

# PERTH AMBOY HIGH SCHOOL



# PROGRAM OF STUDIES 2020-2021

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## **Perth Amboy High School Administration**

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*Principal ~ Freshman Academy*

Ms. Yolanda Gomez  
*Principal ~ Personalized Learning Program*

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*Vice Principal*

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*Vice Principal*

Mrs. Dana Rivas  
*Vice Principal*

Mr. Giovanni Reynoso  
*Vice Principal*

Mr. Frank Romano, Jr.  
*Freshman Academy Vice Principal ~ East Campus*

Ms. Karla Garcia  
*Freshman Academy Vice Principal ~ South Campus*

Mr. Greg Cavanaugh  
*Instructional Leader for Mathematics*

Dr. Clyde Griffith  
*Instructional Leader for Science*

Ms. Stacy Lemongelli  
*Instructional Leader for Language Arts*

## **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. All graduation requirements, and in particular testing requirements, are closely monitored by district and building-level administration for assured compliance in spite of transition at any level.**

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.

Counselor	Main Campus			Extension
Caboy	A, D-F (Comp)			23429
Cano	B (Comp)	H-O (BE Level 1&2)	L-Z (Communications)	23421
Cepin	Pe-Re (Comp)	P-Z (BE Level 1&2)		23442
Gimenez	G (Comp)	A-G (BE Level 1&2)	A-H (Health Science)	23433
Kahn	H-Ma (Comp)			23432
Levine	Mc-Pa (Comp)	J-Z (Health Science)		23431
McMorrow	C (Comp)	A-K (Communications)		23479
Otterbine	Ri-Sh (Comp)			23426
Zaretsky	Si-Z (Comp)			23430
<b>Personalized Learning Program</b>				
Lampkin	All			31430
<b>Freshman Academy</b>				
Nunez	South Campus			37423
Santos	South Campus			37421
Towns	East Campus			36420
<b>Student Assistance Counselors</b>				
Laffey	Main			23443
Roman	PLP			31452
Russo	Freshman			
<b>Non-Traditional School Psychologists</b>				
Nwigwe	Main			23458
Ferrito	PLP			31451

## GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS (130 Credits)

Course	Years Required	# of credits total
<b>English/ ESL</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Mathematics</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Social Studies</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Science</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>World Language</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Physical Education/Health</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Visual and Performing Arts</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>21<sup>st</sup> Century Life and Career Education</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Financial Literacy</b>	<b>1/2 year</b>	<b>2.5</b>
<b>Additional credits needed</b>		<b>24</b>

### ELA and Mathematics Assessment Graduation Requirements

Pathways Available	English Language Arts/Literacy (ELA)	Mathematics
<p><b>First Pathway:</b> Demonstrate proficiency in the high school end-of-course NJSLA/PARCC assessments in ELA-10 and/or Algebra I</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">NJSLA/PARCC ELA Grade 10 <math>\geq</math> 750 (Level 4)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">NJSLA/PARCC Algebra I <math>\geq</math> 750 (Level 4)</p>
<p><b>Second Pathway:</b> Demonstrate proficiency in English language arts and/or mathematics by meeting the designated cut score on one of the alternative assessments</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NJSLA/PARCC ELA Grade 9 <math>\geq</math> 750 (Level 4), <i>or</i></li> <li>• NJSLA/PARCC ELA Grade 11 <math>\geq</math> 725 (Level 3) <i>or</i></li> <li>• SAT Critical Reading (taken before 3/1/16) <math>\geq</math> 400, <i>or</i></li> <li>• SAT Evidence-Based Reading and Writing Section (taken 3/1/16 or later) <math>\geq</math> 450, <i>or</i></li> <li>• SAT Reading Test (taken 3/1/16 or later) <math>\geq</math> 22, <i>or</i></li> <li>• ACT Reading or ACT PLAN Reading<sup>1</sup> <math>\geq</math> 16, <i>or</i></li> <li>• ACCUPLACER WritePlacer <math>\geq</math> 6, <i>or</i></li> <li>• ACCUPLACER WritePlacer ESL <math>\geq</math> 4, <i>or</i></li> <li>• PSAT10 Reading or PSAT/NMSQT Reading (taken before 10/1/15) <math>\geq</math> 40, <i>or</i></li> <li>• PSAT10 Reading or PSAT/NMSQT Reading (taken 10/1/15 or later) <math>\geq</math> 22, <i>or</i></li> <li>• ACT Aspire Reading<sup>1</sup> <math>\geq</math> 422, <i>or</i></li> <li>• ASVAB-AFQT Composite <math>\geq</math> 31</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NJSLA/PARCC Geometry <math>\geq</math> 725 (Level 3), <i>or</i></li> <li>• NJSLA/PARCC Algebra II <math>\geq</math> 725 (Level 3) <i>or</i> SAT Math (taken before 3/1/16) <math>\geq</math> 400, <i>or</i></li> <li>• SAT Math Section (taken 3/1/16 or later) <math>\geq</math> 440, <i>or</i></li> <li>• SAT Math Test (taken 3/1/16 or later) <math>\geq</math> 22, <i>or</i> ACT or ACT PLAN Math<sup>1</sup> <math>\geq</math> 16, <i>or</i></li> <li>• ACCUPLACER Elementary Algebra <math>\geq</math> 76, <i>or</i></li> <li>• Next-Generation ACCUPLACER Quantitative Reasoning, Algebra, and Statistics (QAS) (beginning January 2019)<sup>2</sup> <math>\geq</math> 255, <i>or</i></li> <li>• PSAT10 Math or PSAT/NMSQT Math (taken before 10/1/15) <math>\geq</math> 40, <i>or</i></li> <li>• PSAT10 Math or PSAT/NMSQT Math (taken 10/1/15 or later) <math>\geq</math> 22, <i>or</i></li> <li>• ACT Aspire Math<sup>1</sup> <math>\geq</math> 422, <i>or</i></li> <li>• ASVAB-AFQT Composite <math>\geq</math> 31</li> </ul>
<p><b>Third Pathway:</b> Demonstrate proficiency in English language arts and/or mathematics through Portfolio Appeals</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Meet the criteria of the NJDOE Portfolio Appeal for ELA</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Meet the criteria of the NJDOE Portfolio Appeal for Math</p>

## 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.

<b>Letter Grade</b>	<b>Numerical Equivalent</b>	<b>Unweighted GPA Equivalent</b>	<b>Weighted Honors GPA Equivalent</b>	<b>Weighted AP GPA Equivalent</b>
A+	98-100	4.3	4.8	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	2.8	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 on the student's level of English Language Proficiency. The curriculum for the Bilingual Program parallels the General Program curriculum in all content areas, such as 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](http://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 the SAT Subject Tests do so at the end of their junior year or beginning of their senior year. Students should consult [www.collegeboard.com](http://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 as 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](http://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 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 once per year at no cost to the students.

### **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 students/athletes from all backgrounds have opportunities to participate.

### **Websites:**

[www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org)

[www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org)

[www.ncaa.org](http://www.ncaa.org)

[www.ets.org/toefl](http://www.ets.org/toefl)

[www.official-asvab.com](http://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 College Board that reflect 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 credits. Dual Enrollment courses offered in 2020-21 include Tomorrow's Teachers, the classes in the Biomedical Science sequence, and selected classes in the career academies. 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 English and Mathematics. 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, Advanced Placement and Dual Enrollment courses include, but are not limited to:

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

## SCHEDULING PROCESS

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

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

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

## Schedule Changes

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

- Acceptable considerations for schedule changes:
  - a. An error in the scheduling process
  - b. Assignment to a teacher in whose class student previously failed
  - c. A request in course level changes
  - d. Administrative removal for safety of student or staff
  - e. Any other reason deemed necessary by the school
- Unacceptable reasons for schedule changes:
  - a. Social reasons
  - b. Lunch period preference
  - c. Personality conflicts
  - d. Start time preference
  - e. Teacher preference
  - f. Any other reason deemed unnecessary by the school
- After the start of the school year, schedules may not be changed or courses may not be dropped unless careful review is completed by the counselor. Changing of a schedule or dropping of a course is considered a 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 progress report 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.

## Available Programs

All 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Students in Perth Amboy High School are enrolled in the Freshman Academy, which offers small learning communities for students to receive high levels of support and enrichment opportunities that will help them transition smoothly into the high school setting. Upon completion of freshman year, sophomores have the opportunity to enter into one of three available programs at the high school's Main Campus.



### **Comprehensive High School**

The Comprehensive High School provides a rigorous college preparatory curriculum across all subject areas providing students a wide range of choices in electives and course offerings. Students in the Comprehensive High School have the flexibility to take courses across all disciplines while fulfilling the NJ State Graduation Requirements.

***\*Application required***



### **Communications Academy**

In the Communications Academy, students will learn the foundational principles of communications, including communication process, perception, verbal and nonverbal communication 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 in this academy will be able to choose between the Communications & Media Track and the International Relations & Communications Track.

***\*Application required***



### **Health Sciences Academy**

Students in the Health Sciences Academy will get an introduction to the many careers in the health and medical industry. Students will learn skills that will put them on the path to further study in 2-year or 4-year college programs or employment in the medical field after graduating from high school. Students in this Academy will be able to choose between the Medical Sciences Track and the Sports Medicine & Health Services Track.

***\*Application required***

## **PAHS - Communications Academy**

The Communications Academy is a career-focused learning academy that seeks to develop students' skills to clearly communicate in college and career situations across varied major course of studies and careers in many industries. The academy builds upon the students' interest in broadcasting and journalism, design and visual arts, audio/video production, and international and community relations to better prepare them for their post-secondary education.

Goals of this academy include to:

- 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.
- Develop leaders in the news media, social networking and technology, so Perth Amboy students are at the forefront of emerging communications trends.
- Engage students in issues pertaining to their own community and provide students the tools necessary to effectively advocate on behalf of themselves and others.

Students in this academy will be able to choose between the following areas of study:

- Communications, Information, & Media: Students in this area can pursue a career as a graphic designer, broadcaster, editor, cinematographer, or animator.
- International Communications/Community Relations: Students in this area can pursue a career in foreign service, advertising/marketing, public relations, diplomacy, or translation services.

All interested students are invited to apply for admission to the September 2020 Communications Academy. Applications will be available in February and they will be considered in March. For more information about the academy, students and families should contact Mr. Brian Wilson at [briawilson@paps.net](mailto:briawilson@paps.net). More information is also available in the Freshman Academy.





# COMMUNICATIONS ACADEMY

## REQUIRED THEME COURSES

The Communications Academy offers students a specialized program that will develop their skills to clearly communicate in many college and career situations across varied major courses of study and careers in many industries.

### SOPHOMORE YEAR

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FOUNDATIONS OF PRODUCTION &amp; DESIGN</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• INTRODUCTION TO COMMUNICATIONS</li> </ul> |
|--|--|

### JUNIOR YEAR

 <b>COMMUNICATIONS, INFORMATION &amp; MEDIA</b> REQUIRED THEORY COURSES	 <b>INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS, COMMUNITY RELATIONS</b> REQUIRED THEORY COURSES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• JOURNALISM</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• INTERNATIONAL DIPLOMACY</li> </ul>
<b>REQUIRED PRACTICE COURSES</b> CHOICE OF VIDEO PRODUCTION OR VISUAL DESIGN	

### SENIOR YEAR

 <b>COMMUNICATIONS, INFORMATION &amp; MEDIA</b> REQUIRED THEORY COURSES	 <b>INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS, COMMUNITY RELATIONS</b> REQUIRED THEORY COURSES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ADVANCED VIDEO PRODUCTION</li> <li>• ADVANCED DESIGN</li> <li>• ADVANCED NEWS MEDIA PRODUCTION</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DESIGNING MEDIA FOR A GLOBAL WORLD</li> </ul>
<b>SENIOR CAPSTONE</b>	

## Communications Academy

Classes listed below are offered within the Communications Academy.

### 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.

### Intro to Communications

**Grade 10**

**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.

### International Diplomacy

**Grade 11**

**5 Credits**

**Exclusive to 2<sup>nd</sup> Year Communications Academy Students**

This course will provide students with a framework for studying the complexities of international issues in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. By using a case study approach, this course enables students to deeply investigate how individuals, groups, and societies make decisions and act in response to complex, global issues. By studying multiple perspectives, students will have the opportunity to understand issues through

in-depth inquiry, deliberation of their own positions, engagement with diverse sources of information and technologies, and collaborative and constructive problem-solving activities. Students will be expected to participate in regularly held discussions, debates, and simulations related to international relations.

### Journalism

**Grade 11**

**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.

### Visual Design

**Grade 11**

**5 Credits**

**Exclusive to 2<sup>nd</sup> Year Communications Academy Students**

The Visual Design course in the Communications Academy focuses on how to plan, design, and create multimedia projects. Students will become highly proficient in the use of Adobe Creative Cloud (Photoshop, Illustrator, Animate and InDesign) and will produce many advanced portfolio projects. New project work will include design of a newspaper, corporate identity, advanced film photography, advanced photoshop projects, graphic design, advertising design, and the creation of a digital portfolio (website) displaying all of their work at the end of class. Additional responsibilities of the Visual Design student will include the in-house production of school based printing needs.



These will include, but not be limited to; the production of scholarship ad journals, posters, programs, tickets and other school related printing needs.

### **Video Production**

**Grade 11**

**5 Credits**

*Exclusive to 2<sup>nd</sup> Year Communications Academy Students*

The Video Production course in the Communications Academy focuses on more advanced levels of framing and composition, editing, studio and field production, scriptwriting, directing, live event production and film studies. Students use technology such as DSLR cameras, digital editing with Final Cut Pro, digital computer graphic software, portable lighting, and sound equipment to give them a full technology-based education. This course provides students with a variety of activities that will enable them to understand and appreciate the application and value of video technology and how we use these tools to communicate to an audience. Students will advance their knowledge of the 3-stages of production and the genres of videos. This course culminates in planning, creating, and presenting projects that make use of the techniques learned.

### **Advanced Visual Design**

**Grade 12**

**5 Credits**

*Exclusive to 3<sup>rd</sup> Year Communications Academy Students*

The Advanced Visual Design course in the Communications Academy explores the various movements that shaped today's design world. After studying the art of visual communication in years 1 and 2 of the academy, students will conceptualize projects, process complex information, and motivate an audience through various design projects.

### **Advanced News Media Production**

**Grade 12**

**5 Credits**

*Exclusive to 3<sup>rd</sup> Year Communications Academy Students*

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 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 for the Perth Amboy Local Access Station. *\*This course is project-based and requires students to participate in projects after school and on weekends.*

### **Advanced Video Production**

**Grade 12**

**5 Credits**

*Exclusive to 3<sup>rd</sup> Year Communications Academy Students*

The Advanced Video Production course in the Communications Academy focuses on the study of multiple genres of film and their use of different cinematic techniques; the way filmmakers use these techniques to communicate a story. Students will further develop their production skills learned in the Video Production course to complete a short film of their choice.

**Communications Academy Senior Capstone**  
**Grade 12** **5 Credits**  
*Exclusive to 3rd Year Communications Academy Students*  
*Prerequisites: Journalism or International Diplomacy and Visual Design or Video Production*

In this course, students synthesize what they have learned in the communication theory and practicum coursework through directed projects and service learning opportunities. Students will identify and refine projects or areas of research to complete. Throughout the course, students will be provided feedback from advisors on their projects. These projects may be done individually or in pairs. All projects will be captured in a digital portfolio.

**Designing Media for a Global World**  
**Grade 12** **5 Credits**  
*Exclusive to 3rd Year Communications Academy Students*  
*Prerequisites: International Diplomacy*

This course builds on and extends the knowledge of international relations and communication acquired in International Diplomacy. Undergirded by a respect for cultural diversity and a focus on developing story-telling skills, this course encourages students to engage in advanced study of "public" diplomacy: communication oriented toward building public awareness and support for an important cause such as human rights, immigration, or the environment. It also examines how social activists use media technologies to organize themselves and communicate their messages to wide audiences in order to achieve social change.

## **PAHS – Health Sciences Academy**

Students in the Health Sciences Academy will get an introduction to the many careers in the health and medical industry. Students will learn skills that will put them on the path to further study in 2-year or 4-year college programs or employment in the medical field after graduating from high school.

Goals of the Health Sciences Academy include to:

- Provide students with the foundational knowledge related to the health and medical field, including career options and skill-based learning.
- Apply health and medical topics to their learning in all content areas.
- Offer dual-enrollment courses where students build a college resume, while earning High School credits for graduation.
- Gain experience by applying their course learning in authentic medical settings in the community.
- Provide opportunities for students to earn medical certifications that enrich a college or employment resume.

Students in this Academy will be able to choose between the following areas of study:

- **Medical Sciences:** Students in this area can pursue a medical career in a traditional setting, such as a medical office or hospital. Future career options could include doctor, nurse, medical assistant, emergency medical technician, medical biller/coder, medical translator, or medical transcriptionist.
- **Sports Medicine & Health Services:** Students in this area can pursue a career in the many supporting areas of medical study that involve patient care. Future career options could include physical therapist, occupational therapist, dietician, athletic trainer, personal trainer, pharmacy technician, medication aide, radiologic technician, or home health aide.

All interested students are invited to apply for admission to the September 2020 Health Sciences Academy. Applications will be available in February and they will be considered in March. For more information about the Academy, students and families should contact Dr. Clyde Griffith at [cgriffith@paps.net](mailto:cgriffith@paps.net). More information will also be available in the 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Program.





PERTH AMBOY HIGH SCHOOL

# HEALTH SCIENCES ACADEMY

## HEALTH SCIENCES ACADEMY REQUIRED THEME COURSES

### SOPHOMORE YEAR

**DYNAMICS OF HEALTH CARE**

### JUNIOR YEAR

 <b>MEDICAL SCIENCE TRACK</b> REQUIRED COURSES	 <b>SPORTS MEDICINE &amp; HEALTH SERVICES TRACK</b> REQUIRED COURSES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>ANATOMY &amp; PHYSIOLOGY I</b> (RUTGERS SEMESTER COURSE; 10 PERIODS/WEEKS)</li> <li><b>ANATOMY &amp; PHYSIOLOGY II</b> (RUTGERS SEMESTER COURSE; 10 PERIODS/WEEKS)</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>OR</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>PUBLIC HEALTH</b> (SEMESTER, 10 PERIODS/WEEKS)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>FUNCTIONAL ANATOMY &amp; PHYSIOLOGY*</b> (5 PERIODS/WEEK, FULL YEAR)</li> <li><b>SPORTS MEDICINE I*</b> (5 PERIODS/WEEK, FULL YEAR)</li> </ul>

[WWW.PAPS.NET](http://WWW.PAPS.NET)

## Health Sciences Academy

By choosing these elective courses, students gain invaluable insight into health-related occupations. These courses should be taken in grades 10-12 with the core science sequence; students should take their core biology course in grade 10, followed by their core chemistry course. ***These courses do not satisfy the NJ science requirement.***

### Dynamics of Healthcare

Grade 10

5 Credits

***Prerequisite: Acceptance to Health Sciences Academy This course should be taken concurrently with Biology.***

This course provides an orientation to health care services and their delivery. In addition to learning about various health careers, this course includes historical and current trends in healthcare and legal and ethical considerations. Students also learn basic skills related to patient diagnosis and treatment. Students begin to develop the professional competence of healthcare providers, as well as becoming informed consumers. This course is a required sophomore course for students in the Health Sciences Academy. Possible dual-enrollment course.

### Medical Terminology and Anatomy & Physiology II

Grade 12

7 Credits

***Prerequisites: Dynamics of HealthCare***

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.

### Anatomy & Physiology I

Grade 11

5 credits

***Prerequisites: Dynamics of HealthCare***

Anatomy and Physiology is the study of the structure and function of the human body. This course follows a sequential development of the major body systems in an organized and structured curriculum. The course is designed to give the students a selective overview of human anatomical structure and an analysis of human physiological principles. It focuses on the following body systems: integumentary, skeletal, muscular, nervous, and special senses. This course is the required junior semester course for students in the Medical Sciences track of the Health Sciences Academy. Possible dual-enrollment course.

### Anatomy & Physiology II

Grades 11-12

5 Credits

***Prerequisites: 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. It focuses on the following body systems: endocrine, lymphatic, blood, cardiovascular, respiratory, digestive, urinary, and reproductive systems. This course is an elective semester course for students in the Medical Sciences track of the Health Sciences Academy. Possible dual-enrollment course.

**Public Health**  
**Grades 11-12**

**5 Credits**

Public health involves protecting and improving the health of people and their communities. Public health professionals try to prevent health problems from happening by implementing educational programs, recommending policies, administering services and conducting research. This course focuses on analyzing current health topics that affect various populations throughout the world. Example topics include addiction, infectious disease, mental health, obesity, and nutrition. This course is an elective semester course for students in the Health Sciences Academy.

**Functional Anatomy & Physiology**  
**Grade 11**

**5 Credits**

***Co-requisite: Sports Medicine I***

Functional Anatomy & Physiology discusses types of body tissue, skeletal system, muscular system,

and the nervous system, and how they relate to fundamental anatomical analysis of human movement and performance outcomes. This course is a required junior course for students in the Sports Medicine track of the Health Sciences Academy.

**Sports Medicine I**

**Grade 11**

**5 Credits**

***Prerequisite: Dynamics of Healthcare***

This course provides a general overview of athletic training, sports medicine and its history. It extends topics from Dynamics of HealthCare and applies them to managing sports injuries. It includes the concept of sports injury, the sports health care team, laws of sport injury, injury prevention, psychology of sport injury, and sports nutrition. It is a required junior course for students in the Sports Medicine track of the Health Sciences Academy.

## 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 2019, a total of **171 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-4S 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 College Prep

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 freshman students to different genres in literature (novels, plays, poetry, and memoirs) and nonfiction that will foster critical thinking and analytical skills. Students will delve deeply into 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 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 the student's success in Honors classes.

#### English II College Prep

Grade 10

5 Credits

*Prerequisite: English I CP*

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 fiction and nonfiction texts and be able to effectively synthesize information from the various texts to support their opinions in various types of writing.

#### English II Honors

Grade 10

5 Credits

*Prerequisite: English I CP. Please refer back to the "Criteria for Honors and & AP Courses."*

English II Honors adds to the rigor of English II 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 the student's success in honors classes.

#### English III College Prep

Grade 11

5 Credits

*Prerequisite: English I and II CP*

English III is a full-year, five-credit course offered in the third year of high school that is designed to predominantly 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 fiction and nonfiction 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 CP. Please refer back to the “Criteria for Honors and & AP Courses.”*

English III Honors adds to the rigor of English III 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 the student’s success in honors classes.

**English IV College Prep  
Grade 12**

**5 Credits**

*Prerequisite: English I, II, and III CP.*

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 fiction and nonfiction texts and be able to effectively synthesize information from the various texts to support their opinions in various types of writing that prepares them to transition to post-secondary educational programs.

**English IV Honors  
Grade 12**

**5 Credits**

*Prerequisite: English I, II, and III CP. Please refer back to the “Criteria for Honors and & AP Courses.”*

English IV Honors adds to the rigor of English IV College Prep 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 the student’s success in honors classes.

**AP Literature and Composition  
Grades 11-12**

**5 Credits**

*Prerequisite: English I and II CP. 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, II and III CP. 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 a 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

**Grades 9**

**2.5 Credits**

***Prerequisite: English 8 / Teacher Recommendation***

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.

### Young Adult Literature II

**Grade 10**

**5 Credits**

***Prerequisite: English 1 CP / Teacher Recommendation***

Young Adult Literature II is a class that focuses on strengthening literary analysis skills and reading strategies using Young Adult Literature (YA). Literature studied in this class have characters, themes and conflicts that all high school students will find relatable. The genres of mystery, adventure, sports and humor as well as genres addressed in YA I will be explored. By the end of this course, students will build an appreciation for reading and the skills to navigate more complex text.

### Literacy Extensions I

**Grade 9**

**5 Credits**

Literacy Extensions I 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 CP as a means to enhance each student's skills 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 II is a full-year, 5-credit elective taken during the second year of high school. The course is paired with English II CP as a means to enhance each student's skills 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.

### Creative Writing

**Grades 10-12**

**2.5 Credits**

***Prerequisite: English I CP***

Creative Writing is an elective course 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 CP***

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 CP*

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 9-12**

**2.5 Credits**

*Prerequisite: English 8*

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 CP*

Science fiction 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, and a shift in nature.

## **College Reading and Writing Investigations**

**Grade 9**

**5 Credits**

*Prerequisite: English 8*

College Reading and Writing Investigations is designed to help balance students' personal voice in various modes of discourse such as narratives, arguments, critical essays, short stories, research synthesis and literary analyses. The skills from English I CP are reinforced through inquiry, applied research, book clubs, literature circles and Socratic Seminars.

## **College Research and Writing**

**Grades 10 - 12**

**5 Credits**

*Prerequisite: English I CP*

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.

## **Math/Language Arts Test Skills**

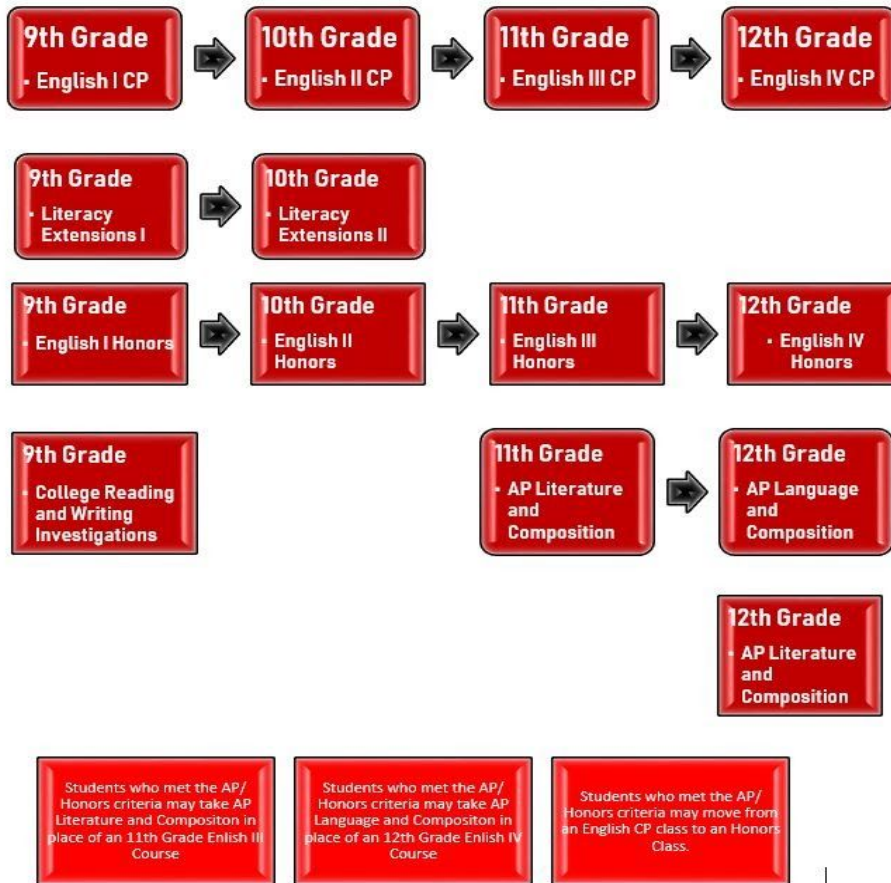
**Grade 12**

**2.5 Credits**

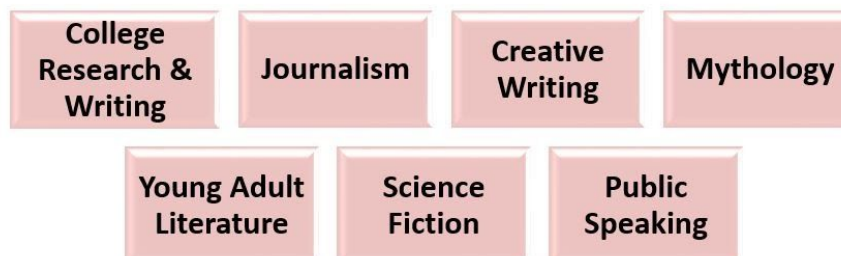
This course will provide a thorough preparation for testing in both English and mathematics content areas. It will cover content and skills needed to be successful on standardized tests that fulfill the New Jersey testing graduation requirement. Students will deconstruct the test in order to learn to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

# English Department

## *Typical Course Sequence*



## *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.

#### Literacy Extensions for ELs I-IV

**Grades 9 - 12**

**5 Credits**

Literacy Extensions for ELs is a full-year, 5-credit, elective that is paired with ESL level 3 and 4 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.

**Note: ELs in levels I and II may take Spanish Lit. I and ELs in levels III and IV may take Spanish Lit. II as an elective. This will facilitate exposure in Spanish of novels read in general ELA classes.**

## 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 non mathematical 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 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 trigonometric functions and their applications in the right triangle.

## **Algebra II**

**Grades 10-12**

**5 Credits**

*Prerequisite: Algebra I or Algebra IB, Geometry*

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, Geometry (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: Geometry, 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.

## **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 Geometry 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.

## **Math Electives**

### **Fundamentals of Personal Finance**

**Grades 10 – 12**

**5 Credits**

**Prerequisite:** *Child Study Team Recommendation*

The Fundamentals of Personal Finance course will assist special education students in learning how to manage everyday personal finances and develop the skills needed for independent living. Students will learn how to manage a personal budget and shop as a smart consumer. This course will give students a depth of knowledge of how to manage personal finances.

### **Intro to Statistics**

**Grades 11 – 12**

**5 Credits**

**Prerequisite:** *Algebra I*

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: Algebra I*

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).

## **AP Computer Science Principles**

**Grade 12**

**5 Credits**

*Prerequisite: Algebra 1 and Intro to Computer Science or Digital Literacy*

AP Computer Science Principles course is designed to be equivalent to a first semester introductory college computing course. The course offers a multidisciplinary approach to learning the underlying principles of computation. The course will introduce students to the "big ideas" of computer science: creativity, programming, abstraction, algorithms, large data sets, the Internet, cybersecurity concerns, and the global impact of computing. The course will give students the opportunity to use technology to address real-world problems and build relevant solutions, while inviting students to understand how computing changes the world. Rather than focusing on a particular programming language or tool, the course focuses on using technology and programming as a means to solve computational problems and create exciting and personally relevant artifacts. Students will also develop effective communication and collaboration skills, working individually and collaboratively to solve problems, and discussing and writing about the importance of these problems and the impacts to their community, society, and the world.

## **AP Statistics**

**Grade 12**

**5 Credits**

*Prerequisite: Intro to Statistics*

The AP Statistics course introduces students to the major concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing, and drawing conclusions from data. There are four

themes evident in the content, skills, and assessment in the AP Statistics course: exploring data, sampling and experimentation, probability and simulation, and statistical inference. Students use technology, investigations, problem solving, and writing as they build conceptual understanding.

## **Math/Language Arts Test Skills**

**Grade 12**

**2.5 Credits**

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

## **Consumer Math**

**Grade 12**

**2.5 Credits**

Consumer Math is a high school level course. This course is designed to teach students everyday math skills such as balancing a checkbook, creating a budget, buying a car or home, personal record keeping and paying taxes. Additional topics include grocery shopping, home care, and investments. The goal of a Consumer Math course is to enable students to make educated decisions on matters of personal finance.

## **Algebra 1 Connections**

**Grade 9**

**5 Credits**

Algebra 1 Connections is a full year, 5-credit elective taken during the first year of high school. The course is paired with Algebra 1 and is designed to help students improve skills necessary for Algebra 1. In this course, students will expand on prior knowledge from their Pre-Algebra course to help develop number sense and problem solving strategies necessary for Algebra 1. Students will be making connections, discovering relationships, figuring out what strategies can be used to solve problems, and explain their thinking. The topics that will be covered will include, but are not limited to,

operations with decimals and fractions, and solving and graphing equations and functions.

### **Mathematical Foundations of Communications**

**Grade 11-12**

**5 Credits**

***Exclusive to 3<sup>rd</sup> Year Communications Academy Students only***

This course will investigate applications of mathematics in contexts which are relevant to the Communication Academy. Topics include but are not limited to: mathematics of voting (when there are 3 or more candidates in an election, how do you decide who should win, and how can we define suitable notions of "fair" and "unfair" outcomes?), weighted voting systems (how much power does each party really have in a parliamentary system, or each nation on the UN Security council, or each state in the US electoral college?), the mathematics of apportionment (how many congressional seats each state entitled to, and what mathematical difficulties can result from apportioning them?), and the mathematics of a viral event on social media. This class will also teach the use and interpretation of digital analytics as well as the use of research design, methodology, and basic statistics for digital sites and apps.

### **Geometry Connections**

**Grade 10**

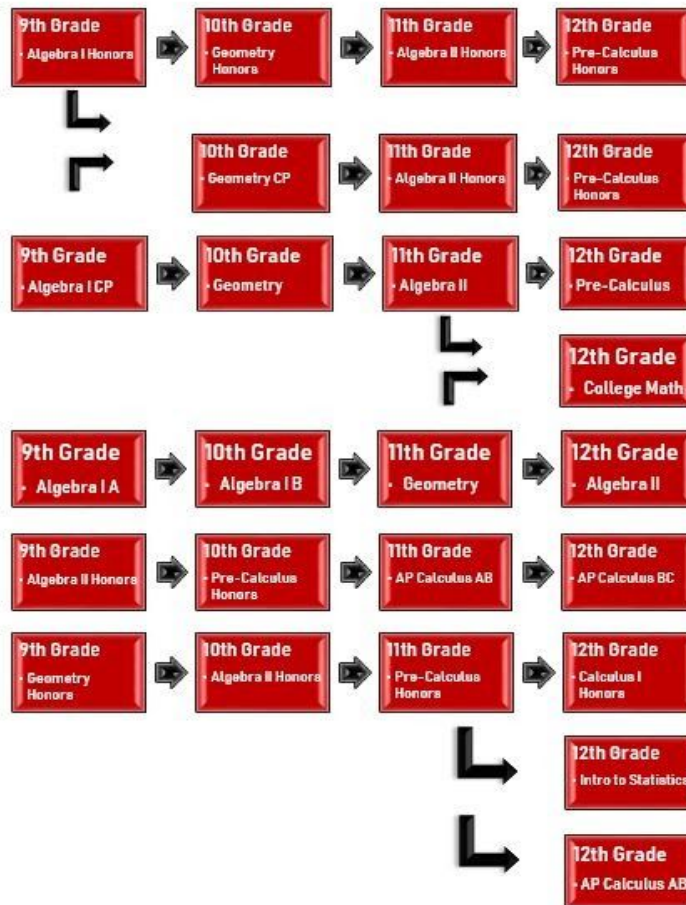
**5 Credits**

Geometry Connections is a full year, 5-credit elective taken during the second year of high school. The course is paired with Geometry and provides an in-depth analysis of plane, solid, and coordinate geometry as they relate to both abstract mathematical concepts as well as real-world problem situations. Geometry Connections stresses the ability to reason logically and to think critically. Emphasis will be placed on developing critical thinking skills as they relate to logical reasoning

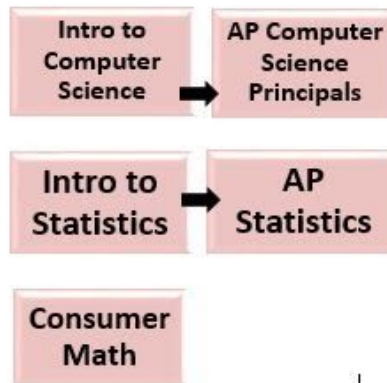
and argument. This course will additionally tie Geometry skills in with Algebra 1 skills and reinforce them. Students will be recommended to this course based on need for more mastery of Algebra 1. The course will begin with a heavy focus on Algebra Learning Modules, then shift to more focus on Geometry skills as the year continues.

# Math Department

## *Typical Course Sequences*



## *Math Electives*



## Science Department

Students must pass Biology, plus two of the following: Physics, Chemistry, Earth-Space Science, or Environmental Science.

### Physics

**Grade 9 - 12**

**6 Credits**

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 - 12**

**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 periodic 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 9 – 11**

**6 Credits**

In this course students build an understanding of modern biology on the foundation of their prior science learning. 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*

This elective 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.

### **Environmental Science**

**Grades 9 – 12**

**6 Credits**

The goal of this course is to provide students with the scientific principles, concepts, and methodologies to understand the interrelationships of the natural world, identify and analyze environmental problems, both natural and human-made, 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 the equivalent of a general chemistry course taken during the first year of college. It is structured around the big ideas articulated in the AP Chemistry curriculum framework provided by the College Board. An emphasis is placed on science practices performed during hands-on laboratory activities, which capture important aspects of the work of scientists. Each topic includes rigorous mathematical problem solving.

### **AP Physics I**

**Grades 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**

**Grades 11-12**

**7 Credits**

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

This course provides 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, 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.

### **Earth-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. Students then study the Earth's hydrosphere, atmosphere, geosphere, and biosphere.

### **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.

**Introduction to Robotics, Design, and Solutions**  
**Grades 9 - 12** **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 design, build, and program robotic systems. Students also investigate technical careers.

**Robotics**  
**Grades 10 – 12** **5 Credits**

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.

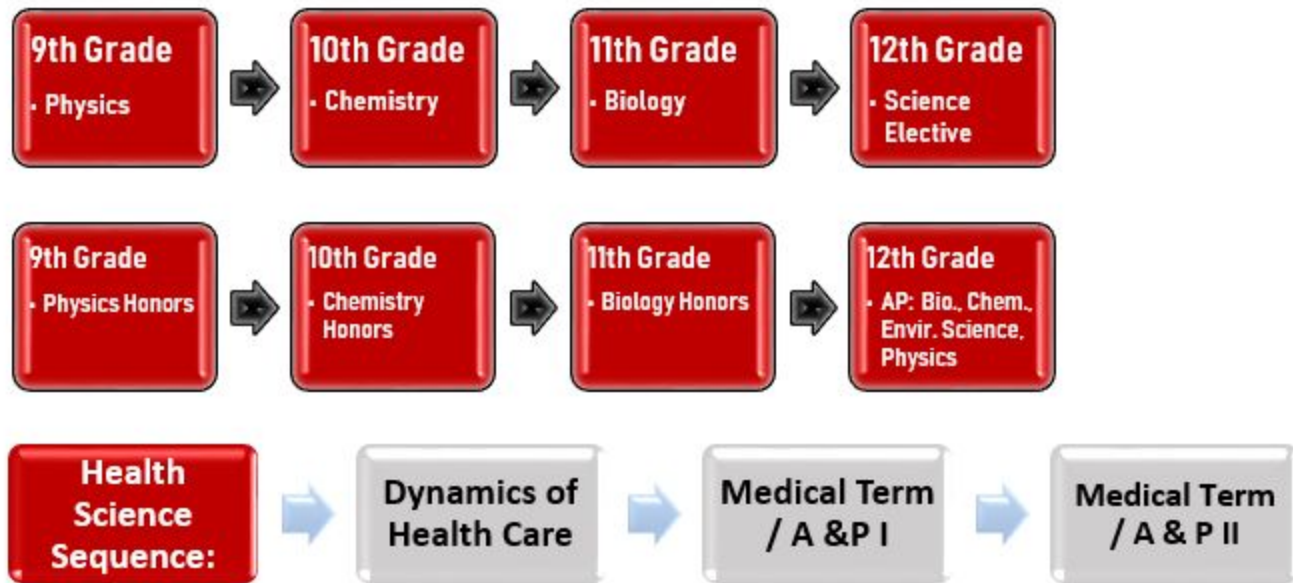
**The Science of Cooking**  
**Grades 10 – 12** **5 Credits**

***Prerequisite: Child Study Team Recommendation***

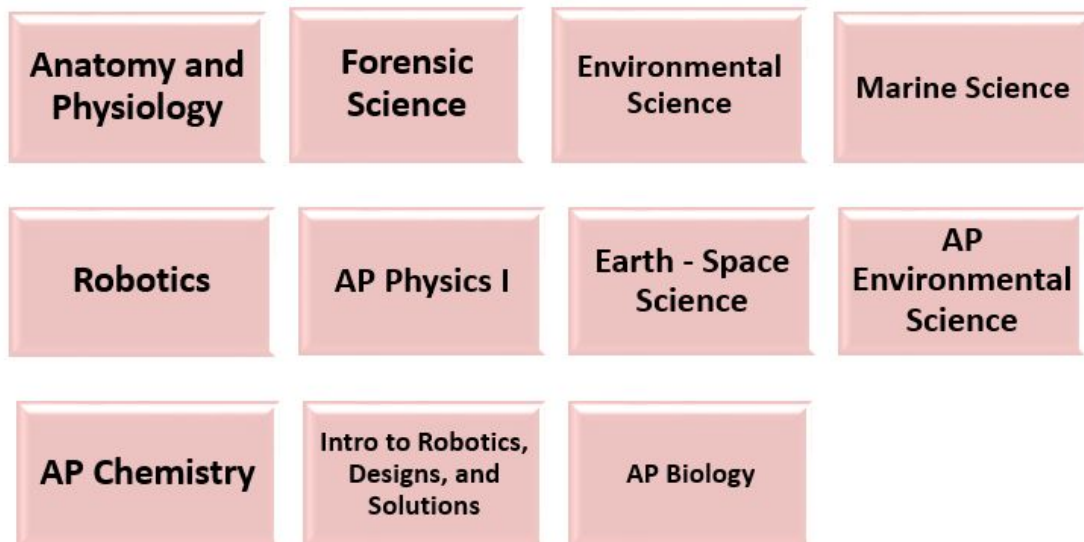
The Science of Cooking course will assist special education students in learning about nutrition and food preparation for independent living. Students will participate in a variety of activities including healthy meal planning, food shopping on a budget, and simple meal preparation through laboratory experiences. The students will also have opportunities to purchase ingredients and supplies needed for food preparation in the community. This course will give students a depth of knowledge of the skills required to cook for everyday living.

# Science Department

## *Typical Course Sequences*



## *Science Electives*



## Social Studies Department

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

### Core Social Studies Classes

#### U.S. History I College Prep

Grade 9

5 Credits

This course examines the major turning points in American history beginning with the events leading to the American Revolution, origins of the US Constitution, reform movements, Manifest Destiny, Civil War and Reconstruction, impact of the Western Frontier, evolution of business and the 1920's era.

#### U.S. History I Honors

Grade 9

5 Credits

This class is designed as a survey course beginning with the origins of the US Constitution, the Washington administration and spanning to Twentieth Century America. This course provides students with a framework for studying political, social, economic, and cultural issues while analyzing the impact these issues have had on American society. This course demands greater independence and responsibility on the part of the student while developing higher level thinking skills.

#### U.S. History II College Prep

Grade 10

5 Credits

Beginning with the Great Depression, students examine American History and influence during 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 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, beginning with the impact of the Great Depression, America's role during World War II and continuing to explore the

growth of the United States as a world power, the Cold War and the struggle to achieve class, ethnic, racial, and gender equality. United States History II Honors provides students with a framework for studying political, social, economic, and cultural issues while analyzing the impact these issues have had on American society. This course demands greater independence and responsibility on the part of the student 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 academic 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: Identity, Work/Exchange/Technology, Peopling, Politics & Power, America in the World, Environment & Geography (Physical and Human), Ideas/Beliefs/& Culture.

#### World History

Grade 11

#### College Prep

5 Credits

World History is a year-long course that begins with the study of the Renaissance and continues through modern day history. Among topics covered during this time period are: the Renaissance, Reformation, Exploration, the French Revolution, the Industrial Revolution, World War I, World War II, and contemporary world history. Students will be able to understand, analyze and evaluate events



from these eras as they evolved and influenced global response. Students will ultimately be able to relate these events to their own experiences and the modern world.

**World History Honors**  
**Grade 11** **5 Credits**  
*Prerequisite: US History II with a grade of 85% or higher & teacher recommendation*

World History Honors 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 and range to explore all aspects of the human experience: economics, science, religion, philosophy, politics & law, military conflict, and 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.

**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 management, 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 Art History** **5 credits**  
*Prerequisite: History core class with a grade of 85% or higher & teacher recommendation*

AP Art History is an introductory college-level art history course. Students cultivate their understanding of art history through analyzing works of art and placing them in historical context as they explore concepts like culture and cultural interactions, theories and interpretations of art, the impact of materials, processes, and techniques on art and art making, and understanding the purpose and audience in art historical analysis.

**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.

## **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, while investigating 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, demonstrate an understanding of historical chronology, 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). Students will effectively use analytical tools for evaluation, to understand cause/effect and compare/contrast while preparing for success on the AP World History Exam.

## **African American History**

**Grades 10 – 12**

**5 Credits**

This course examines the continent of Africa and its diaspora 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. 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.

## **Citizenship and Community**

**Grades 10 – 12**

**5 Credits**

*Prerequisite: Child Study Team Recommendation*

The Citizenship and Community course will assist special education students learn the basics of American government and explore the local community. Students will participate in a variety of activities that include researching laws that have impacted people with disabilities and conduct an in depth review of an Individualized Education Plan. Students will participate in community exploration, engage in volunteer opportunities, and learn how to access local resources. This course will give students a depth of knowledge concerning many aspects of their community and how to access resources for post secondary living.

## **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 program helps 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.

**History of Jazz****Grades 10 – 12****5 Credits**

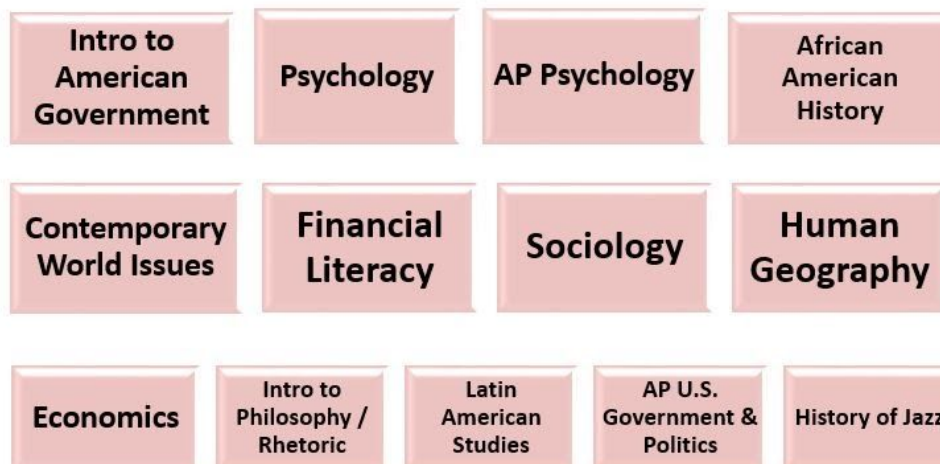
This course is an exploration of the history of jazz with an examination of its roots, important genres and styles, historic recordings, key figures, and related materials.

# Social Studies Department

## *Typical Course Sequences*



## *Social Studies Electives*



## World Language Department

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

### **French I** **Grades 9 – 12**

**5 Credits**

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

### **French II** **Grades 10 – 12**

**5 Credits**

**Prerequisite: French I**

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

### **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, and 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.

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**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 people is provided by texts, slides, films, and recordings.

**Spanish II**  
**Grades 9 – 12** **5 Credits**  
*Prerequisite: Spanish I*

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

**Spanish III**  
**Grades 10 – 12** **5 Credits**  
*Prerequisite: Spanish II*

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

**Spanish IV**  
**Grades 11 – 12** **5 Credits**  
*Prerequisite: Spanish III*

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

**AP Spanish Language & Culture**  
**Grades 11 – 12** **5 Credits**  
*Prerequisite: Spanish IV, Spanish Lit II, or 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.

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**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,

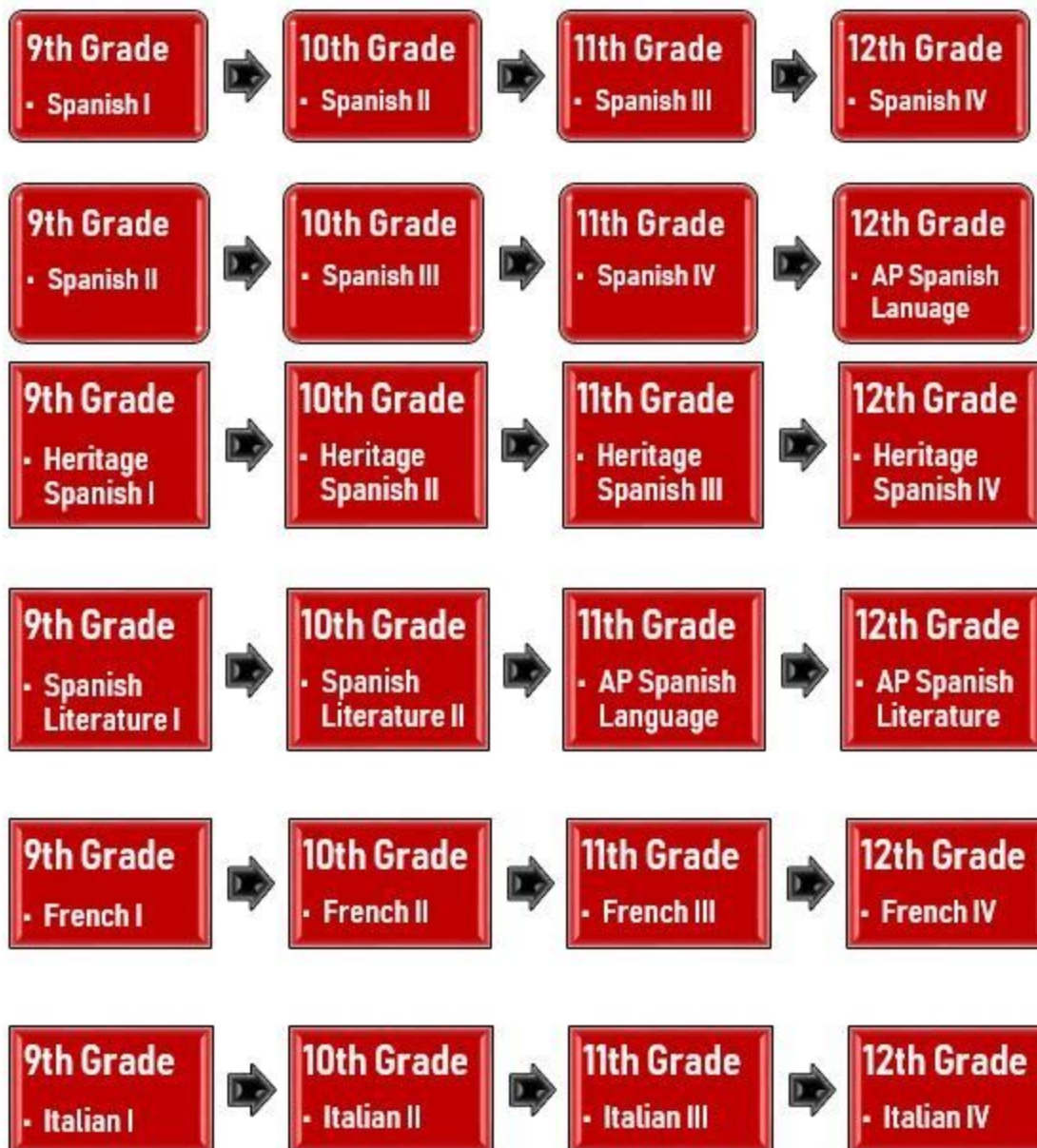
imagery, symbolism, and tone. Writing assignments include expository, analytical, and argumentative essays that require students to analyze and interpret literary works. All reading, writing and discourse will take place in Spanish.

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

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*





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## 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. 10<sup>th</sup> grade students will receive driver's education in place of health. NJROTC classes may be taken in lieu of physical education. Teen Pep can be taken in lieu of Health / Physical Education for gr.12.

### **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**

**5 Credits**

***Prerequisite: Student selection is based upon application only.***

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 skills. This will enable them to conduct educational workshops with younger students and adults about important issues facing teens today.

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## 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 / Teacher Recommendation*

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 // Teacher Recommendation*

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 / Teacher Recommendation*

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

#### Introduction to Dance

**Grades 9 – 12**

**5 Credits**

*Prerequisite: None*

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*

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: Advanced Dance Company I / Teacher Recommendation*

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

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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. This course covers advanced levels of: terminology, technique, Ballet, Jazz, Modern, Tap, improvisation, choreography, peer feedback and analysis, and performance and career preparation.

### **Introduction to Music**

**Grades 9 – 12**

**5 Credits**

*Prerequisite: None*

Introduction to Music is designed to increase students' musical awareness and give them the tools to actively listen to, discuss, and critique various styles of music. Students will also receive a basic introduction to music literacy and apply these skills by performing on various instruments such as African Drums, Marimbas, and bells.

### **Music Theory**

**Grades 10 – 12**

**5 Credits**

*Prerequisite: None*

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**

*Prerequisite: None*

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 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade. After school rehearsals may be expected and occasional evening concerts are required.

### **Voice Studio**

**Grades 11 – 12**

**5 Credits**

*Prerequisite: Instructor Audition, 11<sup>th</sup>/12<sup>th</sup> 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: 2 years of high school music with a grade of 85% 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.

### **Concert Band**

**Grades 9 – 12**

**5 Credits**

*Prerequisite: None*

In Concert 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.

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**Wind Ensemble****Grades 10 – 12****5 Credits*****Prerequisite: Concert Band***

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

**Keyboarding I****Grades 9 – 12****5 Credits*****Prerequisite: None***

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.

**Concert Keyboarding****Grades 11 – 12****5 Credits*****Prerequisite: Keyboarding II***

The third level of piano study is designed to 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 auditions.

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## Visual Arts

### Foundations of Art Grades 9 – 12

5 Credits

**Prerequisite: None**

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

Grades 10 – 12

5 Credits

**Prerequisite: Foundations of Art**

This class offers a new perspective on art, using all 3 dimensions. 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 & Painting 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. This course also studies the fundamentals of painting including techniques and materials. Both drawing and painting skills are emphasized while exploring a variety of different painting media.

### Drawing & Painting II

Grades 11-12

5 Credits

**Prerequisite: Drawing & Painting I**

Designed for students who would like to move their drawing and painting 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. Various painting mediums and techniques will also be explored.

### AP Art History

5 credits

**Prerequisite: History core class with a grade of 85% or higher & teacher recommendation**

AP Art History is an introductory college-level art history course. Students cultivate their understanding of art history through analyzing works of art and placing them in historical context as they explore concepts like culture and cultural interactions, theories and interpretations of art, the impact of materials, processes, and techniques on art and art making, and understanding the purpose and audience in art historical analysis.

### AP Studio Art

Grade 12

5 Credits

**Prerequisite: 2 years of high school art with a grade of 85% or higher & teacher recommendation**

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.

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**Computer Animation I**  
**Grades 10 – 12** **5 Credits**

*Prerequisite: Foundations of Art*

In this course students will learn the fundamentals of cartooning and animation. They will learn how to develop cartoon characters and backgrounds, and to make their creations move, walk and turn around. In the second half of the year students will develop storyboards and scripts and create short animated films.

**Digital Art I**  
**Grades 10 – 12** **5 Credits**

*Prerequisite: Foundations of Art*

This course provides students with the knowledge and techniques that will be used throughout their high school years and beyond to present ideas using digital media. Students will learn about the principles of design, color theory, photography and typography, and employ creative and critical thinking skills to solve real world design problems. Activities include: Digital drawing and painting, creating animated GIFs, photo editing and retouching, photo manipulation and collage, product design, poster and greeting card design, logo design, resume design, travel and event brochure design and more. Students will use software such as Adobe Photoshop, In-Design and Illustrator to create graphics.

**Digital Art II**  
**Grades 11 – 12** **5 Credits**

*Prerequisite: Digital Art I or Computer Animation I*

Students will continue their education in Digital Art by using industry programs such as Photoshop, In-Design and Illustrator. Students will get a 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**

*Prerequisite: None*

Students in the Photography course will learn about composition and lighting basics. They will produce

portraits, landscapes, abstract/experimental and studio photography.

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

*Prerequisite: None*

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 Journalism**  
**Grades 11 – 12** **5 Credits**

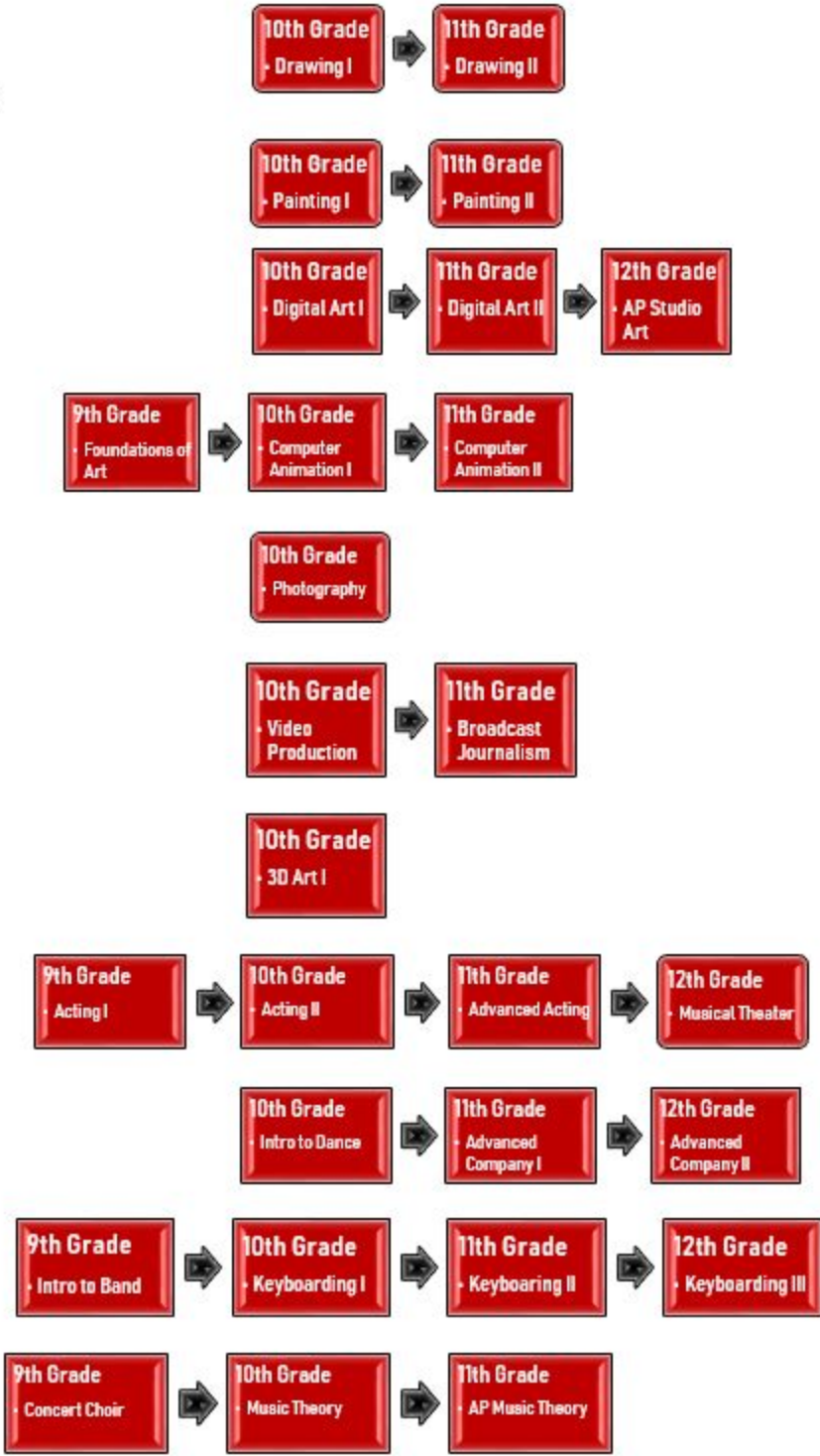
*Prerequisite: TV Production Foundations*

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.*

# Visual & Performing Arts Department

## *Typical Course Sequences*



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

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## 21<sup>st</sup> Century Life & Careers Department

All 5 credit classes satisfy the 21<sup>st</sup> century life and careers elective requirement.

### Digital Literacy

Grades 9 – 12

5 Credits

Digital Literacy is a year-long course meant to prepare students for 21<sup>st</sup> 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

15 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 Skills (I, II, III, and IV)

Grades 9-12

5 credits (each section)

The Transition Skills course will assist special education students in developing the skills needed for post-secondary education, competitive employment, and independent living. This is accomplished through classroom lessons, Community Based Instruction and Structured Learning Experience opportunities. The Transition Skills II, III, and IV courses provides prevocational experiences that introduce students to the needs and expectations of the world of work. It is also an important part of the transition process to post-secondary and vocational opportunities after high school.

### Culinary Arts I

Grades 11 – 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



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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.

**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 powertrain 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 Reasoning Test, and SAT Subject Tests.

**College & Career Seminar**

**Grade 12**

**2.5 Credits**

College and Career Seminar is an interdisciplinary curriculum that engages students in an interactive learning process that helps them in developing the knowledge, skills, and attitudes needed to successfully examine their own lives, explore and evaluate a wide range of education and career options, and make reasoned and researched goals for their future. Students receive coaching and instruction in planning for post-secondary endeavors, including college applications, career exploration, and awareness of military opportunities.

**Accounting**

**Grades 10 – 12**

**5 Credits**

This course provides instruction in the basic understanding and skills necessary to record the operations of a proprietorship and partnership type of ownership and includes: an analysis of crediting / debiting, journalizing, posting to general / subsidiary ledgers, preparing a worksheet and financial statements, maintaining a cash control system, preparing a payroll, and applying theory

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through working on manual and automated projects and practice sets.

**Business Law**  
**Grades 10 – 12**

**5 Credits**

Students will explore the legal aspects of contemporary business practice. Historical

perspectives will demonstrate how modern legal practices have evolved as a result of constantly changing needs of society. Consumer law and advocacy will be focused on through mock student simulations.

## **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 21<sup>st</sup> 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 <sup>th</sup> – Yr. _____		10 <sup>th</sup> – Yr. _____		11 <sup>th</sup> – Yr. _____		12 <sup>th</sup> – Yr. _____	
English 1	5	English 2	5	English 3	5	English 4	5
US History 1		US History 2	5	World History	5		
(Science)		(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 _____	

