



Perth Amboy
High School

PROGRAM OF STUDIES
2018-2019

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Mr. Greg Cavanaugh
Instructional Leader for Mathematics

Dr. Clyde Griffith
Instructional Leader for Science

Mr. Michael Saulnier
Supervisor of School Counseling & Related Services

About This Program of Studies

Perth Amboy High School's Program of Studies is a valuable reference manual for students, parents and school personnel actively involved in curriculum planning at PAHS; it is a complete guide to course offerings at the high school.

***As this document is edited and published several months prior to the beginning of the school year, it should be noted that changes in areas such as personnel, budgeting, and state requirements may result in unavoidable discrepancies between what is listed and what is offered.**

Each department has described its specific course offerings, highlighting the chief components of each course. Please understand that final decisions regarding the actual offering of any particular course will be dependent upon enrollment and budget constraints. Therefore, not all classes listed in this Program of Studies are guaranteed to run every school year. Planning an individual student's high school program of studies demands a cooperative effort between home and school. The program of studies that a student pursues in high school should reflect his or her aspirations, achievements and aptitudes.

The courses at PAHS provide students with many opportunities to meet educational needs. Beyond State, District, college and career requirements, students are encouraged to select courses that will be academically stimulating and personally enriching. In selecting particular courses, the following criteria should be considered:

Does the course...

- Meet the high school graduation requirements?
- Provide an outlet for interests in specific subject areas?
- Fulfill college entrance requirements?
- Reflect the proficiency level for which the student is best suited?
- Provide a background for post high school plans leading to career options?

We advise the following considerations when planning an academic schedule:

- During scheduling, make sound initial choices. Initial low enrollment totals may lead to the cancellation of a course, thus decreasing the options for change once the master schedule is complete.
- Choose courses not teachers. Students and parents should not make the mistake of choosing or refusing a course based on perception of a particular instructor. Each choice should be based on the merits of the course content and its value to students' specific needs. Please understand that requests for schedule adjustments based on the issue of personnel will not be honored.
- Discuss specific subject area choices with teachers and/or department supervisors who can share valuable insight into the nature of specific courses.
- When planning course level placement, consider taking the most challenging course load that can be handled without creating an undue burden. It may be better for students to experience success in an appropriate placement than to experience extreme difficulty in an inappropriate placement.

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:

Guidance Dept. ext. 23420 Supervisor of School Counseling: Mr. Michael Saulnier			
MAIN CAMPUS			
COUNSELOR	EXTENSION	STUDENT'S LAST NAME	GRADE
Ms. Kahn	23432	A - C A - Ca	12 9-11
Ms. Caboy	23429	C - E Ce - Di	12 9-11
Ms. McMorrow	23479	F - H Do - Go	12 9-11
Ms. Green	23443	Gr - K	9-11
Ms. Karnilaw	23431	I - Mi L - M	12 9-11
Ms. Montalvo	23421	Mo - P N - Ra	12 9-11
Ms. Otterbine	23426	Q - Sa Re - Sa	12 9-11
Ms. Zaretsky	23430	Sc - Z	ALL
Ms. Gimenez	23433	BE (A - L)	LEVEL 1-3 ALL
Ms. Cepin	23428	BE (M - Z)	LEVEL 1-3 ALL
Ms. Roman	23482	SAC	
EAST CAMPUS - 9TH GRADE PROGRAM			
Mr. Towns	36420	ALL	TEAM D
SOUTH CAMPUS - 9TH GRADE PROGRAM			
Ms. Ms. Hubbs	37421	ALL	TEAM A, B
Ms. Nunez	37423	ALL	TEAM C, B
Ms. Santiago	37450	MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELOR	
EDUCATION CENTER - PLP & ADULT SCHOOL			
Ms. Lampkin	31430	GE & ADULT SCHOOL DAY	ALL
Ms. Mateo-Baez	31426	BE	ALL

Graduation Requirements

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

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

** Any student that does not meet 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/NMSQT

These tests will help students and teachers assess student academic needs and determine areas of focus to ensure college and career readiness. They will also give the student the opportunity to preview the SAT and PSAT/NMSQT by testing the same skills and knowledge, and can connect students to AP Courses. The exams are given in October and are required for all sophomores and juniors. Scores on the PSAT/NMSQT are used by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation to identify highly qualified juniors for recognition and awards. These exams are free for Perth Amboy students, and will be administered in school.

SAT Reasoning Test

This is a three and one-half hour test, divided into two 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 specific college partnerships, Perth Amboy High School students may take courses toward graduation that will also earn them college credit. Dual Enrollment courses offered in 2018-2019 include Tomorrow’s Teachers and the classes in the Biomedical Science sequence. Interested students should discuss the specifics with their school counselor.

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

CREDIT BY TESTING: Students can earn credit in World Languages by achieving the following, pre-determined results on the STAMP Heritage Test:

ACTFL Proficiency Level	Credits Awarded	Course Placement
Novice Mid	5	Spanish, French, or Italian II
Novice High	10	Spanish, French, or Italian III
Intermediate Low	15	Spanish, French or Italian IV
Intermediate Mid	20	Test Out or AP Spanish

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 of 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.

PAHS - Communications Academy

The first of five planned thematic academies at Perth Amboy High School, the PAHS Communications Academy launches this September, 2018!

In the Communications Academy, students will learn the foundational principles of Communications, including communication process, perception, verbal and nonverbal communications and how to apply these principles in various contexts. Students will learn through participation in project-based courses and relevant experiences in the communications field. Students who complete the program will have the skills to clearly communicate in many college and career situations across varied major courses of study and careers in many industries.

Goals of this inaugural academy include to:

- Provide students with an understanding of the foundational principles of Communications, including communication process, perception, verbal and nonverbal communications and how to apply these principles in various contexts.
- Offer students a unique and specialized program that will develop students' skills to clearly communicate in many college and career situations across varied major courses of study and careers in many industries.
- Help students develop an understanding of various communication, journalism and media studies careers
- Ensure that students can express themselves fluently and produce content across varied media platforms.
- Provide opportunities for students to explore the social, political and cultural functions of media so that students can grow into contributing members of society
- Develop leaders in new media, social networking and technology, so Perth Amboy students are at the forefront of emerging communications trends.
- Provide opportunities to apply what students learn in practical applications and pre-professional experiences
- Engage students in issues pertaining to their own community and provide students the tools necessary to effectively advocate on behalf of themselves and others.

All interested students are invited to apply for admission to the Communications Academy, and application information will be furnished to all 9th graders at the beginning of the third marking period. For more information about the Academy students and families are encouraged to contact Mr. Brian Wilson at briawilson@paps.net.





Academy Opens
Fall of 2018



 Perth **A**mboy High School
Communications Academy

Tracks

Offer students a unique and specialized program that will develop students' skills to clearly communicate in many college and career situations across varied major courses of study and careers in many industries.



TWO
PATHWAYS



**Communication,
Information, & Media**

This track will emphasize a variety of authentic production tasks related to film, television, radio, graphic design, and journalism. In today's dynamic information economy, all industries increasingly require digital communication skills and knowledge. Students will develop competencies in a wide range of digitally influenced ideas and will build the foundational skills for production of media in various areas.

**International Communications,
Community Relations**

This track examines the political, technological, economic and cultural relations among peoples, societies, nations and communities. Students in this track will develop the international competencies required to work in global and multicultural contexts while developing the technical skills required to advocate for their community at home and across international borders.

New Jersey State Seal of Biliteracy

The New Jersey State Seal of Biliteracy is an award given by the state in recognition of students that have studied and attained proficiency in English and an additional language.

As a leader in bilingual education, Perth Amboy High School proudly emphasizes not just English language acquisition, but true mastery in multiple languages. Among the PAHS graduating class of 2017, a total of **86 students** earned the NJ Seal of Biliteracy in addition to their high school diplomas.



By satisfying the NJ graduation requirement in English and achieving a proficient level on the STAMP Heritage Exam, students can earn this nationally-recognized award. Students earning the NJ State Seal of Biliteracy will receive a certificate from the state and will have the seal represented on their final transcript.

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: Please refer back to the "Criteria for Honors and & AP Courses."

English I Honors adds to the rigor of English I College Prep by enhancing the development of communication skills, including grammar, research, presentations, 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, organization, 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 an exploration of literature from American, British and world authors. Through the genres of short stories, poetry, novels, plays, speeches, multi-media productions and essays, students will explore various themes and content. 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. 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 II College Prep

Grade 10

5 Credits

Prerequisite: English I

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. Please refer back to the "Criteria for Honors and & AP Courses."

English II Honors adds to the rigor of English II by enhancing the development of communication skills, including grammar, research, presentations, 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, organization, and study skills are vital to student success in honors classes.

English III College Prep**Grade 11****5 Credits***Prerequisite: English I and II*

English III is a full-year, five-credit course offered in the third year of high school that is designed to predominately expose students to various genres of American literature while still exploring British and world authors. This course will expand on the skills derived from the previous years. Through the genres of short stories, poetry, novels, plays, speeches, multi-media productions and essays, students will explore various themes and content. 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 I and II. Please refer back to the “Criteria for Honors and & AP Courses.”*

English III Honors adds to the rigor of English III by enhancing the development of communication skills, including grammar, research, presentations, 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, organization, and study skills are vital to student success in honors classes.

English IV College Prep**Grade 12****5 Credits***Prerequisite: English I, II, and 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 American, British and world authors. Through the genres of short stories, poetry, novels, plays, speeches, multi-media productions, and essays, students will explore various themes and content. 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 that prepare them to transition to post-secondary educational programs.

English IV Honors**Grade 12****5 Credits***Prerequisite: English I, II, and III. Please refer back to the “Criteria for Honors and & AP Courses.”*

English IV Honors adds to the rigor of English IV by enhancing the development of communication skills, including grammar, research, 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, organization, and study skills are vital to student success in honors classes.

AP Literature and Composition**Grades 11-12****5 Credits***Prerequisite: English I and II. Please refer back to the “Criteria for Honors and & AP Courses.”*

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 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 the author’s 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 is a college-level course and is graded using the College Board approved rubric and grading scale.

AP Language and Composition**Grades 11-12****5 Credits***Prerequisite: English I and II. Please refer back to the “Criteria for Honors and & AP Courses.”*

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 is centered on an essential question that engages students to begin thinking critically. Students will learn to read and analyze nonfiction 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.

English Electives:

Young Adult Literature

Grade 9

5 Credits

Prerequisite: English 8

Young Adult Literature is a survey class that focuses on building literary analysis skills using high quality Young Adult Literature (YA). These realistic texts are written for teenagers and are relevant to the experiences of High School students. The genres of Fantasy, Autobiography, Historical Fiction, Realistic Fiction, and Fan Fiction will be explored. In addition to genres, students will also become familiar with young adult literature authors, popular banned books, social movements, and literature adapted for the movies.

Literacy Extensions I

Grade 9

5 Credits

Literacy Extensions is a full year, 5-credit 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. Emphasizing 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 elective taken during the 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 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.

College Research and Writing

Grades 9 - 12

5 Credits

Prerequisite: English 8

College Research & Writing is a full-year, 5-credit, liberal arts elective course. 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 expose students to a variety of rhetorical approaches to enhance the students' writing. A special emphasis on adequate note-taking, close reading, applicable research and oral presentation skills is done within this course beyond the required English class.

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.

SAT/ACT Prep

Grade 11

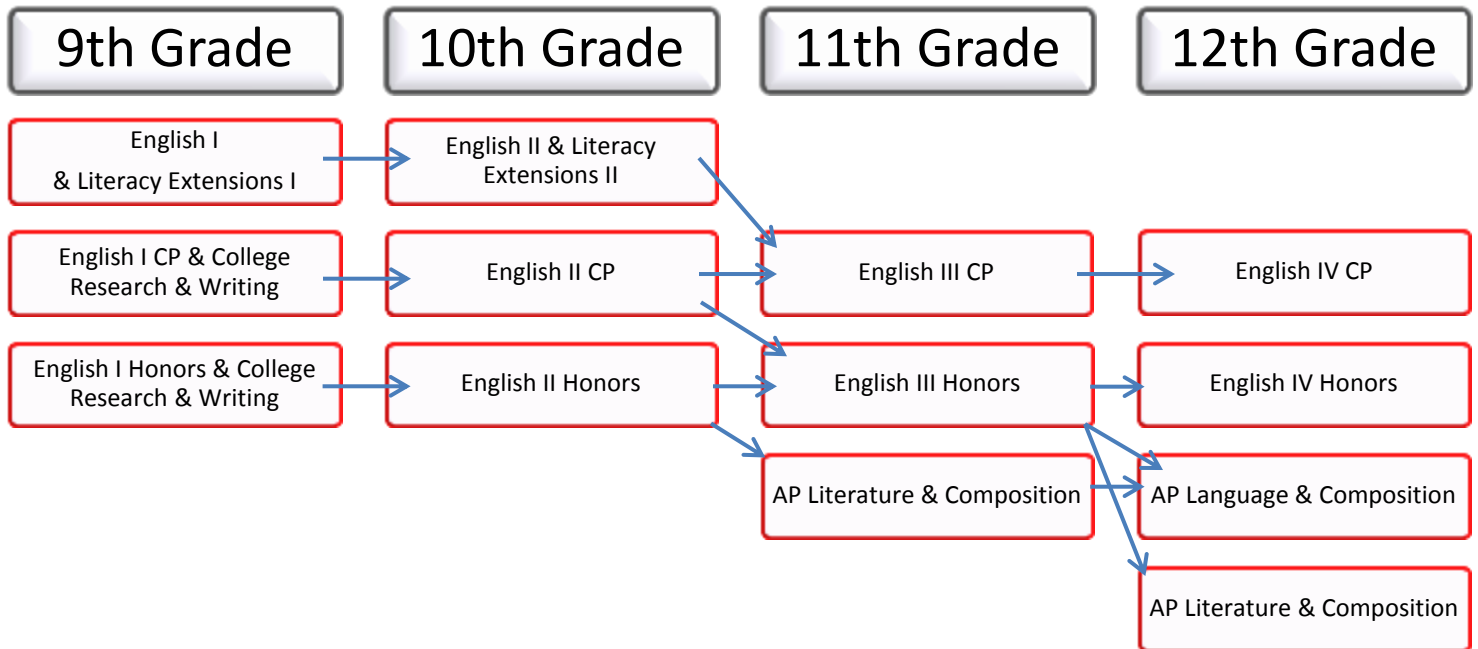
2.5 Credits

Prerequisite Geometry and English II

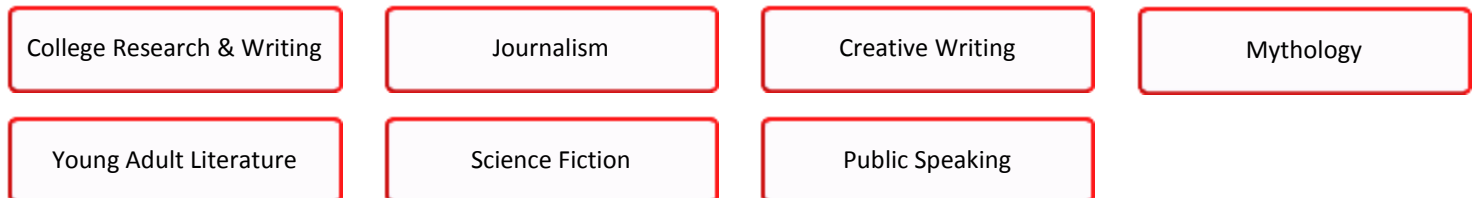
The purpose of this course is to improve competency in mathematical and verbal skills. Students will review and extend their mathematical, cognitive, and analytical skills in arithmetic, algebra, and geometry. Students will also review cognitive and analytical skills in the verbal area assessed on college admissions tests. Students enrolled in this course will be exposed to SAT/ACT questions and answers as well as suggestions on how to improve their score. Emphasis will be placed on extensive practice using strategies to solve problems modeled after those frequently tested on college admission tests. Test-taking techniques and strategies will be covered thoroughly in this course so students will gain confidence that they will achieve their highest score possible when they take an official administration of the SAT/ACT.

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 IB

Grades 9-10

5 Credits

Prerequisite: Algebra IA

Algebra IB is the second 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 systems of linear and quadratic equations, inequalities and systems of equations and inequalities, radical functions and their equations, rational functions and their equations, and statistics and probability. Problem solving, calculator application and modeling along with an emphasis on remediating foundational skills will increase student readiness for advanced Algebra I topics. Students will take the PARCC Algebra I test while enrolled in this course.

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

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 (Refer to Honors and AP Course criteria)

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

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 or Algebra IB

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 or Algebra IB (Refer to Honors and AP Course criteria)

Geometry Honors is designed for those students who have been exceptional in Algebra I. 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 or Algebra IB

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 or Algebra IB

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: Algebra I or Algebra IB (Refer to Honors and AP Course criteria)

Algebra 2 Honors is designed for those students who have been exceptional 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 (Refer to Honors and AP Course criteria)

Pre-Calculus Honors is designed for students who have been exceptional in Geometry and Algebra 2. 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 (Refer to Honors and AP Course criteria)

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 (Refer to Honors and AP Course criteria)

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. 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 or Calculus I Honors (Refer to Honors and AP Course criteria)

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 exam. A TI-84 graphing calculator or equivalent is required.

Math Electives

SNAP Math Grade 9

5 Credits

SNAP Math will prepare students for success in other High School Math classes by applying Mathematical Concepts to real world situations and providing a SNAPSHOT of various applied math concepts. Units of Study will include Computer Science (including basic programming), Actuarial Science (analysis of the stock market, etc), statistics (election analysis) and game theory.

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.

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.

Intro to Statistics

Grades 11 – 12

5 Credits

Prerequisite: Algebra II

Introduction to Statistics is 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, 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 as well as other statistical software.

Intro to Computer Science

Grades 10 - 12

5 Credits

Prerequisite: 8th Grade Math

This is an introduction to computer science and software engineering for 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

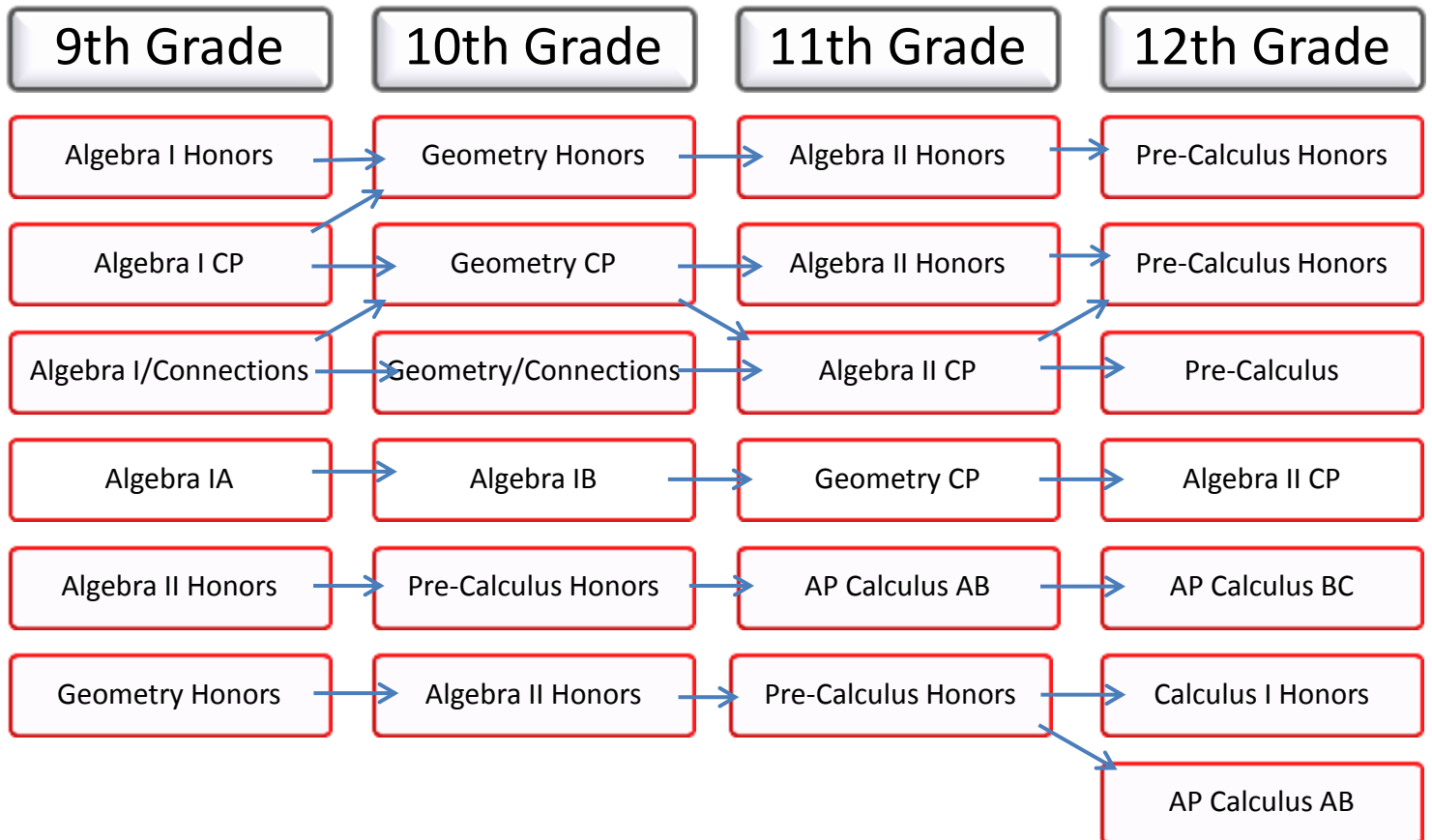
5 Credits

Prerequisite: Geometry and Algebra II

Students will be taught to program a personal computer and to apply their programming skills to problem-solving situations. The course requires sound computer knowledge, 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.

Math Department

Typical Course Sequences



Math Electives



Science Department

All students must pass Biology, plus two of the following: Physics, Chemistry, or Environmental Science.

Physics

Grade 9

6 Credits

Prerequisites: Algebra I taken concurrently

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

Physics Honors

Grade 9

6 Credits

Prerequisites: teacher recommendation

This is an introductory, algebra-based physics course that includes the same topics as the general physics course. The pace is accelerated to allow for enrichment and more in-depth discovery of topics, including the mathematical analysis of physics topics.

Chemistry

Grades 10 – 11

6 Credits

This course applies physics concepts to explain natural phenomena and the physical world. Topics include the Atom and Period Table of Elements, Bonding, Chemical Reactions, Thermochemistry, Nuclear Chemistry, and Acids and Bases. Students combine scientific and mathematical concepts to solve problems on all topics.

Chemistry Honors

Grades 10 – 11

6 Credits

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

The honors course includes the same topics as the general chemistry course, with additional topics of Moles, Stoichiometry and Solutions. The pace is accelerated to allow for enrichment and more in-depth discovery of topics, including the mathematical analysis of chemistry topics.

Biology

Grades 10 – 11

6 Credits

In this course students build an understanding of modern biology on the foundation of their prior learning in physics and chemistry. Students learn about the origins of life and the process of evolution through natural selection. They then progress to learn about molecular biology, cellular biology and processes, genetics, and ecology. This course serves as

a strong foundation for Anatomy and Physiology and Marine Science.

Biology Honors

Grades 10 – 11

6 Credits

Prerequisites: Prior science course with a grade of 85% 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.

AP Biology

Grades 11 – 12

7 Credits

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

This course is the equivalent of a college-level, introductory biology course. This course includes the rigorous study of biology topics and applications. Topics 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. *This course does not satisfy the third-year science requirement*

Environmental Science

Grades 10 – 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, identify and analyze environmental problems both natural and human-made, and evaluate the risks associated with these problems and examine alternative solutions for resolving and/or preventing them.

AP Chemistry
Grades 11 -12 **7 Credits**
Prerequisite: Chemistry Honors with a grade of 85% 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 big ideas articulated in the AP Chemistry curriculum framework provided by the College Board. A special emphasis is placed on science practices, which capture important aspects of the work of scientists. Each topic includes rigorous mathematical problem solving. A minimum of 25% of student contact time is spent performing hands-on laboratory activities.

AP Physics I
Grade 10-12 **7 Credits**
Prerequisites: Physics with a grade of 85% or higher & teacher recommendation

AP Physics I is an algebra-based, 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 develop scientific critical thinking and reasoning skills.

AP Environmental Science
Grade 12 **7 Credits**
Prerequisites: Biology with a grade of 85% 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. It is a rigorous course that prepares students for the AP Environmental Science exam.

Forensic Science
Grades 9 – 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, and case studies. *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. Students increase their awareness of the scope and scale of our universe by gaining an understanding of Earth's place in this system.

Marine Science
Grades 11 – 12 **6 Credits**
Prerequisites: Biology

Marine Science is a laboratory course that introduces students to the study of marine environments. This is accomplished through the application of theory to the marine ecosystem available at the Perth Amboy waterfront. *This course does not satisfy the third-year science requirement.*

Introduction to Robotics, Design, and Solutions
Grades 9 **5 Credits**

In this course students apply technology, engineering and scientific concepts to create solutions to various challenges, including those involving robotics. Students develop problem-solving skills and apply the engineering design process. Students also investigate technical careers.

Robotics
Grades 10 – 12 **5 Credits**
Prerequisites: Physics, Algebra I

This course introduces students to the design, building, and programming of robotic systems. Students apply the engineering design process to their robot creation and troubleshooting its operation. Some limited programming is included as students learn how equipment is controlled with logical instructions.

Biomedical Sciences Sequence:

By choosing this sequence of elective courses, students gain invaluable insight into health-related occupations. All courses allow students to earn college credit through Rutgers University. These courses should be taken in grades 10-12 with the core science sequence listed in the course description; students should take their core biology course in grade 10, followed by their core chemistry course in grade 11. *These courses do not satisfy the NJ science requirement.*

Dynamics of Health Care

Grades 10 - 12

5 Credits

This course should be taken concurrently with Honors Biology.

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

Medical Terminology and Anatomy & Physiology I

Grade 11 - 12

7 Credits

Prerequisites: Dynamics of Health Care

This course should be taken concurrently with Chemistry.

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 healthcare team, enabling healthcare workers to communicate in an accurate, articulate and concise manner. 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. Anatomy & Physiology labs include slide work and dissections.

Medical Terminology and Anatomy & Physiology II

Grade 12

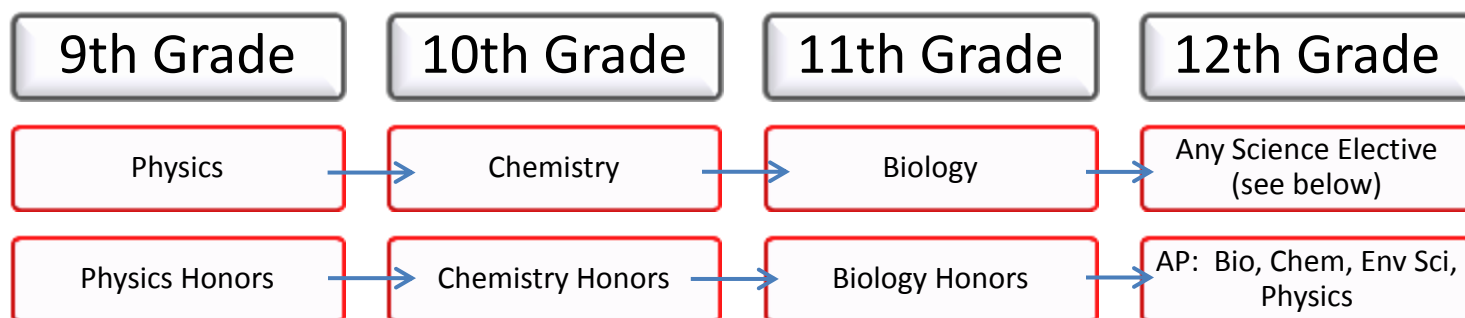
7 Credits

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 students an overview of human anatomical structure and an analysis of human physiological principles. Labs include slide work and dissections.

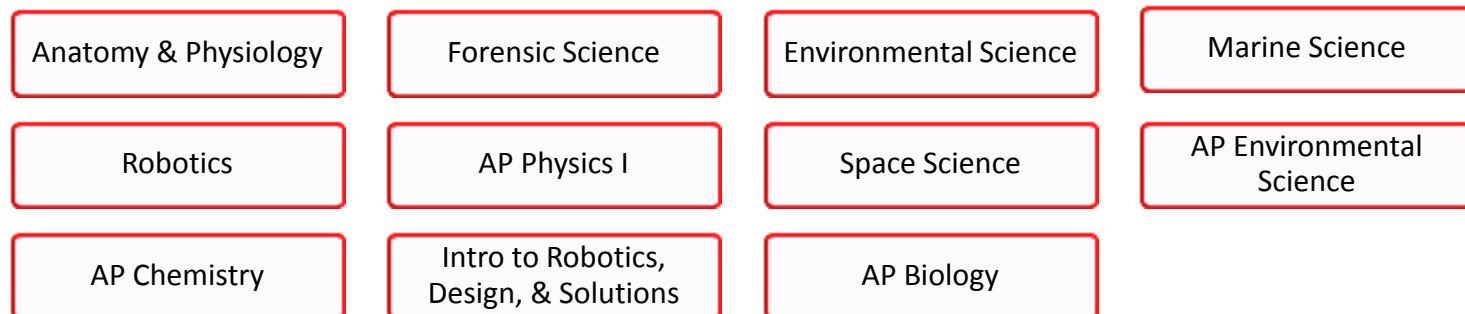
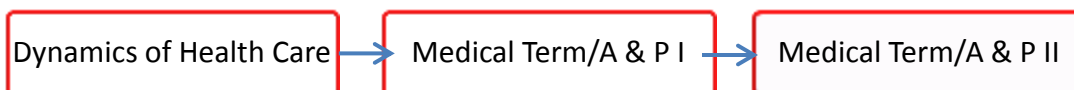
Science Department

Typical Course Sequences



Science Electives

Biomedical Sequence:



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 College Prep

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 College Prep

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 85% 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 College Prep

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.

World History Honors

Grade 11

5 Credits

Prerequisite: US History II with a grade of 85% or higher & teacher recommendation

World History is a survey course that explores 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. World History Honors requires the participant to function with greater independence and responsibility and concentrates on the development of higher level analytical thinking skills.

AP World History
Grades 10 – 12

5 Credits

Prerequisite: World History with a grade of 85% 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.

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.

Social Studies Electives

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 85% 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.

Intro 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 85% 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.

Economics**Grades 10 – 12****5 Credits**

This course will introduce students to the basics of economic principles. They will explore different economic systems including the American free enterprise system, analyze and interpret data, and consider economic applications in today's world. From economics in the world of business, money, banking and finance, students will see how economics is applied both domestically and globally.

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 & Physical 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**

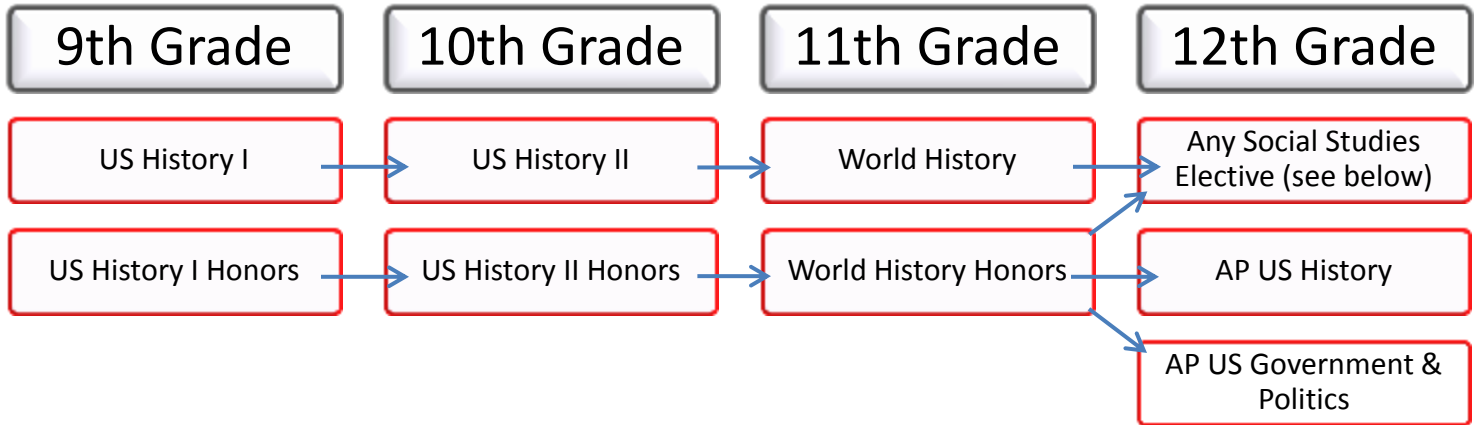
This course examines the nature and scope of sociology, its terminology and concepts; studies sociological perspectives, social processes, social institutions, development of society, and characteristics of social life.

Intro 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



***Although technically an elective course, Financial Literacy is our only elective that meets the state requirement for Financial, Economic, and Entrepreneurial Literacy.**

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 Heritage Spanish I.

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 I. 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 Heritage Spanish II with a grade of 85% 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 Heritage Spanish II with a grade of 85% 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.

Heritage Spanish 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.

Heritage Spanish II
Grades 10 – 12 **5 Credits**
Prerequisite: Heritage Spanish 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.

Heritage Spanish III
Grades 10 – 12 **5 Credits**
Prerequisite: Heritage Spanish 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.

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

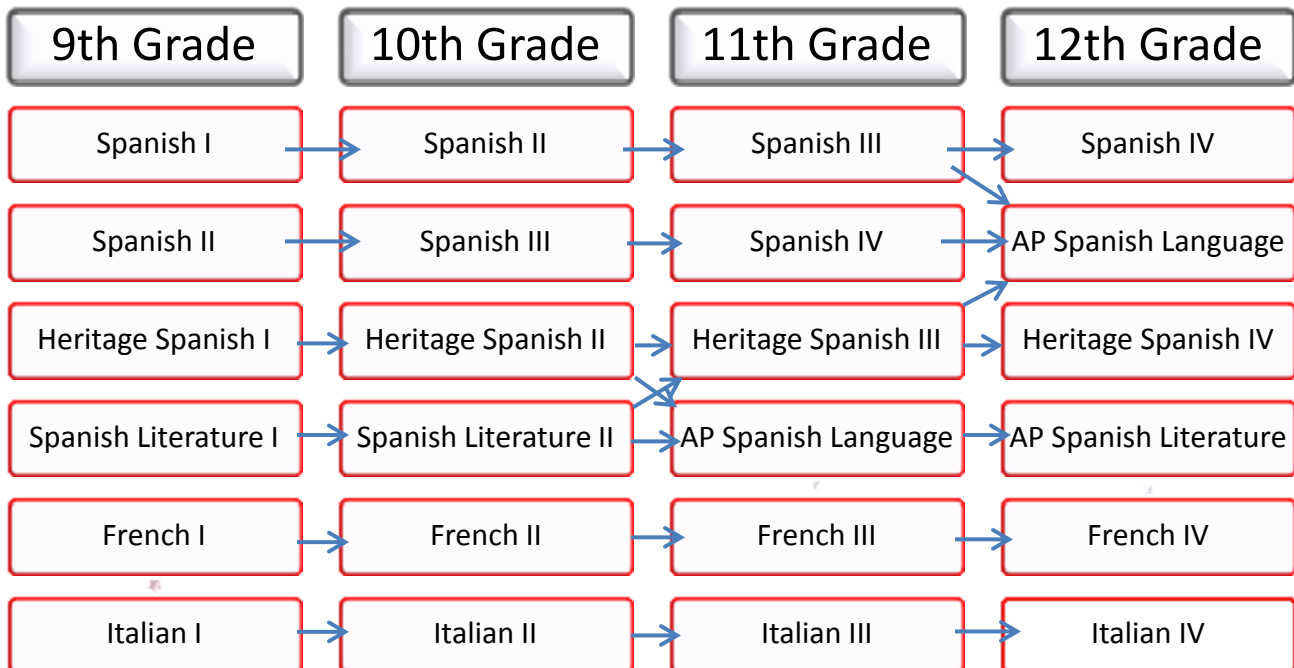
5 Credits

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.

World Language Department

Typical Course Sequences



***Students may place into higher level World Language classes via performance on the STAMP Heritage Test. Refer to page 8 for details.**

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 visual and 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 10 – 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.

Advanced Acting

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.

Intro 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 11 – 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.

Music Theory
Grades 10 – 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.

Intro 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 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 per the All State requirements and the chromatic scale 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. 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

Intro to Communications
Grade 10-12 **2.5 Credits**
Prerequisite: Acceptance to the Communications Academy

This course provides an overview of the basic concepts of communication and the skills necessary to communicate in various contexts. This class will emphasize formal and informal communication techniques used in interpersonal group, public, intercultural, and mass communication situations. It also will review the history of communications and its

impact on the American Culture through a survey of film, radio, TV and internet resources.

Foundations of Production & Design
Grade 10 **2.5 Credits**
Prerequisite: Acceptance to the Communications Academy

In this half-year course students develop skills in the area of pre-production. Students will learn how to construct a story for filmmaking, how to prepare a script for television and radio, and how to design graphics for the web and print. These foundational

skills will prepare students for their academic career in the Communications Academy.

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 10 – 12

5 Credits

Prerequisite: Foundations of Art

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 class 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 10 – 12 **5 Credits**
Prerequisite: Foundations of Art

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, and 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.

Digital Art II
Grades 11 – 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.

Computer Animation II
Grades 11 - 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.

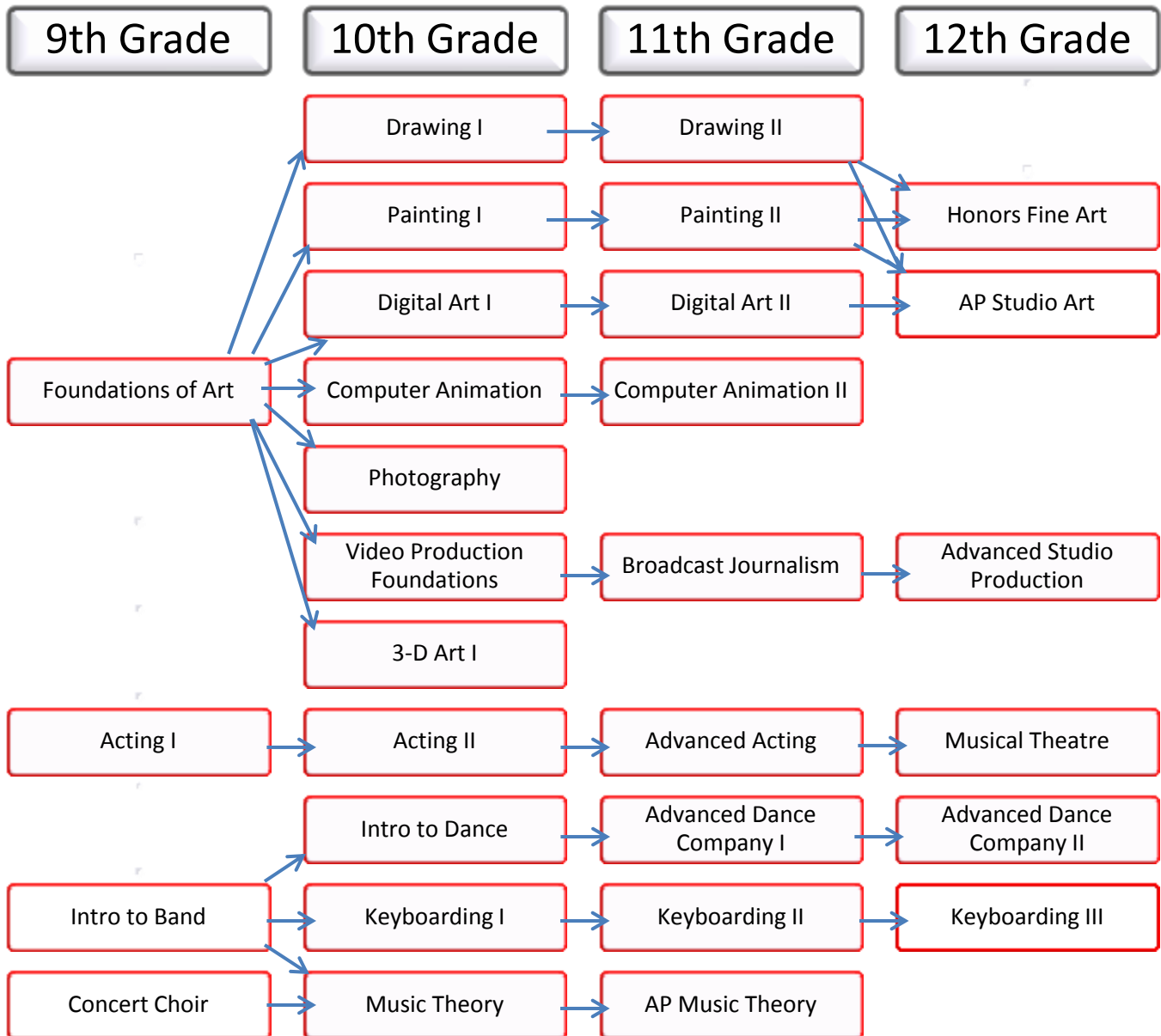
**Students are required to participate in projects after school and on weekends.*

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.*

Visual & Performing Arts Department

Typical Course Sequences



***Students may also take Concert Band and/or Concert Choir all four years of high school.**

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.

Culinary Arts 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 & Pastry

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 Shop 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.

Scheduling Worksheet/Checklist

Name: _____ ID#: _____ Counselor: _____

9 th - Yr.		10 th - Yr.		11 th - Yr.		12 th - Yr.	
English 1	5	English 2	5	English 3	5	English 4	5
US History 1	5	US History 2	5	World History	5		
(Science)		(Science)		(Science)			
(Math)	5	(Math)	5	(Math)	5	(math)	5
Phys Ed 9		Phys Ed 10	4	Phys Ed 11	4	Phys Ed 12	4
Total _____		Total _____		Total _____		Total _____	

Graduation Requirements (130 Credits)

Courses (✓ - Completed / X -Failed & must be made up)	9	10	11	12
English 1, 2, 3, 4				
World History, US History 1, 2				
Science – 3 years				
Mathematics – 3 years				
Visual/Performing Arts – 1 year				
21 st Century Life & Careers – 1 year				
Health – 4 years				
Physical Education – 4 years				
World Language – 2 years				
Financial Literacy				

PARCC Proficiency Requirements

Date: _____

Language Arts: _____

Mathematics: _____

Date: _____

Language Arts: _____

Mathematics: _____

Met _____ **Not met** _____

Minimum College Admission Requirements

Course	Required	Completed
English 1, 2, 3, 4	4	
World History, US History 1, 2	3	
Science (3 years lab science) Biology	3	
Algebra I, Geometry, 3 rd Math	3	
World Language (2 years of same language)	2	
4 other college units	4	
Total of 18 college units	18	

Practical Art Fine Art GYM

PSAT/SAT/ACT/ASVAB Scores

Date: _____

Reading: _____

Writing: _____

Math: _____

Date: _____

Reading: _____

Writing: _____

Math: _____

Met _____ **Not met** _____

NOTES:
