

# SUGAR VALLEY

RURAL CHARTER SCHOOL



2024-2025

Course Description Manual

This handbook includes general information and course descriptions that outline the curriculum offerings at Sugar Valley Rural Charter School. Use it as a guide, along with the help and advice of your counselors, teachers, and family, to plan an appropriate program of studies for the coming year.

## Graduation Requirements

Students must compile a minimum of 26 (27 beginning with the class of 2027) credits in order to graduate from SVRCS.  
These credits are acquired in Grades 9 through 12.

Courses required by the Sugar Valley Rural Charter School are as follows:

	Classes of 2024 and 2025	Class of 2026	Classes of 2027 and after
English Language Arts	4cr	4cr	4cr
Mathematics	4cr	4cr	4cr
Science	4cr	4cr	4cr
Social Studies	4cr	4cr	4cr
Wellness (must include Health 11)	2cr	2cr	2cr
Art and Music (minimum 1cr each Art and Music)	4cr	4cr	4cr
Career Readiness	0.5cr	0.5cr	0.5cr
Computer Education	Suggested 0.5cr	Suggested 0.5cr	Suggested 0.5cr
Personal Finance	Suggested	0.5cr	0.5cr
Electives	3.5	2.5	3.5
<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>

All students must complete a Graduation Portfolio.

Additionally, students must meet all current requirements put in place by the Pennsylvania Department of Education for their graduating class.

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# Grading Scale

Letter grades are assigned based upon the scale below. A 70% is the minimum passing score.

A = 93-100

B = 86-92

C = 78-85

D = 70-77

F = 0-69

## Graduation Portfolio Project

All students must complete a Graduation Portfolio Project to receive their diploma. Full details on this project will be covered in the Career Readiness that all 11<sup>th</sup> students are required to take.

## Commonwealth Requirements

[Act 158 of 2018](#) (Act 158), signed into law by Governor Tom Wolf on October 24, 2018, provides alternatives to Pennsylvania's statewide requirement of attaining proficiency on the three end-of-course Keystone Exams (Algebra I, Literature, and Biology) for a student to achieve statewide graduation requirements.

Effective with the graduating class of 2023, students have the option to demonstrate postsecondary preparedness through one of four additional pathways that more fully illustrate college, career, and community readiness. Keystone Exams will continue as the statewide assessment Pennsylvania uses to comply with accountability requirements set forth in the federal Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). Although students will no longer be required to achieve proficiency on the Keystone Exams to meet the statewide graduation requirement, **students must take the Keystone Exams for purposes of federal accountability**. Failure to do so will affect a Local Education Agency (LEA) and school's participation rate.

# Recommended Course Sequences

The table below shows the recommended course sequence in order to meet the graduation requirements. For further details, consult the Course Selection handbook or speak with the course instructor.

Grade Level	History/ Social Studies (4 Cr Required)	Mathematics (4 Cr Required)	English/ Language Arts (4 Cr Required)	Science (4 Cr Required)
Ninth Grade	US Hist II/Civics	Algebra 1/Geometry*	English 9	Biology
Tenth Grade	US Hist II/Civics	Geometry*/ Algebra 2*	English 10*/Honors English 10*	Choice See Recommended Science Courses and Sequences Chart
Eleventh Grade	World History II	Algebra 2*/ Trigonometry*	English 11*/Honors English 11*	
Twelfth Grade	US History III/Peace, War & Terrorism/ Psychology*/ AP US History*/AP Government*	Probability & Statistics/ Trigonometry*/ Calculus*	English 12*/ AP English*	

The table below lists recommended Science classes that a student is required to take in order to fulfill their graduation requirements. For further details, consult the Course Description handbook or speak with the course instructor.

## Recommended Science Courses and Sequences

	<b>Health Science</b> (Doctor, Nurse, Veterinarian, Occupational Therapist, Physical Therapist)	<b>Agriculture</b> (Agronomist, Farm Hand, Agricultural Manager, Horticulturist, Crop Manager)	<b>Environmental</b> (Environmental Scientist, Wildlife or Marine Biologist, Game Commissioner)	<b>Trade</b> (Mechanic, Electrician, HVAC, Cosmetology, Masonry, Construction)	<b>College</b> (Education, Technology, Engineering, Criminal Justice)	<b>Career</b> (Factory Work, Food Service, Armed Forces, )
<b>9th</b>	Biology	Biology	Biology	Biology	Biology	Biology
<b>10th</b>	Chemistry*	Environmental	Chemistry*	Physics*	Chemistry*	Physics*
<b>11th</b>	Anatomy*	Wildlife	Environmental	Engineering Design & Society	Physics	Engineering Design & Society
<b>12th</b>	Genetics*/Forensics*	Forestry/Plant Science	Wildlife	Earth & Space Science	AP Bio/Environmental or Earth & Space	Earth & Space
<b>Electives</b>	AP Bio* / Vet Science*	Vet Science*/ Aquatics/ Wildlife 2	AP Environmental	Shop Classes*	Advanced Physics or Choice	Food Science
<b>Required</b>	Biology, Chemistry*, Anatomy*	Biology, Environmental, Wildlife	Biology, Chemistry*, Environmental	Biology, Physics*, Engineering Design & Society	Biology, Chemistry*, Physics*	Biology, Physics*, Engineering Design & Society

# Course Prerequisites

The table below shows the requirements that must be met before taking any classes above marked with a (\*). For further details, consult the Course Selection handbook or speak with the course instructor.

<u>Course Name</u>	<u>Prerequisite</u>	<u>Course Name</u>	<u>Prerequisite</u>	<u>Course Name</u>	<u>Prerequisite</u>
English 10	English 9	Advanced Biology	Biology Passed Keystone Bio Exam	Vet Science	Biology
English 11	English 10	Chemistry	Biology Passed Alg Keystone Exam		
English 12	English 11 Or Honors English	Physics	Biology Alg 2	AP Studio Art	11 <sup>th</sup> /12 <sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher permission 2 other art classes
Honors English	10 <sup>th</sup> /11 grade Passed Keystone Ex Teacher Permission	Forensics or Genetics	Biology		
AP English	12th grade Honors English Teacher Permission	AP Enviro	Biology Environmental Sci	Technical Drawing	Algebra 1
Algebra II	Algebra I or Algebra 8	AP US Hist	11 <sup>th</sup> /12 <sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher Permission World History II		
Trigonometry	Geometry	AP US Govt	11th/12 <sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher Permission World History II		
Calculus	Trigonometry	Psychology	11 <sup>th</sup> /12 <sup>th</sup> Grade World History II		

# Course Descriptions

## ENGLISH/LANGUAGE ARTS

### **ENGLISH 9 (Full year course – 1 credit)**

This course is a survey of all types of Literature and includes a variety of literary genres. It is designed to incorporate a mixture of grammar exploration, writing, academic vocabulary, informational text vocabulary, and a Literary Analysis unit. There is a strong emphasis on grammatical structure and writing throughout different genres.

All students are required to take a ninth grade English course

### **ENGLISH 10 (Full year course – 1 credit)**

This course is a survey of all types of literature and includes a variety of literary genres from American Literature. It is designed to incorporate a mixture of literature, writing, recognizing literary devices, and interpreting meaning. There is a strong emphasis on reading, writing, and discussion.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of English 9 course. All students are required to take a tenth grade English course.

### **ENGLISH 11 (Full year course – 1 credit)**

This course will aid in developing and expressing ideas effectively for a variety of personal and professional purposes, audiences, and occasions. In this course students will learn how to craft their writing to meet the needs of specific audiences for specific purposes; how to make decisions about what to include and not include in their writing; how to use invention, research, drafting, revising, and editing in writing; how to use various formats and choices in style, including genre conventions; and how to benefit from curiosity, openness, engagement, creativity, persistence, responsibility, flexibility, and reflection.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of English 10 course. All students are required to take an eleventh grade English course.

### **AP ENGLISH (Full year course – 1 credit)**

This course is designed to engage students in close reading and critical analysis of literature. This course will build upon previous knowledge and literary experience while increasing their exposure to, and understanding of, various works of literature. This course will expose students to various texts drawn from multiple genres, periods, and cultures. The students will develop their close reading skills at three levels: experience, interpretation, and evaluation. The purpose of this AP English course is to teach three major skills that are interrelated: close-textual analysis, critical analysis and high quality writing.

PREREQUISITES: This course is reserved for those who have passed the Keystone Exams; successfully completed two years of Honors English, or who have successfully completed one year of Honors English and have been granted permission by administration and the course instructor.

## **ENGLISH 12 (Full year course – 1 credit)**

This course examines Communication in the 21st Century. It is a project and presentation-based class that will prepare students for life after high school. It will focus on skills in public speaking and presenting, research, and creating presentations using technology. There is a strong emphasis on writing, speaking, and discussion.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of English 11 or Honors course. All students are required to take a twelfth grade English course.

## **HONORS – AP PREPARATION & COMPOSITION (Full year course – 1 credit) - 2 year cycle with Honors – College Prep & Composition (below)**

This course is designed to prepare students who plan on taking the AP Literature and Composition course and the AP exam in grade 12. It is designed to incorporate a mixture of literary genres, writing, recognizing literary devices and interpreting meaning. There is a strong emphasis on reading, writing, and discussion.

Prerequisite: Only open to 10th and 11th grade students that scored Proficient or better on the Keystone Literature exam. This course would be in place of an English 10 or English 11 that is required.

## **HONORS – COLLEGE PREPARATION & COMPOSITION (Full year course – 1 credit) - 2 year cycle with Honors – AP Prep & Composition (above)**

This course is designed to prepare students who plan on taking the AP Literature and Composition course and the AP exam in grade 12. It is designed to incorporate a mixture of literary genres, writing, recognizing literary devices and interpreting meaning. There is a strong emphasis on reading, writing, and discussion.

Prerequisite: Only open to 10th and 11th grade students who scored Proficient or better on the Keystone Literature exam. This course would be in place of an English 10 or English 11 that is required.

## **DRAMA (Half year course – .5 credit – elective)**

This course will explore all facets of drama production. Students will examine stagecraft, direction, acting, and various genres of plays. Students will engage in oral presentations that allow them to practice skills explored and studied. While students will produce and present a variety of short productions through the semester, the final assessment will be a full-length production to be presented to the school and community.

## **JOURNALISM (Full year course – 1 credit – elective)**

In this course students will gain skills in one or more of the following areas: page design, advanced publishing techniques, copywriting, editing and photography while producing a creative, innovative yearbook which records school memories and events. There is a strong emphasis on journalism skills and ethical principles. Students gain useful, real world skills in time management, marketing, teamwork, and design principles.

Prerequisite: Requires teacher approval before admittance. Students may take this class more than once.



## **MATHEMATICS**

### **ALGEBRA I (Full year course – 1 credit)**

With a 90-minute every-day structure for the school year 2024-25, Algebra I will guide students through a comprehensive study of all content eligible to be assessed on the Keystone Algebra I Exam. Using guided notes created by local teachers, as well as Ti-84+ calculators and Desmos Graphing Software, students will study the following topics: linear equations/functions, 1- and 2-variable inequalities, systems of equations, absolute value equations and inequalities, operations with exponents, polynomials and rational expressions, radical expressions and functions, data analysis and probability. Using Get More Math and IXL, students will practice skills both discreetly (to build new skills), and cumulatively (for long-term retention). Ultimately, students will apply their knowledge to solve authentic real-world problems.

### **ALGEBRA II (Full year course – 1 credit)**

The main portion of this course broadens the topics that were first seen in Algebra 1 and deepens students' abilities to analyze situations and creatively solve problems. The students will study a variety of functions and their applications in the real world, as well as probability and statistics. With successful completion of this course, the student will be properly prepared for a Trigonometry course.

Prerequisites: Algebra I (can be taken the same year as Geometry, or after)

### **PROJECT BASED GEOMETRY (Full year course – 1 credit)**

In project-based geometry students learn geometric concepts through real world projects. Each project will consist of a career research portion and a physical hands-on project. Course content will be broken down into multiple projects throughout the year culminating with a student designed final project that represents students' cumulative learning. Course content begins with a single point and expands to include lines, angles, polygons, circles, and solids as well as congruence and similarity of figures. Students will develop problem solving skills as well as strengthen pre-existing algebraic skills. While homework will rarely be assigned, many of the projects will require work to be done outside of the classroom.

Prerequisites: Algebra I (can be taken the same year as Algebra 2, or after)

### **TRIGONOMETRY AND PRECALCULUS (Full year course – 1 credit)**

Students taking this course will develop deep knowledge of a variety of functions, as well as trigonometric applications as they create and evaluate methods for solving real-world problems. The use of graphing calculators and other technologies is emphasized as a problem-solving strategy. This course is highly recommended for students planning to attend college.

Prerequisites: Algebra I, Geometry (can be taken the same year as Algebra II)

### **PROBABILITY AND STATISTICS (Full year course – 1 credit)**

Students taking this course will be introduced to the methods used in the field of applied statistics. It relies extensively on real-world situations, critical analysis, and interpretation of graphs and data. The key components in probability are probability terms, the concept of the probability of an event, predicting and determining probabilities, expected value, the relationship between theoretical and experimental probabilities, and compound events. In statistics, the key components are data collection, organization, representation, sampling, central tendency, variance and correlation, and analysis and inference. By the end of the course students will be sensible, critical users of probability and statistics, able to apply the processes and principles developed in this course to real-world problems.

Prerequisites: Completion of 11th grade

### **CALCULUS (Full year course – 1 credit)**

This course provides the foundations of Calculus, connecting to physics and business applications. The course emphasizes limits and discontinuities, derivatives, and integration. Practical applications include related rates, maximum and minimum values of a function, concavity and points of inflection, area, volume, velocity, and marginal analysis problems, sequences of sums and accumulation. Students will also become proficient in selecting and using technology and other resources to guide successful study of the concepts covered, as well as in working collaboratively with peers.

Prerequisites: Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra 2 (Can be taken the same year as Trigonometry/Precalculus)

### **AP CALCULUS (Full year course – 1 credit)**

This course, when completed, thoroughly prepares students for taking the Advanced Placement Calculus AB exam. The course emphasizes limits and discontinuities, derivatives, integration, infinite series, summation, and differential equations. Particular skills are addressed across numerous types of functions and contexts. Practical applications include related rates, maximum and minimum values of a function, concavity and points of inflection, area, volume, velocity, marginal analysis, periodic phenomena, summation, accumulation, and differential equation problems. Students will also become proficient in selecting and using technology and other resources to guide successful study of the concepts covered, as well as in working collaboratively with peers.

Prerequisites: Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra 2, Trigonometry/Precalculus

## SCIENCE

### **Biology (Full year course – 1 credit)**

Biology is devoted to the study of living things and their processes. Throughout the year this course provides an opportunity for students to develop scientific process skills and an understanding of the fundamental principles of living organisms. Students will explore biological science as a process, cell structure and function, genetics and heredity, evolution and classification, diversity of living organisms and their ecological roles, and an introduction to animal structure and function. At the completion of this course, students will take the Biology Keystone Exam.

### **AP BIOLOGY (Full year course – 1 credit) – Taught in alternating years sequence**

Through this laboratory-based course the students will investigate the structure and function of the human body. Topics covered will include the basic organization of the body; biochemical composition; and major body systems along with the impact of diseases on certain systems. Students will engage in many topics and competencies related to truly understanding the structure and function of the human body. Working from the topics of basic anatomical terminology to the biochemical composition of the human body, all the way into great detail of each of the major systems of the body, students will learn through reading materials, study guides, unit worksheets, group work, projects, and labs. Students will also compare and contrast the human body to the structure and function of other groups of organisms. Students will be responsible for proper use of lab equipment, lab reports, and projects assigned throughout each unit. One of the goals of this course is to prepare students with the skills necessary to be successful in future science classes in college.

Prerequisites: Completion of the Biology Course and Proficiency on the Biology Keystone Exam.

### **PHYSICS (Full year course – 1 credit) – Taught in alternating years sequence**

This course is designed to teach students the basic concepts of Physics, specifically Mechanics. A secondary goal is to teach students to be effective problem solvers. Students are actively involved in laboratory activities where they are given the opportunity to make predictions and then observe the actual outcome. If time allows, students will study additional Physics concepts including waves, electricity, and magnetism.

Prerequisites: Completion of the Biology Course and the Algebra II course

### **CHEMISTRY (Full year course – 1 credit)**

This is a course of introductory chemistry. Topics include, but are not limited to, classifying and quantifying matter and energy, the phases of matter (especially water), the structure of matter at the atomic and subatomic levels, the periodic table and chemical bonds, including the types of compounds that result. The class culminates with investigations of the mole concept, percentage composition, empirical formulas, chemical equations and reactions and stoichiometry.

Prerequisites: Completion of Biology Course and Proficiency on the Algebra Keystone Exam.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE (Full year course – 1 credit)**

Environmental science introduces students to the biosphere (Earth) and what affects it. This course deals with animals and natural resources and their interactions with society. Problems that face society, such as pollution and energy, are studied and discussed. The class will also conduct a formal debate involving the topics that are relevant to environmental science.

### **WETLANDS AND AQUATICS (Half year course - .50 credit)**

This course is arranged to teach students the different types of wetlands and aquatic ecosystems. The students will also look at the diversity of aquatic life (Fish, Reptiles, Amphibians, and Macroinvertebrates) and any adaptations the organism may have. Students will have to identify frog calls/sounds. Students will also look at ways to preserve wetlands. The students will learn to test water and learn how to make a stream more beneficial for living organisms. Students will leave this course with field guides for each type of aquatic life.

### **WILDLIFE ECOLOGY (Full year course – 1 credit)**

Through this course students will learn the natural history of wild birds and mammal species in Pennsylvania. Students will be able to identify and evaluate the habitat that each of the species lives in and to explain the niche (role) that each species has within their habitat. Students will be able to identify the basic needs that each species requires from its habitat and how to manage their habitat for them. Students will also learn to identify, describe, and explain any specific anatomical, physiological and/or behavioral adaptations of wildlife to their environment and how they help the animal survive. Students will have to define and explain terms to describe the species physical traits, behaviors, wildlife biology and wildlife populations, as well as to identify the trophic level of each species. Students will also have to identify bird calls. One of the goals of this course is to get students prepared for future studies about our environmental resources. (This will be based on the Pennsylvania Envirothon Wildlife Profile for that specific year as well as the State FFA CDE materials.)

### **Earth Science (Full year course - 1 credit)**

This course is an introduction to the science of and our knowledge of Earth and its history, that is designed to enhance your appreciation of the physical world. surface features and natural environments, and the dynamic processes of Earth , in the context of understanding "what we know about what we all live on". It is an examination of the Earth as a system within itself and as a part of the solar system, the Milky Way Galaxy and the Universe in which the Earth exists. The history of the Earth over 4.6 billion years of development will be studied to determine the changes that have resulted in the planet humans inhabit in the present.

### **FORESTRY & PLANTS (Half year course - .50 credit)**

This course is designed to teach students about PA's forest. The students will learn about the history of PA's forest, current forest management techniques and trends, tools used in forestry, how trees and plants grow, forest invasive plants and insects pest, the scientific names of PA's trees and how to identify PA's trees using several techniques (bark, fruits, flowers, and leaves). Students will also be constructing a tree collection guide while completing this course.

**ANIMAL SCIENCE (Half year course - .50 credit)**

This course is designed to introduce students to the different livestock that are raised throughout PA and their economic impact. The students will be taught how to identify the different breeds, their breed strengths and breed characteristics, where they originated, the external parts and any meat cuts associated with them, and many vocabulary terms associated with the breed. Students will look at dairy and beef cattle, pigs, poultry (chickens, ducks, and turkeys), goats, sheep and horses.

**PLANT SCIENCE (Half year course - .50 credit)**

This course is designed to introduce students to the agricultural system. Students will be taught the basic principles of plant growth as it applies to crop production. Students will learn to identify weeds and crop species that are common to our area, the life cycle of the species and how to control the growth of the species. Students will look at the different farming techniques used in agriculture, their pros and cons and the tools used for each technique. They will also be taught how to take a soil test, to interpret the soil test and how to use the Agronomy Guide in correlation with the soil test. They will also have to calculate acreage and figure out the cost/profit for a piece of land. Students will also be constructing a weed/crop collection guide while completing this course.

**WILDLIFE I (Half year course - .50 credit)**

The wildlife course is dedicated to the care and preservation of Pennsylvania plants and animals. Students will study habitat development and other ways to increase wildlife. They will also examine methods for controlling wildlife growth and preventing damage to wildlife. This class will include classroom, shop, and outdoor activities.

**WILDLIFE II (Half year course - .50 credit)**

A deeper continuation of Wildlife I. Students observe examples of how introducing different species affects other species within an ecosystem. This wildlife biology class does a hands-on approach to plant and animal wildlife. This course is offered every other school year.

**GENETICS (Half year course – .50 credit)**

This course discusses the principles of genetics with the study of biological function at the level of molecules, cells, and multicellular organisms, including humans. The topics include: structure and function of genes, how traits are passed from parents to offspring, biological variation and inherited disease. This course will also cover mutations and how they could affect the overall evolution of a species.

Prerequisites: Proficiency on the Biology Keystone Exam.

### **FORENSICS (Half year course - .50 credit)**

This course is designed to provide a basic foundation in the field of criminalistics to students who are interested in the use of science to solve crimes. It will provide an introduction to the application of scientific methods for the examination of physical evidence in the criminal justice system. This course will include but is not limited to fingerprints, DNA, genetics, evidence collection and insect reproduction and growth patterns. This course will also include discussions on how popular culture has affected forensics from a legal, science and a perpetrator's point of view.

Prerequisites: Proficiency on the Biology Keystone Exam.

### **ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY (Full year course- 1 credit)**

Understanding Anatomy & Physiology gives students in-depth instruction in the organization, structures, and functions of the human body. Students will learn the terminology, anatomy, physiology, and pathology of each body system and how they interrelate to maintain homeostasis. This introductory course will help prepare any student that wishes to pursue a career in the health field.

Prerequisites: Proficiency on the Biology Keystone Exam.

### **AP ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE (Full year course – 1 credit) – Taught in alternating years sequence**

Through this interdisciplinary course, the students will be given the scientific principles, concepts, and methodologies required to understand the interrelationships of the natural world, to identify and analyze environmental problems both natural and human-made, to evaluate the relative risks associated with these problems, and to examine alternative solutions for resolving and/or preventing them. One of the goals of this course is to prepare students with the skills to be successful in future environmental science classes in college.

Prerequisites: Must have passed the High School Biology course and either been proficient on the Keystone Biology Exam and passed the High School General Environmental Science Course.

### **ENGINEERING DESIGN & SOCIETY (Formerly STS) (Half Year Course – .5 Credit)**

This course is intended to integrate the STEM fields through project based learning. Students will be engaged by frequent hands-on activities geared toward combining each of the STEM disciplines. Creativity and collaboration will be encouraged as students problem solve. A study of related societal events and developments will inform the engineering design process.

Prerequisites: Students who took STS during SY 2023-24 are not eligible to take this course.

### **FOOD SCIENCE (Half year course- .50 credit)**

This high school course is designed for students to learn the relationships between science, food, and nutrition. Students will explore the characteristics of each component found in food. Experiments (the preparation of certain foods) done in class will help students understand and analyze how scientific principles are applied to creating nutritious food products. Understanding the relationship between food and science will help students evaluate the health impact of different foods.

## **SOCIAL STUDIES**

### **UNITED STATES HISTORY II (Full year course – 1 credit)**

A study of the history of the United States since the era of Reconstruction following the Civil War to the 1910s --focusing on political, economic, and social events related to industrialization and urbanization, major wars, domestic and foreign policies, reform movements, immigration, etc. Students will study geographic influences and causes and effects of major historic events. They will examine modern constitutional issues and analyze efforts to expand the democratic process. The class will spotlight the labor movement, artistic and cultural influences on American history, the impact of technology upon American History and develop the students' use of critical thinking skills to interpret historical methods, points of view, and place events in historical context.

### **UNITED STATES HISTORY III (Full year course – 1 credit)**

A study of the history of the United States since the 1920s through the Vietnam War --focusing on political, economic, and social events related to industrialization and urbanization, major wars, domestic and foreign policies of the Cold War and post-Cold War eras, reform movements (including the Civil rights movements). Students will study geographic influences on major historic events and causes and effects of the Great Depression, examine modern constitutional issues, evaluate the relationship of the three branches of the federal government, and analyze efforts to expand the democratic process. The class will spotlight the labor movement, artistic and cultural influences on American history, the impact of technology upon American History and develop the students' use of critical thinking skills to interpret historical methods, points of view, and place events in historical context.

### **WORLD HISTORY II (Full year course – 1 credit)**

This class will continue the examination of ancient civilizations by diving deeper into major empires and their developments, connections, and cycle. World History explores the key events and global historical developments since 1100 B.C.E. that have shaped the world we live in today. The scope of World History provides the latitude to range widely across all aspects of human experience: economics, science, religion, philosophy, politics & law, military conflict, literature & the arts. The course will illuminate connections between our lives and those of our ancestors around the world. Students will uncover patterns of behavior, identify historical trends and themes, explore historical movements and concepts. Students will refine their ability to read for comprehension and critical analysis; summarize, categorize, compare, and evaluate information; write clearly and convincingly; express facts and opinions orally; and use technology appropriately to present information.

### **PEACE, WAR, AND TERROSIM (Full year course -1 credit)**

Description: This course is an in depth study of political systems and the role of Diplomacy on the world stage. Students will delve into the causes and outcomes of war throughout history. In addition, Terrorism in its entirety, from phases to impact, will be explored. Through class discussion, essays, debates, infographics, close reading activities, and traditional assessments, students will learn the history and implications of peace, war, and terrorism.

Prerequisite: Student must be enrolled in or have taken World History II

### **CIVICS (Full year course – 1 credit)**

This course is designed to teach students how the American Constitution is the basis for all government decisions in the United States. Students will learn the roles and functions of the three branches of government and how each interacts with the other. This course will also cover human rights, the election process, and campaigning. Students will also review early forms of governments and how they have shaped the current government of the United States. This course is offered every other school year.

### **AP US HISTORY (Full year course – 1 credit)**

The AP U.S. History course focuses on the development of disciplinary practices and reasoning skills and an understanding of content organized around seven themes: American and National Identity, Politics and Power, Work, Exchange, and Technology, Culture and Society, Migration and Settlement, Geography and the Environment, America in the World. The course is divided into nine chronological periods (some units overlap chronologically due to the different concepts covered in each unit). In this course, you'll develop the AP history disciplinary practices and reasoning skills such as: analyzing historical evidence, argument development, contextualization, comparison, causation, and continuity and change over time. This course is offered every other school year.

### **PSYCHOLOGY (Full year course – 1 credit)**

This course is based on the systematic study of individual human behavior and experience. The content will include the general academic overview of psychology, including its vocabulary, research methods, and important individuals within the area of psychology. It will also present the general methods of scientific investigation as they are applied to human behavior. It is a broad academic survey of problems, methods, facts, and principles. The course content will give students the opportunity to examine and reflect upon their beliefs, attitudes, and feelings about themselves and their ideas of what people are like and why they behave as they do. Topics included: personality, intellectual abilities and adjustments, learning skills, emotions, motivation, personality disorders, thinking and biological influences of behavior.

This course is offered to 11th and 12th graders only.

11<sup>th</sup> graders taking Psychology must also be enrolled in World History.

## **AGRICULTURE**

### **AGRICULTURE EDUCATION I**

This course will introduce students to multiple careers in the Agriculture world. Students taking this course will be required to maintain a record book (work experience, pet care, or show animals). This will carry throughout the year. Other requirements will include a unit of FFA (5-6 weeks), a unit covering all or many of the FFA CDE's, a unit of shop equipment certification. and a unit of wood and metal shop. Students must complete a full year of Agriculture Education I before taking other Agriculture classes. This course is offered to 9th grade students only.



### **BASIC BUILDING SKILLS (Half year course - .50 credit)**

In today's world, everyone should be able to perform some basic construction, even if it is a simple repair job in his/her home. Therefore, this course will teach beginner woodwork, metalwork, plumbing, and block laying/concrete work.

### **FFA and AG LEADERSHIP/TRACTOR CERTIFICATION (Half year course - .50 credit)**

Students in this class will study topics in the Future Farmers of America program and will learn how to become a leader in agriculture. The following topics will be studied: public speaking, parliamentary procedure, a review of contests used in FFA competition, and a thorough study of agriculture related vocations.

This class will be taught entirely from the state certification curriculum. All students 16 years of age and under must have a certificate to legally drive a tractor on the road unless they are working for their parents. This course will prepare students toward achieving a tractor certification.

### **SMALL GAS ENGINES (Half year course - .50 credit)**

This class is for the student who is interested in the workings of small engines. Students will

work with 4-cycle Briggs and Stratton engines (provided by the school). They will perform a complete tear-down and rebuild during this class. Upon successful repair of the school engine, the students will be permitted to work on engines from home.

### **WELDING (Half year course - .50 credit)**

This course is designed for the beginner Welder. Students will be taught the safety and use of the Gas torch, Arc welder, and Mig welder. Common welds and cuts will be taught and graded throughout the semester. Students will discuss employment in this field. Proper clothing will be required.

### **VETERINARY SCIENCE (Half year course - .50 credit)**

Veterinary Science is a class used to further the knowledge of a student in the health and growth of animals. Students will learn different species and the breeds in each. Diseases and common health problems will be explored. Causes and cures will be studied.

Prerequisites: Proficiency in the Biology Keystone Exam or passing of Keystone Biology.

## **ART**

### **CERAMICS (Half year course - .50 credit)**

In this introductory ceramics course, students will be exposed to basic hand building procedures with an emphasis on pinch, coil and slab methods. A variety of both utilitarian and non-utilitarian projects will be constructed. Students will also engage in fundamental glazing and firing techniques. All projects will include exposure to various ceramics tools, techniques and vocabulary.

Upon taking this course a second time students will be expected to demonstrate learned skills from the previous class and will be held to higher expectations. They will create pieces such as mugs, bowls and plates, as well as sculptural pieces such as terra-cotta warriors that reflect the students own personality and understanding of the material they learn. This course must be taken before students are eligible for Advanced Ceramics.

### **ADVANCED CERAMICS (Half year course - .50 credit)**

In this higher level ceramics course, students will be exposed to more complex hand building procedures with an emphasis on sculpture, building large, and throwing on the wheel. A variety of both utilitarian and non-utilitarian projects will be constructed. Students will learn more about how clay and glazes are made, how a kiln functions, and how to recycle clay. Students will be expected to think critically about the functionality of a piece or about the aesthetics of the piece. Students will learn how to create unity in their piece, how to make it visually appealing, and how to create a piece that evokes thought in the viewer.

Students must have taken a regular ceramics class as a prerequisite before taking this course.

### **AP STUDIO ART (Full Year course - 1 credit)**

The AP Studio Art: 2-D Design course is intended for highly motivated students who are seriously interested in the study of art. The College Board's Advanced Placement Program (AP) enables students to pursue college- level studies while still in high school. AP provides willing and academically prepared students with the opportunity to earn college credit, advanced placement, or both. AP course requirements are significantly more rigorous, and require students to develop mastery in the concept, composition, and execution of their artistic ideas. (SC2) It is recommended for the AP student to have previous training in art or be able to demonstrate through a portfolio an ability to create fine art.

The AP Studio Art: 2-D Design is intended to address two-dimensional (2-D) design issues that involve purposeful decision making utilizing the elements and principles of art in an integrative way. The principles of design (unity/variety, balance, emphasis, contrast, rhythm, repetition, proportion/scale, figure/ground relationships) can be expressed through the visual elements (line, shape, color, value, texture, space). These elements and principles of design help guide artists in making decisions about how to organize an image on a picture plane in order to communicate a message.

3D Design will also be integrated into the course. Students may explore clay, fabrics, or other three dimensional media.

AP Studio Art is not based on a written exam; instead, students submit portfolios for evaluation at the end of the school year. For this portfolio, students are asked to demonstrate understanding of 2-D and 3-D design through any two-dimensional or three- dimensional medium or process, including, but not limited to, graphic design, digital imaging, photography, collage, fabric design, ceramics, paper mâché, weaving, fashion design, fashion illustration, painting and printmaking.

The AP course concludes with a college- level assessment, in this case, a portfolio of artwork that will be scored by college and university faculty as well as experienced AP teachers.

Along with submitting a portfolio for review, students will study artists and trends in art making. Students are also expected to do research and visit galleries and the local art museums on their own time, or during a scheduled field trip.

Finally, students will keep a sketchbook to be composed of visual ideas, notes, photos, doodles, plans, short assignments, quick drawings, and practice of various techniques. Many art schools like to see students' sketchbooks as documentation of how their minds and creativity work.

Must be in 11th or 12th grade (unless teacher approved). Must have had at least 2 other art classes (7th and 8th art not included)

### **INTRODUCTION TO PHOTOGRAPHY (Elective Half-Year Course - .50 credit)**

This course will allow students to learn the fundamentals of digital photography while also becoming more comfortable with composition, the camera, and editing software. Students will discover the history of photography while also experimenting with cameras and digital software for editing. Students will explore and evaluate their work by several critique methods, completing assessments, and selecting several photographs to put on display for the spring art show.

Throughout the duration of this course, students will:

- Explore photography
- Discover photography concepts and terms through art criticism and art production.
- Learn about famous photographers and movements throughout history.
- Apply aesthetic judgment when viewing photographs.
- Know the guidelines to composition and how they affect a composition by using basic guidelines.
- Maintain classroom cleanliness.
- Make the most out of every photograph they create!

### **ADVANCED PHOTOGRAPHY (Elective Half-Year Course - .50 credit)**

This class is an advanced study of photography that focuses on the building and creation of a photo portfolio. **SERIOUS PHOTOGRAPHERS ONLY!**

This class provides a more intense study of photography that is designed for students who want to concentrate their artistic and photographic efforts at a more advanced level. Much of this class will be seminar based, with a focus on constructive feedback and implementing personal and visual communication. Students will create an artist statement and execute that idea through their personal portfolio of photographs. Students are required to complete all assignments to the best of their abilities and abide by the school handbook, especially with the cell phone policy.

This class has a prerequisite of Intro. To Photography and is at the discretion of the teacher

### **DIGITAL ART (Elective Half-Year Course - .50 credit)**

This course will allow students to learn the fundamentals of digital editing software. Students will discover the background to Digital Art while also experimenting with digital software for editing photographs as well as creating original artwork. Students will explore and evaluate their work by several critique methods, completing assessments, and selecting several completed works of art to put on display for the spring art show.

Throughout the duration of this course, students will:

- Explore digital art
- Discover digital concepts and terms through art criticism and art production.
- Learn about famous digital artists and movements throughout history.
- Apply aesthetic judgment when viewing art work.
- Know the guidelines to composition and how they affect a composition by using basic guidelines.

- Maintain classroom cleanliness.
- Make the most out of every art work they create!
- Learn about different fields of digital art.

### **GENERAL 2D ART (Elective Half-Year Course- .50 Credit)**

This course will allow students to learn the fundamentals of 2D art while also becoming more comfortable with materials, tools, mediums and the studio setting. Students will discover art history while also experimenting with new, two-dimensional media. Students will explore and evaluate their work by several critique methods, completing assessments and selecting several pieces of art to put on display for the spring art show.

Throughout the duration of this course, students will:

- Explore art through a variety of two-dimensional media.
- Discover art concepts and terms through art criticism and art production.
- Learn about famous artists and movements throughout history.
- Apply aesthetic judgment when viewing art.
- Know the elements of art and how they affect a composition by using the principles of design.
- Maintain classroom cleanliness.
- Make the most out of every project they create!

### **PAINTING (Half year course - .50 credit)**

Painting is an exploration of color theory, different paints and many painting techniques. Relationships between the basic fundamentals of art, both elements and the principles of design, will be emphasized as students study introductory painting techniques and materials.

Students will focus on tempera and acrylic painting media. Exploration of styles, artists, subject matter, and painting media will be addressed.

### **FLEECE TO SHAWL (Half year course – .50 credit)**

Fleece to Shawl is a process of combing (carding) wool from a sheep, spinning it into yarn, and then weaving it into a wearable shawl. This course may require students to participate in caring for our sheep as well as aiding our Fleece to Shawl teams in preparing for the annual competition in January at the Pennsylvania Farm Show in Harrisburg. This course will introduce students to the competitive aspect and process of Fleece to Shawl. Topics and techniques covered may include hand weaving, warping a floor loom, skirting and carding wool, weaving on a floor loom, spinning wool, plying wool, cleaning and blocking wool shawls, preparing artwork for sale, handling and maintaining Fleece to Shawl equipment, various dyeing methods, silk painting, shibori, batik, embroidery, sewing, knitting, crocheting, and various other textile artforms, all of which will provide students with rich investment in experimentation as well as a deeper understanding of the historical and cultural impacts of each unique textile artform, making strong connections with our rural community. This course may be used as an Art credit. Once the competition is finished students will begin to create their own warp to be used in competition the following year or students will create pieces from the fabric media like blankets, hats, quilts, or other usable items.

### **General 3D Art (Half-Year Course - .50 Credit)**

This course is a study of basic principles of three-dimensional visual organization and skills. It includes the Elements of Art and the Principles of Design as they relate to form and three-dimensional art and design, allowing students to learn the fundamentals of 3D art while becoming more familiar with various art tools, materials, and mediums in an art studio setting. This course will drive students to create more involved artworks, pushing past 2-dimensional into the realm of 3-dimensional. Artworks will be able to be seen from multiple viewpoints and perspectives. The course is strongly influenced by sculptural mediums, such as cardboard, plaster, paper maché, and more. Students will explore and evaluate their work through the use of several critique methods, completing assessments. As students build a collection of work over the semester, they will participate in critiques of their work as well as select pieces of art to put on display for the art show in spring.

### **PRINTMAKING AND BOOK ARTS (Half year course - .50 credit)**

This course will begin with students learning to make their own paper and constructing a book that will act as a journal for the semester. Students will then fill this book with the various forms of printmaking they complete throughout the semester. Students will do screen printing, block printing and other forms of printmaking. Students will create various prints by carving laminate printing blocks, metal relief blocks, making stencils, using screens and more. Students will complete a color collage between each project. This collage will teach students how to organize a work so that it will be balanced, have unity, be visually appealing and evoke thought in the viewer.

Students may also fill the pages of their books in various other ways. Students may press flowers, do scrapbook pages, design and print stickers, collage, and others. In one of the final projects for this class students will create potion bottles. Students will create, name, and come up with an ingredient list for their potions. They will then create labels for their bottles and design a wax seal stamp to close the bottle. The labels will be printed using one of the printmaking techniques learned during the semester.

### **WATERCOLOR AND PLEIN AIR PAINTING (Half year course - .50 credit)**

In this course students will learn about color theory, the elements, and principles of art. Students will explore new watercolor techniques and explore plein air painting (the art of painting from the ever-changing natural environment). Students will explore pen and ink with watercolor, landscape, and other techniques such as painting with tea, coffee, or naturally made watercolors. Students will also observe how the medium is affected by salt, alcohol and other items. Through their work students will learn how to create works in two and three point perspectives and learn about how atmospheric perspective affects shapes and colors. Students will learn about Frank Lloyd Wright, his architecture and how he incorporated nature into his works. They will complete a research project and watercolor piece about Wright and his structures. Students will also be invited to participate in a field trip to two of Wright designed houses.

### **RECYCLED ART (Half-Year Course - .50 credit)**

This course will encourage students to use 100% recycled materials to create various artworks. Artworks will be able to be seen from multiple view points and perspectives and have multiple functions. The course is strongly influenced by

sculptural mediums, with 3-D products being the focal point. Some mediums include but are not limited to magazines, newspaper, plastic bottles and containers, bottle caps, soda cans, soda can tabs, cardboard, discarded items such as buttons, keys, paper scraps of any kind, old keys, old toys, old books, old electronics and/or electronic parts, old clothes or fabric scraps, etc. (basically anything that can be given new life through “up-cycling” into art). Students will be required to bring in recycled items throughout the entirety of this course. Students will face challenges in producing artwork with materials they may have never even thought of using before! Students will learn about the importance of recycling, discuss how art and creative expression impacts our planet, and discover professional artists who have made a career of using recyclables to create their masterpieces.

## TECHNOLOGY AND ENGINEERING

### **TECHNICAL DRAWING - Intro To AutoCAD(Half year course – .50 credit)**

This course introduces students to the traditional drafting graphic language used in industry to produce working drawings. Students will begin with freehand, multi-view sketches of machine parts and move on to creating more advanced drawings in AutoCAD. Both mechanical and architectural projects are included in the course. Students considering a career in technology, engineering and industry would benefit from the foundation gained in this course.

Prerequisite: Algebra 1 or instructor permission

### **MICROSOFT OFFICE (Half year course – .50 credit)**

This course is designed to teach students the basics of how to use Microsoft Office. We will start out with learning about the different parts of a computer and what its function is. Then we will move on to learning about Microsoft Programs. This will utilize programs such as Word, Excel, PowerPoint, and OneNote. **This is a fast paced class with a heavy work load in both research and writing.** We are looking to add a certification option to this class if it is taken a second time. At the end of it you will be taking the equivalent of an AP test and become certified in MOS Word, MOS EXCEL, MOS PowerPoint.

### **COMPUTING APPLICATIONS (Half year course – .50 credit)**

The Computing Applications course gives students the opportunity to study a variety of topics of interest in the field of Computing. Students will work with the course instructor to develop a course of study that fits into their interests and abilities. All course content is worked independently by the student with the teacher in the room to provide guidance and support, as needed. Some examples of available course work are listed below:

#### **PROGRAMMING - JAVASCRIPT OR PYTHON**

This course teaches the foundations of computer science and basic programming, with an emphasis on helping students develop logical thinking and problem-solving skills. This course will serve as a stepping stone to future courses in computer science.

#### **VIDEO GAME DESIGN**

The CodeHS video game design curriculum teaches the foundations of creating video games in JavaScript. While this course is introductory, it is an honors-level course. Its curriculum teaches

the foundations of computer science and basic programming, with an emphasis on helping students develop logical thinking and problem solving skills. Once students complete the course, they will have learned material equivalent to a semester college introductory course in Computer Science and be able to program in JavaScript.

### **MOBILE APPS**

Mobile applications are becoming increasingly important to our consumption of media, news, social interaction, and learning. In this course, students will learn how to create mobile apps using React Native, a popular platform-agnostic framework developed by Facebook and used by successful tech companies including Airbnb, Facebook, Instagram, Tesla, and more. As an online blended high school course, students will design and build applications to run on their own smartphones and will use the latest tools and technologies available for mobile app development.

### **FUNDAMENTALS OF CYBERSECURITY**

This is the first course in the cybersecurity pathway and will prepare students for an advanced cybersecurity course and/or cybersecurity certification(s). Students will learn cybersecurity topics such as software security, networking, system administration, and the basics of cryptography and programming.

### **WEB DESIGN (MONET)**

In this project-based course, students will learn how to build their own web pages using the languages of HTML and CSS. They will create their own live homepages to serve as portfolios of their creations.

### **WEB DESIGN (PICASSO)**

This is a project-based course that teaches students how to build their own web pages. Students will learn the languages HTML and CSS, and will create their own live homepages to serve as portfolios of their creations. Students will finish this course with tangible, professional, mobile responsive websites.

### **Data Structures in C++**

The Data Structures course in C++ teaches students about advanced data structures such as maps, queues and sets, while applying them in larger, real-world assignments and projects.

## **Robotics (Half year course -.50 credit-elective)**

VEX Robotics Curriculum is divided up into twelve primary units and one optional unit. In a flexible format, students learn about engineering and engineering problems solving. They will be given introductions to the VEX Robotics Design System while learning key STEM principles through a process that captures the excitement and engagement of robotics competition. The curriculum is heavily focused on mechatronic principles; as such, programming is NOT required. However, this course is structured in such a way that teachers and students who want to include a more Computer Science heavy layer with the course can do so.

## **Advanced Robotics (Half year course-.50 credit-elective)**

Students in this course have the goal to help build and test the robot's that will be used in Vex Robotics completions. It is designed in order to help the students better prepare for competition season. They will also be going through curriculum designed to help them learn how to program robot brains. The students in this course will be looked at as teacher aids, helping the classroom teacher assist the general robotics students.

Prerequisites are to have completed the High School Robotics class with a passing grade. Also, must be a part of the competition Robotics Club.

## **FOREIGN LANGUAGE**

### **DISTANCE LEARNING FOREIGN LANGUAGE (Half year course – .50 credit )**

Distance Learning Foreign Language provides students the opportunity to study a foreign language on a computer. The languages currently offered are Spanish and French. The course requires a strong work ethic and is geared toward the independent learner.

## **HEALTH/PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

### **NUTRITION and FITNESS (Half year course - .50 credit)**

During this course the students will develop a greater knowledge of their bodies and the function of foods that individuals take in on a daily basis. The students will differentiate between myths and facts of diets, foods, and medications as they relate to teens. This course will further the students' knowledge about their current health, fitness level and the nutritional values of foods eaten by teens.

### **OUTDOOR EXPLORATION (Half year course - .50 credit) 15 students**

This course will have an emphasis upon fishing and boating. Students will explore both fly and spin casting equipment. They will learn CPR and water safety techniques. At the end of the unit students will take a trip to fish at a pond or stream. Other outdoor activities covered may include: hiking, archery, and canoeing/boating.

### **HEALTH, WELLNESS (Half year course - .50 credit)**

This course will focus on a deeper examination of the health issues facing teens today. Students will discuss dealing with problems and challenges in a healthy manner and will study first aid, CPR, sexual education, tobacco, alcohol, and other drugs. Nutrition, fitness and health related current events will be discussed on a weekly basis. This course will present basic rules, skills, and teamwork with others in games and activities. Emphasis will be placed on lifetime sports, personal growth, cooperation and fitness.

### **SPORTS SCIENCE (Half year course - .50 credit)**

This course will analyze the areas of sport in society, the psychology of sport, injury prevention, and anatomy and physiology. Students should be prepared to complete projects, interact with classmates in hands-on activities and engage in class discussions. No prerequisite required, however sports and sport discussions, which include: Title IX, concussions, athletes and social media, and mascot/team names will be included.



## MUSIC

### **CHORUS (Full year course – .50 credit)**

This course is open to any secondary student who enjoys singing, or would like to learn how to sing better. Students will study proper and healthy vocal technique and will learn to sing standard choral repertoire from a variety of musical styles and musical time periods in a choral ensemble setting. Students are required to perform in the Winter and Spring Concerts, as well as perform for the Graduation Ceremony after the last day of school. Private lessons will be offered to students as a part of the choral curriculum. Students who participate in chorus may also participate, upon invitation by the director, in District Chorus. This course may be taken more than once for credit.

### **BAND (Full year course – .50 credit)**

This course is open to any secondary student who enjoys playing a musical instrument, Students will study proper and healthy playing techniques and will learn to play standard choral repertoire from a variety of musical styles and musical time periods in a band ensemble setting. Students are required to perform in the Winter and Spring Concerts, as well as perform for the Graduation Ceremony after the last day of school. Private lessons will be offered to students as a part of the band curriculum. Students who participate in band may also participate, upon invitation by the director, in District Band. This course may be taken more than once for credit.

**Pre-Requisite: Student must know how to play an instrument and have basic music literacy. Ability will be determined by the director.**

### **MUSIC IN AMERICA (Half year course - .50 credit)**

This is a music appreciation course designed for students with little or no prior music background. The focus of this class will be on understanding and analyzing the diverse musical styles found here in America, with an emphasis on Jazz, Blues, and the influence of Latin American music on the Rock and Roll genre.

### **MUSIC THEORY I (Half year course - .50 credit)**

This course is designed for students who have studied an instrument, are currently studying an instrument, or who are current members of the band or chorus. The focus of the course is on the understanding and use of music notation in the analysis of music. Students will analyze music aurally (by ear) and visually through music notation.

**Pre-Requisite: Student must have previously taken Band, Chorus, or Piano class to ensure they have basic music literacy prior to beginning this course.**

### **MUSIC THEORY II (Half year course - .50 credit)**

This course is a continuation of Music Theory I. It is designed for students who have studied an instrument, are currently studying an instrument, or who are current members of the band or chorus. The focus of the course is on the understanding and use of music notation in the analysis of music. Students should have a firm grasp in the understanding of basic music notation prior to taking this course. Students will continue their study of the analysis of music aurally and through music notation.

**Pre-Requisite: Student must have previously taken Music Theory I.**

**AMERICAN POPULAR MUSIC HISTORY (Half year course - .50 credit)**

This is a music appreciation course designed for students with little or no prior music background. The focus of this class will be on understanding and analyzing American popular music (folk, ragtime, jazz, pop, country, rock, R & B). The students will gain knowledge through self-discovery of different musical genres.

**MUSIC TECHNOLOGY (Half year course - .50 credit)**

This course is designed to introduce the students to the world of digital audio and computer recording. By using a DAW (Digital Audio Workstation) software, and notation software, the students will be able to create their own musical compositions and arrangements to produce their own musical pieces to use for listening, websites, video, or any other application where music is used.

**Pre-Requisite: Student must have previously taken Band, Chorus, or Piano class to ensure they have basic music literacy prior to beginning this course, or instructor approval.**

**PIANO (Half year course - .50 credit)**

In this course students will learn how to read and write music notation through the study of the piano. Students will learn basic piano keyboard and music theory skills.

This course may be taken more than once for credit. Students will continue to learn new skills and repertoire as they work independently and at their own pace with teacher guidance.

**MUSIC IN OUR WORLD (Half year course - .50 credit)**

This is a music appreciation course designed for students with little or no prior music background. The focus of this class will be on understanding and analyzing musical styles, and categorizing musical instruments from various cultures around the world.

**MUSIC IN FILM AND BROADWAY (Half year course - .50 credit)**

This is a music appreciation course designed for students with little or no prior music background. The focus of this class will be on understanding and analyzing the use of music in telling the story and in heightening the emotional impact of storylines in movies, musical theater, and opera.

**MUSIC IN OUR LIVES (Half year course - .50 credit)**

This is a music appreciation course designed for students with little or no prior music background. The focus of this class will be on understanding and analyzing the role that music plays in various important parts of our lives, and its functional role in society and culture.

## **LIFE SKILLS**

### **LEARNING SUPPORT MATH (Full year course – 1 credit)**

This course teaches students basic math concepts and how they relate to real life situations. It allows students to practice everyday math skills with concepts like balancing a checkbook, calculating hourly, weekly and overtime pay. It also allows students to practice math concepts seen in extracurricular activities like measuring for cooking, home repairs, and woodworking.

### **LEARNING SUPPORT ENGLISH (Full year course – 1 credit)**

Learning Support English develops language skills that we use in everyday life. It breaks down a sentence and teaches and describes the basic parts of speech and their uses. This class also focuses on basic reading skills, such as phonics, sight word identification, spelling, and introduction to literature.

### **LEARNING SUPPORT SOCIAL SKILLS/DAILY LIVING SKILLS (Full year course – 1 credit)**

This course is designed to teach students how to use manners, express feelings, and act as a responsible, kind, and helpful adult. The course focuses on how to initiate appropriate conversations and how to respond to others in several different circumstances. Ways of treating others and yourself in a positive manner and self-esteem builders are also emphasized. This course will also focus on daily living skills. It will prepare students for everyday activities such as shopping, budgeting, eating in restaurants, cooking and more

### **LEARNING SUPPORT SCIENCE (Full year course – 1 credit)**

This course will teach students about the world around them. The goal of this course is to provide a well-grounded understanding of selected concepts in physical science while at the same time developing thinking skills that enable and encourage independent thinking. It will focus on many components such as the environment, animals, machines, sound and light, electricity, motion and more.

### **LEARNING SUPPORT HISTORY (Full year course – 1 credit)**

This course is adapted from the general education curriculum. This course offers the same concepts that are found in the general education curriculum, but modified to fit each student's educational need.

## SUPPORT SERVICES MATH

### **GUIDED MATH FOR LIFE (Full year course – 1 credit)**

This course will require students to use basic mathematical computation skills and learn how to apply these skills as a wise consumer in real world situations. This course reinforces and extends the students' mastery of basic mathematical concepts. The skills taught in this course will be individualized to the students' educational needs.

### **GUIDED PRE-ALGEBRA (Full year course – 1 credit)**

Pre-Algebra prepares for Algebra. Pre-Algebra includes several broad topics including new types of numbers such as integers, fractions, decimals, and negatives. It also introduces factorization, associative and distributive properties, along with powers, roots, and order of operations. Pre-Algebra begins preparing for evaluation of expressions and understanding of variables.

### **GUIDED ALGEBRA 1 (Full year course – 1 credit)**

Algebra 1 covers all topics in a first-year algebra course, from proofs, statistics and probability to algebra-based real-world problems. With Algebra 1, students begin developing the more complex and understanding required for advanced mathematics.

### **GUIDED GEOMETRY (Full year course – 1 credit)**

Geometry includes formulas for lengths, areas, volumes, and degrees to determine information for geometric shapes and figures. This includes finding circumference and area of circles, lengths of sides, area of space and degrees of angles. Formulas are introduced and used in each area of geometry to find the necessary information for those shapes and figures.

### **GUIDED ALGEBRA II (Full year course – 1 credit)**

Algebra 2 extends on the solution of linear equations from Algebra and focuses on solutions of quadratic equations. Skills such as factoring, completing squares, using formulas and graphing are involved in Algebra II, along with the use of complex numbers and relations to graphs.

## **SUPPORT SERVICES SCIENCE**

### **GUIDED SCIENCE (Full year course – 1 credit)**

This course is designed to teach students the concepts of Physical Science. Students learn through reading and by completing experiments in this class. Students focus upon four key elements of science in this class, sounds, machines, electricity, and energy.

## **SUPPORT SERVICES ENGLISH**

### **Guided English 9 (Full year course - 1 credit)**

The main goal of this course is to develop knowledge of literature that will help students appreciate various genres written by American authors. Students will learn many literary terms and a vast vocabulary related to the context of the pieces they read in class. Stories read in this class will be modified to meet the needs of the students in the class. Students will also work on their writing skills. This is a ninth-grade class.

### **Guided English 10 (Full year course - 1 credit)**

This course will focus on the Read 180 curriculum, which is an intense, comprehensive reading intervention program used to increase students' reading levels. Each student receives instruction that is individually designed for their current reading level and writing skills. The program consists of whole and small group direct instruction, independent reading, writing practice, and computer-based individualized instruction.

### **Guided English 11 (Full year course - 1 credit)**

This course will focus on reading comprehension, provided at each student's ability level, with the incorporation of writing complete sentences and short paragraphs. Each student receives instruction that is individually designed for their current reading level and writing skills.

### **Guided Career English 12 (Full year course - 1 credit)**

Career English 12 is made up of several components that will prepare students for the real world. Some topics that will be covered are job search, consumer spending, job etiquette, living independently and managing money. Students will cover several higher order comprehension skills and essential math skills needed in the real world, as well in order to prepare them for postsecondary living. In addition, they will spend time preparing for their senior project presentation and portfolio.

### **Guided Phase IV English (Full year course – 1 credit)**

Guided Phase IV English is a literature course that focuses on improving fluency, comprehension, grammar and written expression. Students are responsible for reading material of various genres that promotes higher level thinking, while meeting the needs of each individual student. Vocabulary, paragraph construction and grammar concepts are strong components of this course.