and prepare high achieving math students for the Advanced Placement

examination that is administered in May. A TI-84 graphing calculator or equivalent is required.

**College Math
Grade 12**

5 Credits

Prerequisite: Geometry and Algebra I

College Math is designed to prepare seniors for entry-level college mathematics. The course focuses on an in depth review of Algebra I and Algebra II mathematical concepts. In addition, the study of trigonometric functions, logarithms, conics sections and probability will be introduced. The graphing calculator will be used to solve problems and interpret data.

Probability and Statistics

Grades 11 – 12

5 Credits

Prerequisite: Algebra II

Probability and Statistics is an introductory course designed to give students insight into the use of statistical methods to describe and predict events in the world around them. Topics include graphical and numerical techniques to study patterns in data and departures from those patterns, methods and techniques for planning an experiment and gathering data, the fundamental concepts of probability which are the foundation for statistical inference, and techniques of statistical inference which are used to confirm models. Emphasis will be placed on real world applications as well as discussing and writing about statistics and its applications. The TI-84 graphing calculator will be used extensively.

Math Electives

Algebra I Connections

Grades 9-10

5 Credits

Prerequisite: Performance Levels on PARCC & teacher recommendation

Algebra I Connections is a full year course paired with Algebra I as a means to enhance the skills in Number Sense, Expressions & Equations, Functions, Geometry and Data Analysis. Students will learn to use new models and methods to think about problems and how to solve them.

Geometry Connections

Grades 9-11

5 Credits

Prerequisite: Performance Levels on PARCC & teacher recommendation

Geometry Connections is a course designed to help students enhance skills necessary for success in the Geometry Course. This course develops an understanding of geometry using basic properties, postulates and theorems in the study of triangles, quadrilaterals, and congruence. Other topics include similarity, circles, area, volume, coordinate geometry, transformational geometry, and an introduction to the trigonometric functions and their applications in the right triangle.

Intro to Computer Science

Grades 10 - 12

5 Credits

Prerequisite: 8th Grade Math

This course is an introduction to computer science and software engineering for all students interested in developing software applications, not just using them. Through a project-oriented approach, students will explore a variety of programming systems and languages to create interactive applications and systems. By collaborating in a hands-on environment, students will learn problem solving, software design, debugging strategies, and the foundations of computer science (data structures, procedures, and algorithms).

Computer Science Java

Grade 12

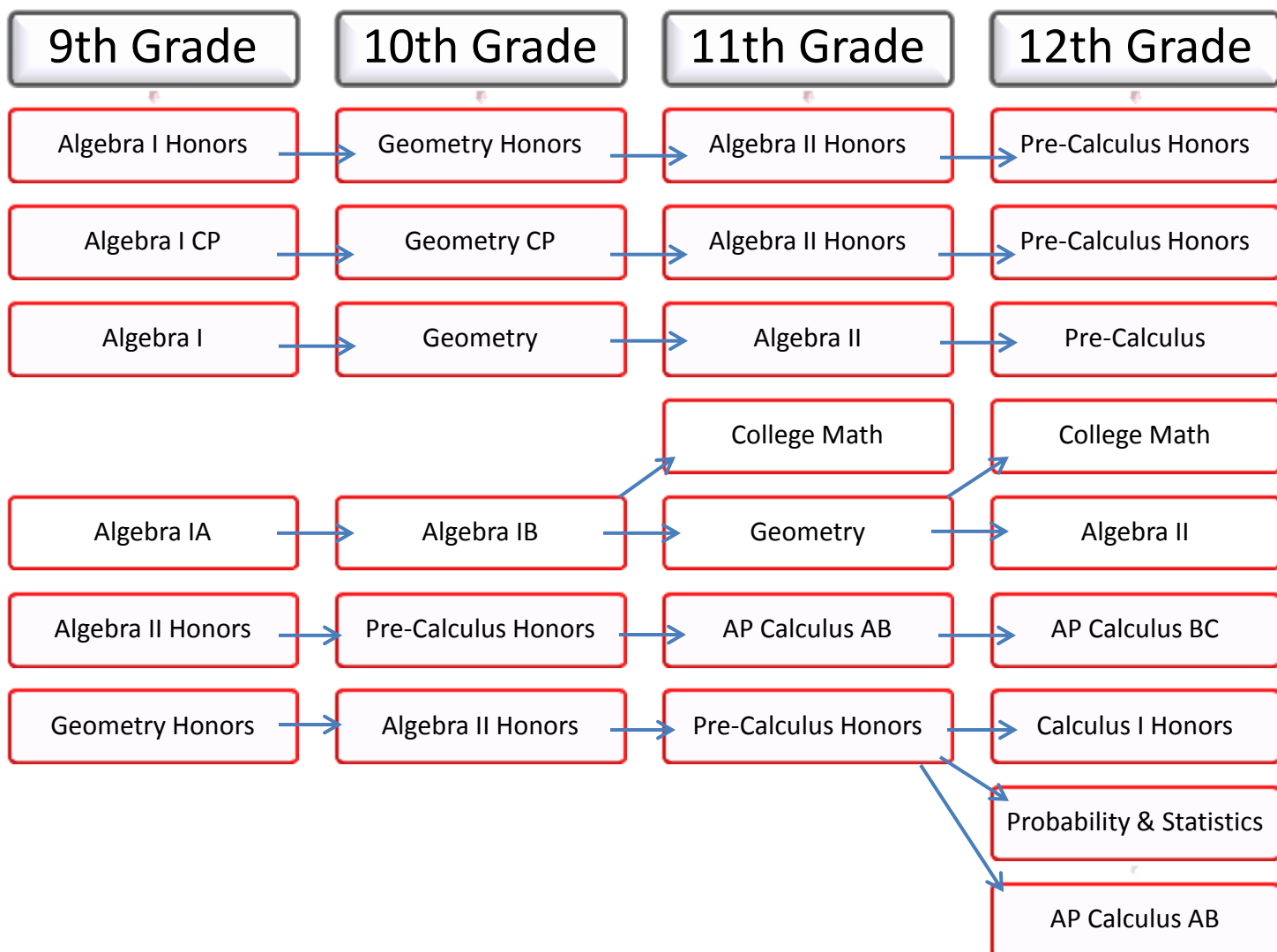
5 Credits

Prerequisite: Geometry and Algebra II

Students enrolling in this course will be taught to program a personal computer and to apply their programming skills to problem-solving situations. The course requires good computer knowledge, solid mathematical sense, and sharp analytical skills. Topics include mathematical notation, read, write, and decision statements, loops, nested loops, generation of random numbers, procedures, functions, strings, text files, and arrays. The emphasis will be on developing good programming style and technique.

Math Department

Typical Course Sequences



Science Department

All students must pass Biology, plus either Chemistry, Environmental Science, or Physics, and one additional lab/inquiry-based core science course.

Physics

Grade 9

6 Credits

Prerequisites: Algebra I taken concurrently

This is an introductory, algebra-based physics course that exposes students to the fundamental principles of a variety of topics including kinematics, dynamics, energy, momentum and waves. Students will participate in a hands-on, inquiry-based approach to discovering the natural phenomena of the physical world.

AP Physics I

Grade 9

7 Credits

Prerequisites: Science 8 with a grade of 90% or higher & teacher recommendation

AP Physics I is an algebra-based, introductory college-level physics course that explores topics such as Newtonian mechanics (including rotational motion); work, energy, and power; mechanical waves and sound; and introductory, simple circuits. Through inquiry-based learning, students will develop scientific critical thinking and reasoning skills.

Chemistry

Grades 10 – 11

6 Credits

Prerequisites: Physics, Algebra I

The work done in Physics is applied and expanded upon to explain natural phenomena or the physical world. This course will ask students to combine scientific and mathematical concepts to solve problems. Topics include the Atom and Period Table of Elements, Bonding, Chemical Reactions, States of Matter, Intermolecular Forces, Thermodynamics, Acids and Bases, Redox Reactions, Organic Chemistry and more.

Chemistry Honors

Grades 10 – 11

6 Credits

Prerequisite: AP Physics I with a grade of 85% or higher or Physics with a grade of 90% or higher & teacher recommendation

This course represents the first year in a comprehensive two-year sequence of chemistry; students who elect to go on to the second year course, AP Chemistry, will be prepared to take the AP Exam at the end of that course. The honors course will follow the same curriculum as the general chemistry course; however, the pace may be

accelerated to allow for enrichment and more in-depth discovery of topics.

AP Chemistry

Grades 11 -12

7 Credits

Prerequisite: Chemistry Honors with a grade of 90% or higher & teacher recommendation

This course is designed to be the equivalent of a general chemistry taken during the first year of college. This course is structured around the six big ideas articulated in the AP Chemistry curriculum framework provided by the College Board. A special emphasis will be placed on the seven science practices, which capture important aspects of the work that scientists engage in, with learning objectives that combine content with inquiry and reasoning skills. A minimum of 25% of student contact time will be spent doing hands-on laboratory activities.

Biology

Grades 10 – 11

6 Credits

The aim of this course is to help students build an understanding of modern biology on the foundation of their prior learning in physics and chemistry. Students will learn about the origins of life and the process of evolution through natural selection. They will then progress to learn about molecular biology, cellular biology and processes, genetics, ecology, and biotechnology this course also serves as a strong foundation for Anatomy and Physiology, Marine Science and Genetic Engineering.

Biology Honors

Grades 11 – 12

6 Credits

Prerequisites: Chemistry Honors with a grade of 85% or higher or Chemistry with a grade of 90% or higher & teacher recommendation

Honors Biology provides a rigorous study of Biology and is designed for students who have done excellent work in previous science classes. Topics include the structure of the cell and its development into complex organisms, evolution, genetic studies of trait inheritance and variation, and ecology studies examining the relationship of organisms and their environment. Students develop analytical and critical-thinking skills through lab activities. Students are required to take the state Biology end-of-course exam.

AP Biology
Grades 11 – 12 **7 Credits**
Prerequisites: Biology Honors with a grade of 90% or higher & teacher recommendation

This course is the equivalent of a college level biology course taken during their first year of college. The main focus is to help foster a better awareness of biology as an understanding of concepts, that science is a process and not just a memorization of facts. Topics that will be covered include the chemistry of life, cells, cells use of energy, heredity, molecular genetics, evolution, the diversity of organisms, the structure and function of both plants and animals, and ecology.

Anatomy and Physiology
Grade 12 **6 Credits**
Prerequisites: Biology, Chemistry, teacher recommendation

This course is a systematic study of the shape and structure of the organs of the human body and the functioning of those organ systems. It includes: cytology, histology, morphology, genetics, immunology, and pathology. Human anatomy and physiology is offered to meet the needs of our students who want an advanced-level science course. It also serves to prepare students interested in entering medicine, nursing, dentistry, and other related health occupations. *This course does not satisfy the third-year science requirement.*

Environmental Science
Grades 9 – 12 **6 Credits**

The goal of this course is to provide students with the scientific principles, concepts, and methodologies to understand the interrelationships of the natural world, to identify and analyze environmental problems both natural and human-made, and to evaluate the risks associated with these problems and examine alternative solutions for resolving and/or preventing them.

Environmental Science Honors
Grade 9 **6 Credits**

This course is similar in content to Environmental Science but is taught with a heightened level of rigor and greater reliance on student self-motivation. This course has no prerequisite, however, students will benefit from the knowledge of some biological and chemical processes.

AP Environmental Science
Grade 12 **7 Credits**
Prerequisites: Biology Honors with a grade of 90% or higher & teacher recommendation

The goal of this course is to provide students with the scientific principles, concepts, and methodologies to understand the interrelationships of the natural world, to identify and analyze environmental problems both natural and human-made, and to evaluate the risks associated with these problems and examine alternative solutions for resolving and/or preventing them. There is an extensive field work component to this course as to best understand the environment; one must be in the environment. Upon completion of coursework, students will be prepared for and expected to take the AP Environmental Science Exam.

Forensic Science
Grades 10 – 12 **5 Credits**

Forensic Science is the application of scientific techniques and technology to the investigation of a crime and the presentation of evidence in a court of law. Study includes the applications of concepts from the areas of biology, chemistry, physics and geology to analyze and investigate evidence that may be discovered in a criminal investigation. Classroom activities include experiments, projects, case studies and the incorporation of technology. It emphasizes inquiry-based learning, process skills, and higher-order thinking skills. *This course does not satisfy the third-year science requirement.*

Genetic Engineering
Grade 12 **5 Credits**
Prerequisites: Chemistry, Biology

This course is designed for students that are interested in recombinant DNA technology and its applications to the field of medical science, livestock and agriculture. The curriculum explores how DNA can be manipulated for a variety of purposes. Topics include: DNA, RNA, protein synthesis, human heredity and traits, mutations, genetic disorders genetic engineering and stem cells, positive and negative impacts of genetic engineering, and ethical, legal and social implications of genetic engineering. *This course does not satisfy the third-year science requirement.*

Space Science
Grades 10 – 12

5 Credits

This course is designed to give students a deeper understanding of astronomy, the solar system, and the universe beyond, as well as, the human innovations that helped humans explore space. Students will be able to increase their awareness of the scope and scale of our universe by gaining an understanding of the explorations and discoveries of astronomers and scientists from antiquity to the present.

Marine Science
Grades 11 – 12

6 Credits

Prerequisites: Biology

Marine Science is an advanced-level laboratory course that is designed to introduce the student to the study of marine environments. This is accomplished through the application of theory introduced within the traditional classroom laboratory to field experiences utilizing the marine ecosystem available

at the Perth Amboy waterfront. Theory is introduced to foster critical thinking and enable the student to apply authentic scientific research to support or refute conjecture. *This course does not satisfy the third-year science requirement.*

Fundamentals of Robotics
Grades 10 – 12

5 Credits

Prerequisites: Physics, Algebra I

This course will ask and solve questions that interest engineers, such as: How do you design complex objects in a limited time with limited resources? How do you formulate questions about complex technical issues in a structured fashion so that you are able to solve them? Some limited programming will be included as students learn how equipment is controlled with logical instructions. The building and controlling of VEX robotic systems will be intertwined with theory.

STEM Sequences

Perth Amboy High School offers two STEM tracks. By choosing to take courses in either the Engineering or Biomedical Sciences sequence, students can gain invaluable insight into STEM-related careers, and may be eligible for college credit and/or industry certification.

Please note: These STEM courses do not satisfy the third-year science requirement.

Dynamics of Health Care
Grade 10

5 Credits

Students explore community health while improving fundamental research skills, applying statistical analysis and enhancing oral and visual presentation techniques. Students will utilize research skills to learn about components of the health care field of employment and human disease. Each student develops his/her own independent science research project with a foundation in community health and learn how to structure, organize, publish, and communicate findings during a more formal presentation.

manner. This course is designed to give the students a comprehensive knowledge of word construction, definition and use of terms related to all areas of medical science. The course includes terms related to anatomy of the human body, functions of health and disease, and the use of language in processing medical/dental records and claim forms. Labs will include slide work, dissection of various animals and studies of the human skeleton. The course will also use computer-simulated dissection.

Medical Terminology and Anatomy & Physiology I
Grade 11

7 Credits

Prerequisites: Dynamics of Health Care

Medical Terminology is the study of words that pertain to body systems, anatomy, physiology, medical processes and procedures and a variety of diseases. It provides specialized language for the health care team, enabling health care workers to communicate in an accurate, articulate and concise

Medical Terminology and Anatomy & Physiology II
Grade 12

7 Credits

Prerequisites: Med. Term / A&P I

This course allows further exploration of the structure and function of the human body. Following a sequential development of the major body systems in an organized and structured curriculum, the course is designed to give the students an overview of human anatomical structure and an analysis of human physiological principles. Labs include slide work, dissection of various animals, and studies of the human skeleton. The course will also use computer simulated dissections.

Principles of Engineering**Grade 10****5 Credits***Prerequisites: Physics with a grade of 85% or higher*

Principles of Engineering is a high school-level survey course of engineering. The course exposes students to some of the major concepts that they will encounter in a postsecondary engineering course of study. Students have an opportunity to investigate engineering and high tech careers.

To be successful in POE, students should have been successful in Algebra I and Algebra-based Physics. Students will employ engineering and scientific concepts in the solution of engineering design problems. Students will develop problem-solving skills and apply their knowledge of research and design to create solutions to various challenges.

Introduction to Engineering Design**Grade 11****5 Credits***Prerequisites: Principles of Engineering*

Students dig deep into the engineering design process, applying math, science, and engineering standards to

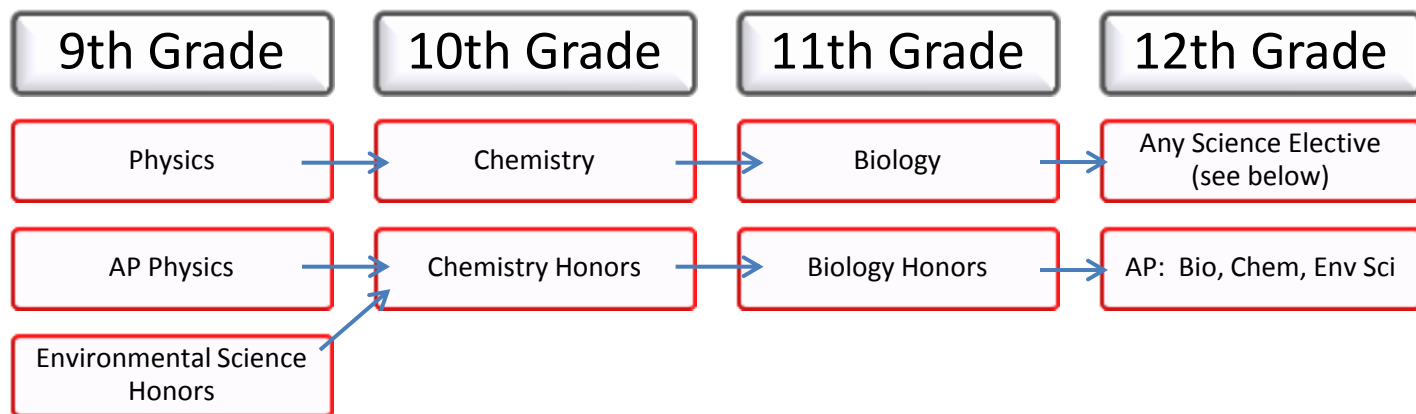
hands-on projects. They work both individually and in teams to design solutions to a variety of problems using 3D modeling software, and use an engineering notebook to document their work.

Computer Integrated Manufacturing**Grade 12****5 Credits***Prerequisites: Intro to Engineering Design*

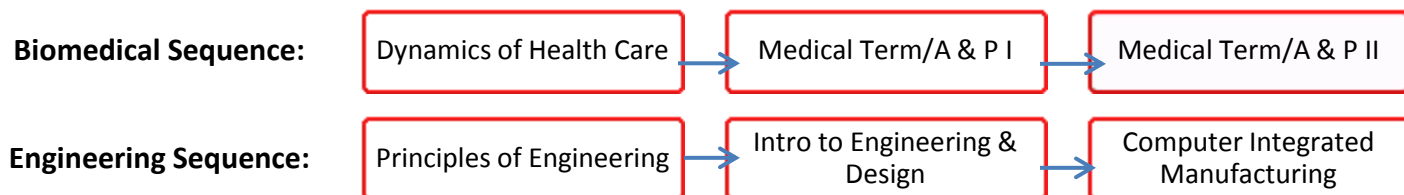
This course explores manufacturing history, individual processes, systems, and careers. In addition to technical concepts, the course incorporates finance, ethics, and engineering design. This reflects an integrated approach that leading manufacturers have adopted to improve safety, quality, and efficiency. Utilizing the activity-project-problem-based (APPB) teaching and learning pedagogy, students will analyze, design, and build manufacturing systems. While implementing these designs, students will continually hone their interpersonal skills, creative abilities, and understanding of the design process. Students apply knowledge gained throughout the course in a final open-ended problem to build a factory system.

Science Department

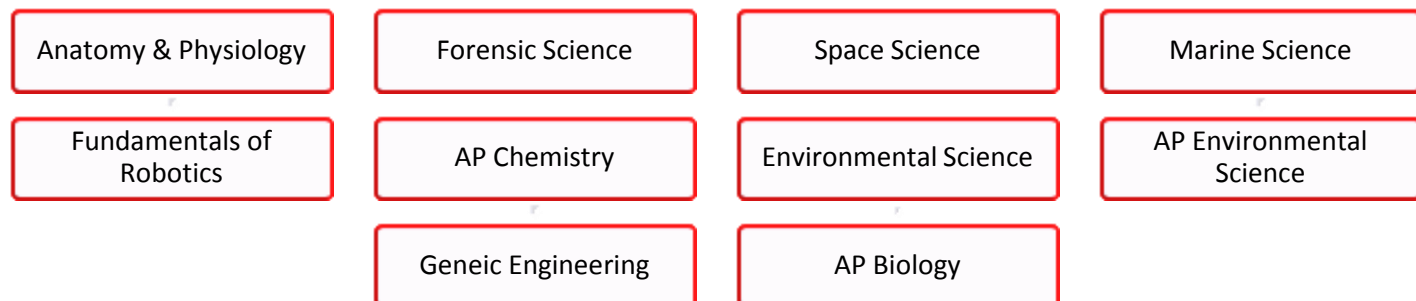
Typical Course Sequences



STEM Sequences



Science Electives



Social Studies Department

All students must pass World History, US History I and US History II to satisfy the graduation requirement in social studies. Additionally, students must take and pass a minimum of 2.5 credits in financial/economic literacy.

Core Social Studies Classes

U.S. History I Grade 9

5 Credits

This course examines the major turning points in American history beginning with the events leading up to the American Revolution, the origins of our constitution, reform movements, Manifest Destiny, the Civil War and Reconstruction, the impact of the frontier, the changing nature of business and 1920's.

U.S. History I Honors Grade 9

5 Credits

This class is designed as a survey course, beginning with the Washington administration and continuing to current times. This course provides students with a framework for studying political, social, economic, and cultural issues and for analyzing the impact these issues have had on American society. This course demands greater independence and responsibility and concentrates on the development of higher level thinking skills.

U.S. History II Grade 10

5 Credits

This course begins with the Great Depression and continues on with World War II, the growth of the United States as a world power, the Cold War and the struggle to achieve class, ethnic, racial, and gender equality. The course extends to the modern day. Contemporary world issues such as globalization, economic interdependence, terrorism and world cultures will also factor into our analysis of international conflict and cooperation.

U.S. History II Honors Grade 10

5 Credits

This course provides a continuation of the topics covered in US History I Honors, picking up with the Civil War and Reconstruction, then continuing to current times. This course provides students with a framework for studying political, social, economic, and cultural issues and for analyzing the impact these issues have had on American society. This course demands greater independence and responsibility and concentrates on the development of higher level thinking skills. The honors courses in U.S. History I and II are designed to help students perform at a

higher level and to develop the critical skills of analysis, synthesis, and evaluation in a more rigorous and reflective academic setting.

AP U.S. History Grades 11 – 12

5 Credits

Prerequisite: US History II Honors with a grade of 90% or higher & teacher recommendation

The AP U.S. History course focuses on the development of historical thinking skills (chronological reasoning, comparing and contextualizing, crafting historical arguments using historical evidence, and interpreting and synthesizing historical narrative) and an understanding of content learning objectives organized around seven themes: Belief Systems, Geography & Environment, Identity, Peopling, Politics & Power, Economy and America in the World.

World History Grade 11

5 Credits

World History is a required survey course that explores the key events and global historical developments since 1350 A.C. that have shaped the world we live in today. The scope of Modern World History provides the latitude to range widely across all aspects of human experience: economics, science, religion, philosophy, politics & law, military conflict, literature & the arts. Students will uncover patterns of behavior, identify historical trends and themes, explore historical movements and concepts, and test theories.

AP World History Grades 10 – 12

5 Credits

Prerequisite: World History with a grade of 90% or higher & teacher recommendation

AP World History is for the exceptionally studious high school student, who wishes to earn college credit in high school through a rigorous academic program. This class approaches history in a non-traditional way in that it looks at the common threads of humanity over time by examining currents of trade, religion, politics, society, and technology, and it investigates how these themes have manifested themselves in different places and at different times. This course is designed to empower students to master a broad body of historical knowledge, to

demonstrate an understanding of historical chronology, to use historical data to support an argument or position, understand historiography and differing schools of opinion, interpret and apply data from original documents, including cartoons, graphs, laws, and letters to name a few, to effectively use analytical tools for evaluation, to understand cause

and effect and compare and contrast, and to prepare for and successfully pass the AP World History Exam.

Social Studies Electives

Financial Literacy Grades 10 – 12

2.5 Credits

In this course, students will develop skills and strategies that promote personal and financial responsibility related to financial planning, savings, investment and charitable giving in the global economy. This includes topics on income and careers, money management, credit and debt managements, planning, savings, and investing, consumerism and risk management and insurance.

Psychology Grades 10 – 12

5 Credits

This course is a general survey of the important concepts in psychology with traditional theories and modern developments. It includes topics such as the history of psychology, the biological foundations of behavior, learning, memory, problem solving, sensation and perception, states of consciousness, motivation, emotions, personality, intelligence, gender and sexuality and abnormal behavior.

AP Psychology Grades 11-12

5 Credits

Prerequisite: Psychology with a grade of 90% or higher & teacher recommendation

The AP Psychology course introduces students to the systematic and scientific study of the behavior and mental processes of human beings and other animals. Students are exposed to the psychological facts, principles, and phenomena associated with each of the major subfields within psychology. They also learn about the ethics and methods psychologists use in their science and practice.

Introduction to American Government Grades 10 – 12

5 Credits

This course is an introduction to political science, American government and politics and is structured to promote political and analytical understanding and thinking regarding American politics and government. Areas of concentration include

principles, institutions, problems, processes, theory, philosophy, and ideology.

AP U.S. Government Grades 11-12

5 Credits

Prerequisite: Introduction to American Government with a grade of 90 or higher & teacher recommendation

The AP U.S. Government course provides students with a learning experience equivalent to that obtained in most college introductory United States Government and Politics courses. This course will give students an analytical perspective on government and politics in the United States. Students will become familiar with the variety of theoretical perspectives and explanations for various behaviors and outcomes.

African American History Grades 10 – 12

5 Credits

This course examines the continent of Africa and its Diasporas in Europe, Asia and the Americas, with special emphasis on the African-American and African-Caribbean experience. This course seeks to integrate analysis of race, class, gender, culture, migration, immigration, economics, politics, history, the arts, literature, community, Nation-building and globalization issues throughout the duration of this course. Students will be able to analyze primary and secondary sources from diverse sources to evaluate historical content and appreciate the struggle of Black people everywhere for self-determination, equality, respect and civil rights.

Contemporary World Issues Grades 10 – 12

5 Credits

In this course, students will analyze governments, economies, peoples, and cultures from around the world. Instruction emphasizes the structures and policies of the United States and how they compare to other systems in the international community. Students will apply critical thinking skills to examine current events and contemporary issues, including human rights, the strengths and weaknesses of globalization, America's role in the international

economy, and severe environmental threats facing many regions around the world today.

Latin American Studies

Grades 10 – 12

5 Credits

This course offers students an opportunity to explore the diverse regions of the Caribbean, Mexico, and Central and South America through their history, politics, language, and culture of its people. The histories, artistic movements, social organizations, and political institutions that have shaped Latin America in the past and continue to define its present will be explored.

Human Geography

Grades 10 – 12

2.5 Credits

This course combines economic and cultural geography to explore the relationships between humans and their natural environment, and to track the broad social patterns that shape human societies. Featuring communities around the world that are grappling with major socioeconomic change, the programs help students understand present-day events within the scope of clearly recognizable trends, and

realize the impact that government, corporate, and individual decisions may have on people and places near and far.

Sociology

Grades 10 – 12

2.5 Credits

This course examines the nature and scope of sociology, its terminology and concepts; studies sociological perspectives, social processes, social institutions, development of society, and characteristics of social life.

Introduction to Philosophy/Rhetoric

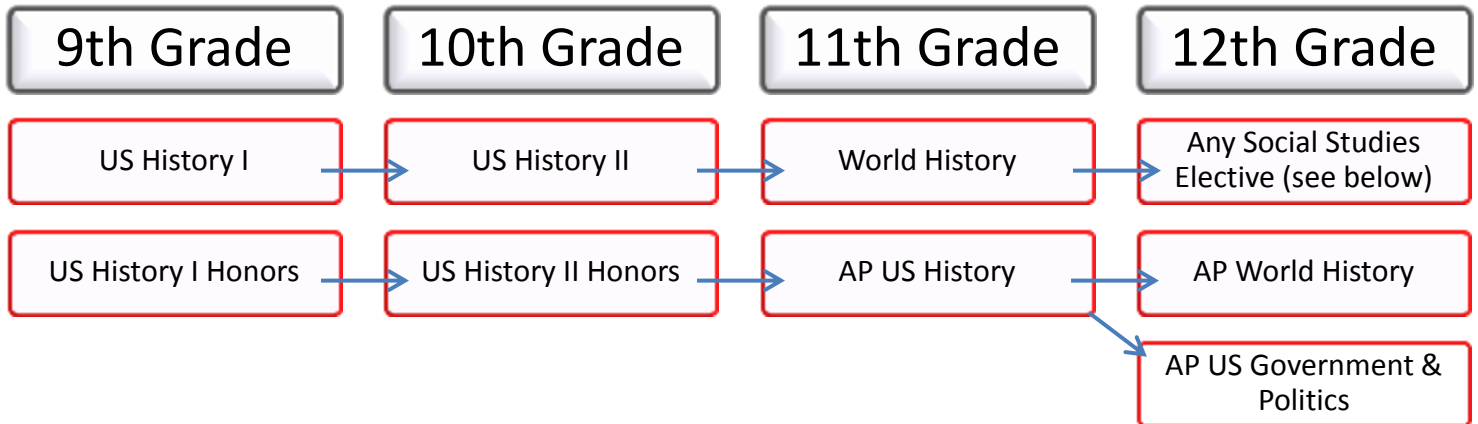
Grades 10 – 12

5 Credits

This course is intended to complement the current battery of full year elective courses in the area of Social Studies. Students will be introduced to both classical and contemporary philosophical theories while fostering their ability to analyze, interpret, and defend through rhetoric. Students will exercise their skill in persuasive speaking and writing through the use of point-counterpoint and other strategies to persuade the reader/audience.

Social Studies Department

Typical Course Sequences



Social Studies Electives



World Language Department

In order to graduate, all students must take and pass a minimum of two years/10 credits of world languages. For college-bound students it is imperative that these be taken in the same language.

French I Grades 9 – 12

5 Credits

Students will be introduced to the French language in level 1. Colors, days, months, and numbers are taught by familiar classroom games and choral repetition. Exposure to French culture will be provided by videos, posters, and fascinating stories. Have you ever thought about walking down the Champs Elysees or visiting the Louvre, the Eiffel Tower, and Notre Dame?

French II Grades 10 – 12

5 Credits

Prerequisite: French I

Students will return to the French language in level 2. Basic conversations will take place and common phrases, and colloquial expressions, will be used daily. Familiar classroom games and choral repetition will enhance the students' vocabulary. Grammar is further introduced in level 2 to increase the knowledge of the language. *A bientôt!*

French III Grades 10 – 12

5 Credits

Prerequisite: French II

Level 3 is an extension of the above the proportion of reading and writing increases. Reading stresses comprehension without the use of English and involves unfamiliar material: short stories, plays, novels. French customs, characteristics, and contributions are presented through textbook materials, current periodicals and newspapers, pictures and recordings.

French IV Grades 11 – 12

5 Credits

Prerequisite: French III

Level 4 Reading on a more advanced level of nineteenth and twentieth century authors and a review of grammar comprise the major part of the program. Written composition is based on questions, topic sentences, guidelines and notes provided by the teacher and discussed by the pupils.

AP French Grade 12

5 Credits

Prerequisite: French IV with a grade of 90% or higher & teacher recommendation

Enrollment in the AP French language course will afford students the opportunity to practice and perfect listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills, with the final goal of mastering the AP French Language examination.

Italian I Grades 9 – 12

5 Credits

Listening comprehension is emphasized in the beginning weeks of course. Textbook materials, including tapes, will provide reading and writing practice, pronunciation drills, and continued development of listening comprehension. Games, puzzles and oral reading acquaint students with speech patterns and teach activities and customs of Italian pupils.

Italian II Grades 10 – 12

5 Credits

Prerequisite: Italian I

Less time is devoted to the audio-lingual phase – that is, listening and speaking – and more stress is given to reading, writing and syntax. Emphasis is on forms most essential for practical use. Conversational practice deals with specific topics.

Italian III Grades 10 – 12

5 Credits

Prerequisite: Italian II

An extension of the above the proportion of reading and writing increases. Reading stresses comprehension without the use of English and involves unfamiliar material: short stories, plays, novels. Italian customs, characteristics, and contributions are presented through textbook materials, current periodicals and newspapers, pictures and recordings.

Spanish I
Grades 9 - 12 **5 Credits**

This course is closed to those students already fluent in Spanish. Spanish-speakers should refer to Spanish 1-SP.

The course begins with a short period of time devoted to oral work without texts. After this initial phase, textbook materials, games, filmstrips and tapes are used in oral practice and in the development of reading and writing skills. Material dealing with the customs of Spanish-speaking peoples is provided by texts, slides, films, and recordings.

Spanish II
Grades 9 – 12 **5 Credits**

Prerequisite: Spanish I

The development of listening comprehension, oral reading and writing skills continues as described in Spanish 1. Further background materials are presented.

Spanish III
Grades 10 – 12 **5 Credits**

Prerequisite: Spanish II

Reading is increased with the emphasis on direct comprehension without the use of English, and discussion in Spanish by the pupils. Novels and short stories are used as texts. Vocabulary building through the study of synonyms and idioms is constantly emphasized. High points in grammar reviewed from time to time.

Spanish IV
Grades 11 – 12 **5 Credits**

Prerequisite: Spanish III

Intensive reading is pursued with continued stress on comprehension, conversation and composition. Composition is controlled, that is, it is based on specific assignments on previously studied material. Vocabulary building and grammar review are continued. A unit on business Spanish is also included.

AP Spanish Language & Culture
Grades 11 – 12 **5 Credits**

Prerequisite: Spanish IV, Spanish Lit II, or Spanish for Speakers II with a grade of 90% or higher & teacher recommendation

Enrollment in the AP Spanish language course will afford students the opportunity to practice and perfect listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills, with the final goal of mastering the AP Spanish Language examination.

AP Spanish Literature
Grades 11 – 12 **5 Credits**

Prerequisite: Spanish IV, Spanish Lit II, or Spanish for Speakers II with a grade of 90% or higher & teacher recommendation

The AP Spanish Literature and Culture course uses a thematic approach to introduce students to representative texts (short stories, novels, poetry, and essays) from Peninsular Spanish, Latin American, and United States Hispanic literature. Literature is examined within the context of its time and place, as students reflect on the many voices and cultures present in the required readings.

Spanish for Speakers I
Grades 9 – 11 **5 Credits**

Prerequisite: Placement determined by departmental testing

Spanish 1-SP includes the development of verb tenses in the indicative, subjunctive, and conditional moods; nouns and their modifiers. Writing considers spelling, construction of individual sentences and short paragraphs. Short stories are read and discussed. Spanish is the language spoken.

Spanish for Speakers II
Grades 10 – 12 **5 Credits**

Prerequisite: Spanish for Speakers I

The direct follow-up of Spanish 1-SP. Included in the program is reading, comprehension, and discussion of various poems and short stories by recognized Hispanic authors. Grammar study advances through practical writing of short compositions, business and/or personal letters.

Spanish for Speakers III
Grades 10 – 12 **5 Credits**

Prerequisite: Spanish for Speakers II

Students should refer to the course description for regular Spanish 3. Naturally, greater fluency will allow for additional readings and more advanced lectures and discussions.

Spanish for Speakers IV
Grades 11 – 12 **5 Credits**

Prerequisite: Spanish for Speakers III

Reading and writing in Spanish is increased with an emphasis on developing knowledge of Spanish Literature through short stories, novellas and plays.

Spanish Drama through Literature
Grades 10 – 12 **5 Credits**

Spanish Literature through Drama will provide students with performing and creative experiences in theatre in Spanish for all Perth Amboy High School students proficient in Spanish. It will strive to equip students to become sensitive and knowledgeable participants in the performing arts by offering a wide range of curricular course work and extra-curricular activities that meet the interests and needs of all students.

Spanish Literature I
Grades 9 – 12 **5 Credits**

Spanish Literature I is a full-year, five-credit course offered in high school. The course engages students in the close reading and critical analysis of imaginative literature to deepen their understanding of the ways writers use language. As they read, students consider a work's structure, style, and themes, as well as its use of figurative language, imagery, symbolism, and tone. Writing assignments include expository, analytical, and argumentative essays that require students to analyze and interpret literary works. All reading, writing and discourse will take place in Spanish.

Spanish Literature II
Grades 10 – 12 **5 Credits**
Prerequisite: Spanish Literature I

Spanish Literature II is a full-year, five-credit course offered in high school and a continuation of Spanish Literature I. The Spanish Literature II course is designed to help students with the skills they need to read, write and express themselves proficiently in Spanish. Interesting and relevant themes include : Education, Gender, Politics, and Popular Culture, is centered on an essential question that engages students to begin thinking critically. Students will learn to read and analyze nonfiction, poetry, fiction and visual texts for rhetorical concepts, diction and syntax in Spanish. Students will learn to effectively utilize the writing process to develop multi-drafted essays that demonstrate their ability to analyze and synthesize information from a variety of thematic resources to present in Spanish in written form.

American Sign Language I
Grades 9 – 12 **5 Credits**

This course introduces students to the language used by the majority of Deaf Americans, and to the culture of the Deaf World. ASL is a unique, visual-gestural language that is meaning based and does not simply mimic the English language. The ASL 1 course is

conducted in voice and non-voice instruction throughout the year. A one-month total immersion in the target language is mandatory during the third quarter to help the students develop more fully their visual learning skills.

American Sign Language II
Grades 9 – 12 **5 Credits**

Prerequisite: American Sign Language I

This is a semi immersion program primarily conducted in the target language. Grammatical and historical points are discussed in both the source and target languages. All student activities are practiced in the target language. The students will also be involved in exchanges with students of the global Deaf community in the spirit of international friendship.

American Sign Language III
Grades 10 – 12 **5 Credits**

Prerequisite: American Sign Language II

Level 3 is a total immersion program conducted fully in the target language. During this year the students will develop communication skills that will enable them to tell stories both formally and informally. The students will have opportunity to engage in drill practices for more complex and detailed conversations, presentations, self-assessment of expressive work through recordings, videos, and workbook activities.

American Sign Language IV
Grades 9 – 12 **5 Credits**

Prerequisite: American Sign Language III

The 4th level course is a total immersion program conducted fully in the target language. Students will develop their skills in accordance with the state standards for presentational, interpersonal, and interpretive modes of communication. The students will learn about the profession of interpretation and will have an opportunity to interpret different projects, in different venues, throughout the year. The students will also be involved in exchanges with students of the global Deaf community in the spirit of international friendship.

Mandarin I
Grades 9 – 12 **5 Credits**

Mandarin I is an introductory course of basic Chinese for students with no prior background. Students will learn to listen, speak, read and write modern standard Chinese. Pinyin transcription, simplified and some traditional characters, fundamentals of Chinese grammar and vocabulary are included. The emphasis

of the course is on the active learning through the three modes of communication (interpretive, interpersonal and presentational) as specified in the National Standards for Foreign Language learning.

Mandarin II

Grades 9 – 12

5 Credits

Prerequisite: Mandarin I

Mandarin II is a continuation of Mandarin I and covers the basic Chinese grammar. It includes the reading of simplified Chinese characters with emphasis on oral expression and further study of Chinese history and culture. In this course, the student will learn listening, speaking, reading and writing skills through activities that are based on the national standards for foreign language.

Mandarin III

Grades 10 – 12

5 Credits

Prerequisite: Mandarin II

In the third level of Mandarin, students build upon the skills developed in Chinese I and II. Students continue to expand their vocabulary and

comprehension skills. The course will complete and review basic grammar and key sentence patterns of Chinese, provide practice in the appropriate use of idiomatic expressions, and further develop skill in reading and writing Chinese characters, that are based on the national standards for foreign language.

Mandarin IV

Grades 9 – 12

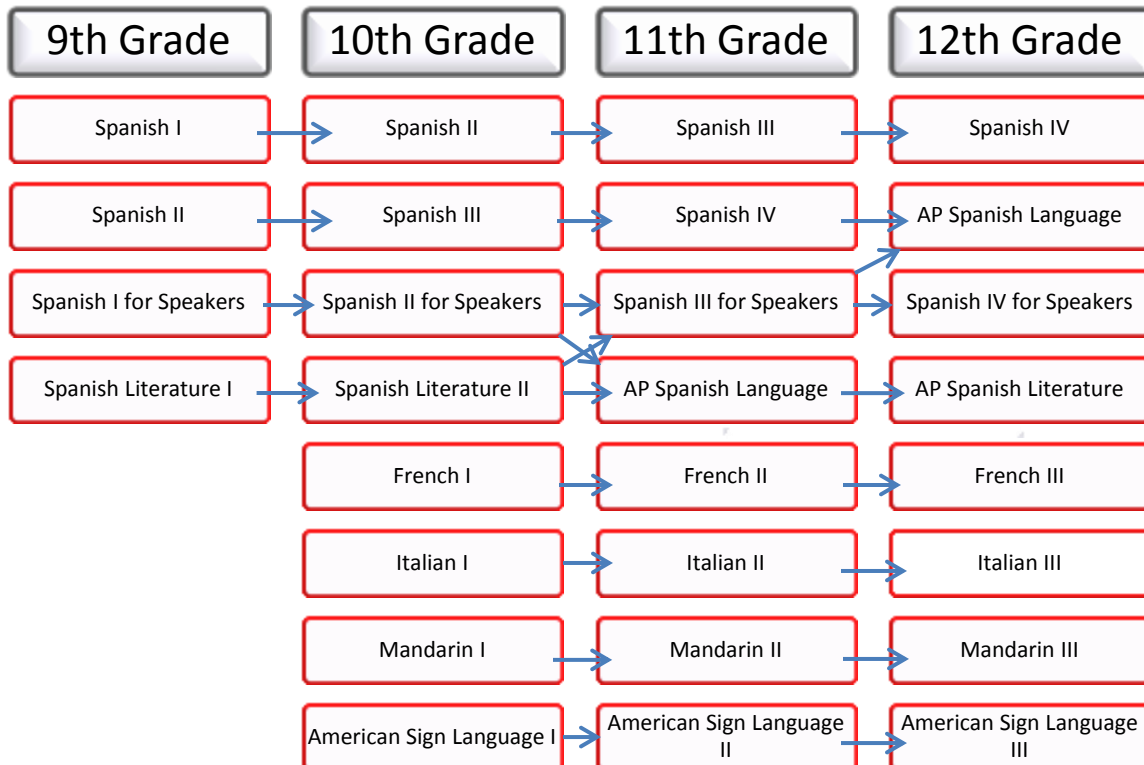
5 Credits

Prerequisite: Mandarin III

Mandarin IV is the transition course from elementary Chinese to intermediate Chinese. It aims to prepare students to have more confidence in their skills in listening, speaking, reading and writing. Students will be able to understand longer narratives and sustain comprehension through inferences in short communication with native speakers. Chinese culture will be discussed in greater depth. In this course, students will continue to learn listening, speaking, reading and writing skills through activities that are based on the national standards for foreign languages.

World Language Department

Typical Course Sequences



Health & Physical Education Department

All students must take and pass a full year of physical education and health for each year they are enrolled in high school. 10th grade students will receive driver's education in place of health. NJROTC classes may be taken in lieu of physical education.

Freshman Health & Physical Education

Grade 9

4 Credits

Units of instruction include: fitness (including fitness technology), and individual and group activities. Freshman Health concentrates on human sexuality. The scope of instruction contains units on human reproduction, abstinence, contraception, STI's, pregnancy and fetal development, and positive decision making.

Sophomore Health & Driver's Education

Grade 10

4 Credits

Units of instruction include: fitness (including fitness technology), and individual and group activities.

The course will enhance the student's level of awareness about driver impairment and the consequences of drivers' actions when they operate a vehicle under the influence or participate in distracted driving activities. Students will acquire an appreciation of the impact that natural forces have affecting driving. They will learn to recognize hazardous conditions and how to react appropriately to avoid or minimize problems. Driver education will promote a mindset for safe, courteous, and defensive driving. Students will gain an appreciation of the driving task and the responsibilities that accompany it. They will be prepared for the New Jersey Driver Permit Exam.

Junior Health & Physical Education

Grade 11

4 Credits

Units of instruction include: fitness (including fitness technology), and individual and group activities. Junior Health empowers students to recognize, understand, and address immediate or chronic health problems in order to prevent long-term health problems. *The spotlight is on CPR, First Aid, and safety.* We are in compliance with the Allen Bill, legislation S235, which mandates we incorporate CPR/AED training, for all high school students, as part of the curriculum for Comprehensive Health and Physical Education. Students will become global citizens, who demonstrate civic responsibility as they become first responders to emergency situations.

Senior Health & Physical Education

Grade 12

4 Credits

Units of instruction include: fitness (including fitness technology), and individual and group activities. Senior health spotlights the development of lifetime applications in the core areas of Nutrition, Relationships, and Mental/Emotional health. There is a focus on Body Image and Eating Disorders.

Teen PEP

Grade 12

4 Credits

This is an interactive class that provides students with medically accurate sexual health information. It creates opportunities for discussion, skills development and fun. Peer educators will receive training in sexual health, group facilitation leadership, and communication skill. This will enable them to conduct educational workshops with younger students and adults about important issues facing teens today.

Visual and Performing Arts Department

All classes fulfill the fine, visual, or performing arts elective requirement.

Performing Arts

Acting I

Grades 9 – 12

5 Credits

Prerequisite: None

This course is both an introduction to speech communications and an introduction to drama and the stage. Speech communications, how to read plays, how to portray characters, improvisation, performing scenes, and theories of acting, are some of the areas included.

Acting II

Grades 9 – 12

5 Credits

Prerequisite: Acting I

This is an advanced acting course for students who took Acting I and have been recommended to take this course. Monologues, scene work, reading plays, directing for the theatre, set design, performing for live audiences, and advanced acting techniques are included.

Acting III

Grades 11 – 12

5 Credits

Prerequisite: Acting II

This is an advanced acting course for students who have previously taken Acting I and Acting II. Advanced monologues, scene work, reading plays, directing, set design, costumes, make-up, performing for live audiences, and advanced acting techniques are included in this course. History of drama, Shakespeare, and other advanced works are included in this course.

Musical Theater

Grades 11 – 12

5 Credits

Prerequisite: Acting II

This course is designed to introduce students to musical theater while using skills previously learned in Acting I and Acting II. Students must have a recommendation from the teacher to take this course. Students will learn about musical theater history, in addition to having the opportunity to work in collaborative performance groups to perform songs, scenes, and choreography from various shows of musical theater.

Introduction to Dance

Grades 9 – 12

5 Credits

The introductory level of dance takes place over the course of one year. It has a greater emphasis on learning and executing basic dance techniques. It offers beginner level work of Jazz, Ballet and Modern dance styles, in addition to Improvisation and Choreography. Daily class consists of vigorous warm-ups, across the floor combinations and center floor work. In addition, students will be continuously learning dance technique and terminology and will be given an education in dance history. Completion of this course will prepare students to continue into more advanced level of dance study.

Advanced Dance Company I

Grades 10 – 12

5 Credits

Prerequisite: Introduction to Dance and Instructor Audition

Advanced Dance Company I is an audition-based/recommendation only course which offers students a wide range of skills, knowledge and understanding of creativity. Throughout this course students will research and develop a strong sense of personal artistic identity as a performing artist or choreographer. This course emphasizes developing performance skills through the study of technique, and nurturing creative abilities through the study of improvisation and choreography. This course covers intermediate to advanced levels of: Terminology, Technique, Ballet, Jazz, Modern, Improvisation, Choreography, Peer Feedback and Analysis, and Performance.

Advanced Dance Company II

Grades 10 – 12

5 Credits

Prerequisite: ADC I and Instructor Audition

Advanced Dance Company II is an audition-based/recommendation only course which offers students a wide range of skills, knowledge and understanding of creativity. This class will move at a quicker pace, and offer students a greater physical and mental challenge on a daily basis. Here, students will be able to integrate the theories and practices of dance, to test ideas through improvisational studies, to learn how embodied knowledge generates ideas, and to articulate those ideas through movement. This course emphasizes developing performance skills through the study of technique, and fostering creative

abilities through the study of choreography. *A student may only be placed in Dance Company II if they audition or are recommended after passing through Intro to Dance, and Advanced Dance I.* This course covers advanced levels of: terminology, technique, Ballet, Jazz, Modern, Tap, improvisation, choreography, peer feedback and analysis, and performance and career preparation.

Advanced Dance Company III
Grades 11 – 12 **5 Credits**
Prerequisite: ADC II and Instructor Audition

Advanced Dance Company 3 is an audition-based course which offers students a wide range of skills, knowledge and understanding of creativity. Here, students will be able to integrate the theories and practices of dance, to test ideas through improvisational studies, to learn how embodied knowledge generates ideas, and to articulate those ideas through movement. This course emphasizes developing performance skills through the study of technique, and fostering creative abilities through the study of choreography. A student may be placed in this course only after successfully completing Advanced Dance Company 2. This course will also prepare students for college and dance program auditions.

Introduction to Music
Grades 10 – 12 **5 Credits**

Students taking this class will have a chance to be introduced to music theory, use of their vocal instrument as well as use of other various musical instruments. Students can take this class as a bridge from middle school musical instruction to high school concert choir, concert band, strings or keyboarding. Students are encouraged that if they have an interest in pursuing musical instruction in 10th, 11th, and 12th grade, they take this class to prepare themselves for this path.

Music Theory
Grades 9 – 12 **5 Credits**

Music Theory focuses on developing a student's ability to recognize, understand, and describe the basic materials and processes of music that are heard or presented in a musical score or work. Students will receive an introduction to listening, writing, and understanding varied aspects of music, such as melody, harmony, texture, rhythm, form, musical analysis, composition, and musical style. Students will also receive an introduction to basic musicianship skills, such as dictation, rhythm speaking, and sight singing. By completing this course students will

acquire the basic skills for vocal or instrumental performance.

Concert Choir
Grades 9 – 12 **5 Credits**

Concert Choir is a large performance ensemble for students who enjoy singing. Students receive instruction in musicianship, choral skills, and performance skills. Choral music ranging from the classics to the contemporary is explored. At times the choir sings in Latin, German, French, Italian and other languages. This course may be repeated in 10th, 11th and 12th grade. After school rehearsals may be expected and occasional evening concerts are required.

Voice Studio
Grades 11 – 12 **5 Credits**
Prerequisite: Instructor Audition, 11th / 12th graders

Voice Studio is an advanced Performing Arts elective composed of the most outstanding Grade 11 – 12 vocal students. Here students will learn solo repertoire and explore their own voice as a soloist. The students' musical experiences will be further developed in different music genres, musical theory, voice science and anatomy.

AP Music Theory
Grades 11 – 12 **5 Credits**
Prerequisite: Music Theory with a grade of 90% or higher & teacher recommendation

This is a college level course in music theory. Students will learn to read, notate, compose, sight-read, and hear music. Vocal, instrumental, and rock musicians will benefit from this course. This course will train students to increase their knowledge of the language of music, their ability to understand what they hear in music, and their ability to perform music at an increased skill level. Students must receive the recommendation of a music teacher to be placed in A.P. Music Theory. Upon completion of the course, students will be encouraged to take the AP Music Theory Exam for possible waiver of the first year college music requirement for both music and non-music majors.

Introduction to Band
Grades 9 – 12 **5 Credits**

In Introduction to Band, students will perform on one instrument accurately and independently with good posture, proper playing position, and good breath control appropriate for each instrument. Students with no prior instrumental experience will complete

book one of the Band Expressions instrumental music method series, which will provide the technical skills necessary for achieving proficiency at the beginning level. Those with prior instrumental experience will engage in enriching activities to increase their technical ability and bring their musicality to the next level.

Concert Band
Grades 9 – 12 **5 Credits**

Prerequisite: Any of the following:

- Instrumental Lessons*
- Completion of a Middle School Band Program*
- Audition and Instructor's Approval*

The Perth Amboy High School Concert Band consists of all instrumental students regardless of ability level and is an ensemble course that presents and reinforces basic music theory concepts such as ear training, basic form and analysis, performance and rehearsal etiquette, and music history before and after 1750. As band is a co-curricular class, required rehearsals and performances may take place outside the regular school day for a grade (i.e., after school rehearsals, winter and spring concerts, marching band, community celebrations). Successful students will demonstrate the ability to play the seven major scales as prescribed for their instrument. Concert band members attend weekly rehearsals and are graded on attendance, attitude, participation, and weekly assignments.

Keyboarding I
Grades 9 – 12 **5 Credits**

Keyboarding I will develop the fundamentals, proper techniques, and rudiments of playing the piano. This course is designed to stimulate student growth in music through the use of piano performance, basic theory, ear training, listening examples, and music history. The students' understanding of terminology used in music for tempo, articulation, phrasing, and style will be acquired through performance as well as musical examples, drawn from a variety of time periods and styles. Students will master techniques associated with finger names/numbers, rhythm, meter, notation, tempo, dynamics, and phrasing. More advanced students may set specific objectives regarding scales, arpeggios, sight-reading, keyboard harmony, and composition.

Keyboarding II
Grades 10 – 12 **5 Credits**

Prerequisite: Keyboarding I

The second level of piano study is designed to continue developing basic keyboard and musicianship skills including fundamental technique, sight reading, scale playing, harmonization, transposition, accompaniment, ensemble playing, and piano repertoire representative of the Baroque, Classical, Romantic, and Contemporary periods. This level will also include a bigger emphasis on both written and aural music theory.

Keyboarding III
Grades 11 – 12 **5 Credits**

Prerequisite: Keyboarding II

The third level of piano study is design continue developing skills in keyboarding, musicianship, site reading and performance. Students will study a wide repertoire of pieces, as well as solo and ensemble performance. This course will emphasize written and aural music, as well as preparing students for college audition.

Strings I
Grades 9 – 12 **5 Credits**

Strings I is an elective performing arts course designed for students in grades 9-12. This course is designed to teach students the fundamentals of performing on a stringed instrument and help them develop a deeper understanding and appreciation of music and the art of performance. Students will learn how to play the violin, viola, cello, or bass, perform a variety of musical repertoire on the selected instrument, learn how to read music, write and perform original compositions, and listen to, analyze, and describe music and musical performances in depth and with detail. During the course of study, students will also learn and experience the art of ensemble playing, develop important skills required to play and perform with a group of people, and follow proper rehearsal and performance etiquette.

Strings II
Grades 10 – 12 **5 Credits**

Prerequisite: Strings I

A continuation of Strings 1, students will continue to learn to play their chosen instruments. Students will also have the opportunity for solo performance as well as ensemble performance. Students will continue to perfect their ability to read music, as well as proper handling of their instrument.

Visual Arts

Foundations of Art

Grades 9 – 12

5 Credits

This course is a prerequisite for all additional work in the art department. Included will be the realms of basic drawing, crafts, pen and ink, pastel, watercolor, painting, and lettering. Foundations in Art will provide the student with a means of communication and invention so that he/she can express feelings, design, develop his/her perceptual skills, and exercise his/her creativity.

3-D Art I

Grades 10 – 12

5 Credits

Prerequisite: Foundations of Art

This class offers a new perspective on art, using all 3 dimensions. Students can take this class as an introductory level class that will fulfill their graduation requirement. Students will learn to create sculpture using a variety of mediums including paper, cardboard, clay and other such supplies. Students will be prepared for further study in 3-D Art classes.

Drawing I

Grades 10 – 12

5 Credits

Prerequisite: Foundations of Art

This course is for students with an interest in drawing beyond an introductory level. In this course students will explore drawing further; through in depth projects developing more advanced drawing skills including figure drawing, landscape, still life and more.

Drawing II

Grades 10 – 12

5 Credits

Prerequisite: Drawing I

Designed for students who would like to move their drawing skills to a more advanced level, this class is for the art student interested in building a drawing portfolio. Drawing materials and techniques will be further explored through a variety of projects.

Painting I

Grades 10 – 12

5 Credits

Prerequisite: Foundations of Art

This introductory painting course focuses on learning the fundamentals of painting including techniques and materials. Both drawing and painting skills are emphasized while exploring a variety of different painting media.

Painting II

Grades 11 – 12

5 Credits

Prerequisite: Painting I

Designed for students who would like to move their painting skills to a more advanced level, this class is for the art student interested in continuing their study of painting through the use of varying mediums and techniques. Historical reference, style and expressive quality will be the focus of this course.

Honors Fine Art

Grade 12

5 Credits

Prerequisite: Drawing II or Painting II

Students are presented with various visual problems and challenges which they must solve creatively using acquired art skills and techniques. Special emphasis on portfolio development is given to seniors who may be in the process of preparing an admissions portfolio for entrance into art school or college.

AP Studio Art

Grade 12

5 Credits

Prerequisite: Honors Fine Art or Instructor Audition

This course is designed to address a broad interpretation of drawing issues. Students are required to produce 24 quality pieces that demonstrate advanced concept, composition, and technical skill, fulfilling the 3 sections of the AP Portfolio: Quality, Breadth, and Concentration. Students will produce pieces based on realistic, observational drawing as well as abstract and design concepts. They will have the option of working in a variety of drawing and painting media. The final portfolio is submitted, reviewed, and rated by the AP College Board for college credit.

Computer Animation

Grades 11 – 12

5 Credits

Computer Animation is a challenging and rewarding course using industry-standard software programs: New Tek's Light Wave 3D and Adobe's Photoshop image-editing software. The introduction to Computer Animation begins with an overview of the history of the concepts, inventors and technologies that paved the way to the present day animation industry. The content of the course is project-based, progressively building upon skills and knowledge learned in class. Lessons focus on 3D modeling of objects and scenes, key-frame animation and creating plots for storyboards. Ultimately, students will understand the process that professionals follow to

produce 3D animated movies, commercials, graphics and games and prepare students for careers in the tech industry.

Digital Art I
Grades 9 – 12 **5 Credits**

Digital Art provides students with the knowledge and techniques that will be used throughout their high school years and beyond to present ideas to others using various forms of media. Students will learn about the principles of design, basic color theory, photography and typography. Students will use these concepts and presentation techniques as well as creative and critical thinking skills to solve practical real world design problems. Activities include: t-shirt design, product design, billboards, CD covers, posters, logo design, resume design, event design, travel brochures and more. Students will use design software such as Adobe Photoshop, In-Design and Illustrator to create graphics. This course is recommended for students interested in the printing and publishing industry, communications, web design, commercial printing, newspaper, advertising fields and/or other related fields.

Digital Art II
Grades 10 – 12 **5 Credits**
Prerequisite: Digital Art I

Students will continue their education in Digital Art by using industry programs such as Photoshop, In-Design and Illustrator. Students will get firsthand look at the graphic design industry by creating advertisements, product packaging and other exciting projects. Students will also prepare a portfolio to apply to graphic design programs after high school graduation.

Photography
Grades 10 – 12 **5 Credits**

Students in the Photography course will learn about composition and lighting basics. They will produce portraits, landscapes, abstract/experimental and studio photography.

Film Animation
Grades 11 – 12 **5 Credits**
Prerequisite: Computer Animation I

Students taking the Film Animation course will be able to expand upon their knowledge obtained from the Computer Animation course. Students will use the industry standard software (Autodesk Maya) to learn and develop the skills needed for a career in digital arts through hands on training and experience.

They will obtain the skills to produce a wide variety digital media including filmmaking, animation, and short animation films.

Computer Animation II
Grade 12 **5 Credits**
Prerequisite: Computer Animation I

This course is designed for students who wish to continue Computer Animation. Students in this course will continue to learn and develop the skills on the 3D computer animation process by using Light Wave & Photoshop.

Video Production Foundations
Grades 10 – 12 **5 Credits**

From camera angles and shot composition to storyboarding and script writing students in this class will learn how to make their ideas and imagination come to life. Students will be exposed to the various aspects of digital film and television production creating projects including music videos, short films and broadcast news programs. The intent of this course is to allow students to become familiar with the use of digital video cameras, editing software and the three stages of production. This course is project-based and requires students to participate in certain projects after school and on weekends.

Broadcast & Documentary Film Production
Grades 11 – 12 **5 Credits**
Prerequisite: Video Production Foundations with a grade of 85% or higher or departmental approval

This course is intended to further develop the skills learned in the Video Production Foundations course. The emphasis in this course will be on learning the job skills required in the television and film industries; including the production of an assortment of documentary style productions. Students will learn advanced studio and field production procedures using professional equipment while producing individual projects as well as working on assignments for the Panthers' Roar (the Perth Amboy High School Morning Show). Students will be responsible for a wide range of broadcasts airing on the daily morning show. Students in this course will produce a short film for the All American High School Film Festival. They will also attend the festival in New York City. This course is project-based and requires students to participate in projects after school and on weekends.

**Students are required to participate in projects after school and on weekends.*

Advanced Studio Production

Grades 11 – 12

5 Credits

Prerequisite: Broadcast & Documentary Film Production or approval of department supervisor/instructor

This is a project-based/lab course with the main objective of producing The Panthers' Roar, the Perth Amboy High School Morning Show. In this class, students have the ability to further develop their skills with broadcast technology, journalism, digital

storytelling and media literacy. The course requirements are structured to meet with individual class preferences whenever possible. Students work both individually and as a team to produce a variety of projects. Students will also be responsible for producing PATV Magazine on a monthly basis and short films for the All American High School Film Festival. **This course is project-based and requires students to participate in projects after school and on weekends.*

21st Century Life & Careers Department

All classes satisfy the 21st century life and careers elective requirement.

Digital Literacy Grades 9 – 12

5 Credits

Digital Literacy is a year-long course meant to prepare student for 21st century learning. Digital Literacy means having the knowledge and ability to use a range of technology tools for varied purposes. A digitally literate person can use technology strategically to find and evaluate information, connect and collaborate with others, produce and share original content, and use the Internet and technology tools to achieve many academic, professional, and personal goals. The goal of Digital Literacy is to teach and assess digital concepts and skills so that students can use computer technology in everyday life to develop new social and economic opportunities for themselves their families and their communities. As students master the tools learned, students will be asked to apply these tools in our project-based setting to investigate real-world issues and create meaningful and relevant communication. As a class we help each other respect others, the cyber world, the global communities and ourselves. Students will be afforded the opportunity to participate in testing to achieve the industry recognized credential Microsoft Office Specialist (MOS certification).

Tomorrow's Teacher-Teacher Cadets

Grades 11 – 12

10 Credits

Prerequisite: English II, with a grade of 85% or Higher

The Tomorrow's Teachers Program is a rigorous elective offered to eleventh and/or twelfth grade level students. In this course, students will develop a greater understanding of the history of education in our state and nation, understand and demonstrate what is involved in becoming a teacher, and conclude what role they play in the future of education as a teacher, parent and civic leader. Within this course, each student will be afforded the opportunity to discover, through research and hands-on practice, issues in education, teaching, methodologies and classroom observation and different methods of teaching. By the end of this course students will be able to know themselves better as individuals, learners, and community members. This core is aligned with New Jersey Core Curriculum States for Career Education and Consumer, Family and Life Skills.

Cooperative Office Education (COE)

Grades 11 – 12

5 Credits

Cooperative Office Education (COE) is a school-to-careers related work-study program designed for junior and senior students only. Classroom instruction emphasizes personal development, professional work ethic, and an introduction to entry-level office jobs. Through a cooperative arrangement between school and employers, students receive part-time supervised paid employment. Students will have an opportunity to acquire occupational skills necessary to obtain, maintain, and progress in an entry-level employment in the business workplace.

Transition to Work (TTW)

Grades 9-12

5 credits

The Transition to Work Course will assist special education high school students in developing the skills needed for competitive employment. The ultimate goal of the program is to prepare students for employment through career awareness, career exploration and work experience in both simulated and real world settings.

The TTW work course provides a prevocational experience that introduces students to the needs and expectations of the world of work. It is also an important part of the transition process to vocational opportunities after high school.

Cooking I

Grades 10 – 12

5 Credits

In this course all aspects of food are explored including, safety, food preparation, management, food science, technology, and nutrition and wellness. Concepts are taught through class work, demonstration, and lab experiences. This knowledge will assist the student in daily life as well as provide a foundation for students who wish to further their knowledge and skills in the Advanced Foods course. Students will be aware of career opportunities in foods and related fields.

Baking & Pastries

Grades 11 – 12

5 Credits

Prerequisite: Cooking I

Students will learn the skill set necessary to become all-around bakers. They will be taught how to properly use ovens, mixers, sheeter, and scales to develop the desired final product. Safety practices and

basic bakery principles are stressed throughout training. Practical applications include: cookies, cakes, sweet dough breads, rolls, pastries, tarts, and donuts.

Advanced Foods
Grades 11 – 12 **5 Credits**
Prerequisite: Cooking I

Students will build on the concepts learned in Cooking 1, including careers in foods and related areas, technology in the food industry, food science and nutrition. Students will participate in a variety of activities including laboratory experiences and television production of a food/nutrition style program. This course will give students a depth of knowledge of the food industry as well as an enhanced foundation for further study.

Foundations of 21st Century Skills
Grade 9 **5 Credits**

Designed to appeal to a diverse audience, this course examines some of the fundamental ideas related to the application of 21st Century Skills. Possible units would include digital media development, soft coding, 3-D engineering design and basic robotics. This class will provide exposure to 9th graders to various programs and classes at the main campus - from Computer Science to TV Production.

Auto I
Grades 10 – 12 **5 Credits**

The purpose of this course is to develop an understanding of and an appreciation for the uses of transportation as developed through the years. Exploratory experiences into the fields of aviation, rocketry, small internal combustion engines, and an introduction to the automobile will be the major consideration of the course. The opportunity exists for students to prepare themselves for ownership of an automobile.

Advanced Auto
Grades 11 – 12 **5 Credits**
Prerequisite: Auto I

The purpose of this course is to give students an opportunity to explore Auto Mechanics in fuller detail in order to develop the skills needed to obtain entry-level employment in the industry or pursue more comprehensive training in a trade school. The automotive power train will be discussed in further detail with the students able to make proper diagnosis, repairs and evaluation procedures used in the field today with a large emphasis on computer controlled engine management systems. Through the usage of field trips and guest speakers an attempt will be made to familiarize the students with every opportunity that is possible for them in this career field.

AVID (Advanced Via Individual Determination)
Grades 9 – 12 **5 Credits**
Prerequisite: Selection process, 2.4-3.5 GPA

The AVID course is an elective class for students who are college-bound. The AVID curriculum focuses on writing, inquiry, collaboration and reading (WICR) through the AVID High School curriculum in both teacher and tutor-led activities. While concurrently enrolled in a college-prep course of study, students learn strategies to enhance success. Note-taking, outlining, writing, speaking, reading, test-taking strategies, and self-awareness are stressed. In addition, the course includes college motivational activities and intensive preparation for ACT, SAT I, and SAT II.

NJ ROTC

NJROTC classes may be taken in lieu of physical education, but participating students would need to enroll in a corresponding health or driver's education class. These classes can fulfill either the 21st century life and careers elective requirement, or the physical education requirement, but not both.

Naval Science I Course

Grades 9 – 12

5 Credits

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the precepts of citizenship, the elements of leadership, and the value of scholarship in attaining life goals.

This course is designed to engender a sound appreciation for the heritage and traditions of America, with recognition that the role of sea power will be important in America's future, and develop in each cadet a growing sense of pride in his/her organization, associates, and self. These elements are pursued at a fundamental level.

Naval Science II Course

Grades 9 – 12

5 Credits

The purpose of this course is designed to engender a sound appreciation for the heritage and traditions of America, with recognition that the historically significant role of sea power will be important in America's future.

Naval Science III Course

Grades 9 – 12

5 Credits

The purpose of this course is to further develop the trait of leadership in students and introduce cadets to the vital importance of military justice, international law, and continue with the instruction of Naval Science to include astronomy, meteorology, weather, and the maneuvering board, and to provide an understanding of the facets of sea power, national security, and naval history.

Naval Science IV Course

Grades 9 – 12

5 Credits

The purpose of this course is to build on the basic qualities of a good follower and an effective leader provided in Naval Science I, 2, and 3, and to take a more in-depth look at what leadership is, and how to maximize your abilities in the leadership area.

