

Freshmen Course Selection

Art

Introduction to Art

Level: Academic: 9, 10, 11, 12

Length of course: One semester

Department: Art

Pre-requisite: None

Course description

A comprehensive approach to varied art mediums for the beginning student. Drawing in one and two point perspective; painting in tempera, learning color theory and elements of design. This course is designed for the student who has little formal training and does not need to have a great deal of talent.

Painting I

Level: Academic 9,10, 11, 12

Length of course: One semester

Department: Art

Pre-requisite: Introduction to Art

Course description:

This course is designed for those students with a genuine interest in art. It is expected that only those students who wish to further their development in painting areas will take this course. A wide variety of painting materials and compositional styles are explored.

Printmaking

Level: Academic 9, 10, 11, 12

Length of course: One semester

Department: Art

Pre-requisite: None

A variety of printmaking techniques will be explored to introduce students to printing processes. Areas of study will include silkscreen, relief, intaglio, monotypes, and collagraphy.

Digital Art &Graphics

Level: Academic 9, 10, 11, 12

Length of course: One semester

Department: Art

Pre-requisite: None

The course explores the use of technology in art. Students will learn to enhance and expand their creative process using digital tools. Through the use of computer programs such as Adobe Illustrator, Corel draw, Adobe Photoshop, Corel Painter, Corel Paint Shop Pro students will learn how to use technology to produce graphics, digital photography, as well as digital drawings and paintings.

Introduction to Crafts

Level: Academic 9, 10, 11, 12.

Length of course: One semester

Department: Art

Pre-requisite: None

Course description:

A one semester introductory course which includes instruction in design elements, tools, equipment, and procedures in Crafts. The history and cultural aspects of the various crafts are examined in each of the instructional units. Areas covered include the following: printmaking, sculpture, stencils, paper mache, clay, and fiber arts.

Two Dimensional Crafts

Level: Academic 9, 10, 11, 12

Length of course: One semester (first semester only)

Department: Art

Pre-requisite: None

Course description:

The course incorporates a study of the history and aesthetic qualities of the various crafts including printmaking, mosaics, and stained glass. Advanced design concepts, equipment, tools, and procedures are presented through instructional activities, which allow the student to pursue the crafts experience in depth.

Three Dimensional Media

Level: Academic 9, 10, 11, 12

Length of course: One Semester

Department: Art

Pre-requisite: None

Course description:

A variety of three-dimensional media is employed to introduce students to sculptural techniques such as assemblages, modeling, carving, additive, casting, and mobile. Areas of study are designed to promote an awareness of three-dimensional design, concepts, and processes. Each unit will focus on the work of well known artists to further student awareness of the fine arts.

Ceramics I

Level: Academic 9, 10, 11, 12

Length of course: One Semester

Department: Art

Pre-requisite: None

Course description:

Ceramics is a one semester introductory course which involves the development of clay hand building skills in pinch, coil, and slab processes. In each unit functional and sculptural forms are explored, as well as a variety of glazing and decorating techniques. The firing process and kiln information are learned as well as ceramic terminology. Critiques of in progress work and fired pieces help students to understand design, form, construction, and glazing problems. Pottery wheel work is introduced to students on an individual basis.

Advanced Ceramics

Level: Academic 9, 10, 11, 12

Length of course: One semester

Department: Art

Pre-requisite: Ceramics 1

Course description:

This one semester course is designed to allow students to expand in processes, techniques, and ideas introduced in Ceramics 1. Students will complete three (3) complex design assignments each nine weeks grading period. The assignments will include the study of one or more ceramic artists, past and present, who employ ideas or techniques related to the particular area of study.

Business

Introduction to Business 1-2

Level: Academic 9, 10, 11, 12

Length of course: One year

Department: Business

Pre-requisite: None

Course description:

Introduction to Business is designed for the academic freshman or sophomore student. Some of the areas covered in this course are basic business concepts and terminology, economic systems, banking and credit. A comprehensive picture of our business world and the role of business in our economy are presented in this class.

Some of the topics covered in this class are economic measurements, business in our economy, business structures, social responsibility and business ethic, international business, planning a career, succeeding in the world of work, consumer buying decisions, consumer rights and responsibilities, using a checking account, and credit.

High School 101

High School 101 will be a course offered only to freshman level students. If an incoming freshman misses the opportunity to participate in High 101 during the first semester, they may register for the course beginning second semester. If a freshman is only enrolled in second semester High School, they will be required to take one additional semester of a business course to meet the graduation requirement. If a student enters after their freshmen year, they will be required to complete two semesters of business courses to meet the graduation requirement. In order to meet the graduation requirement, students must have passed two semester of High School 101 or two semesters of a business course work.

English

Academic English 1 - 2

Level: Academic 9

Length of course: One year

Department: English

Prerequisite: None

Course description:

This course is a study of both composition and literature. In addition, vocabulary study will be continuous throughout the course. Students are expected to display basic composition skills when completing various types of essays, such as autobiographical writing, persuasive writing, and expository writing. Emphasis will be on writing as a process: prewriting, drafting, revising, editing, proofreading, and publishing. Throughout this entire process, proper grammar usage, as well as correct spelling and increased vocabulary, will be the focus. The literature units will include 1) short stories, 2) poetry, including The Odyssey, 3) novels, and 4) drama, including Romeo and Juliet. The literature portions will also emphasize literary elements, comprehension skills, reading strategies, and vocabulary development.

Enriched English 1 - 2

Level: Enriched 9

Length of course: One year

Department: English

Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation and 8th grade test scores

Course description:

This course is a study of both composition and literature. In addition, vocabulary study will be continuous throughout the course. Students are expected to display above average composition skills when completing various types of essays, such as autobiographical writing, persuasive writing, and expository writing. Emphasis will be on writing as a process: prewriting, drafting, revising, editing, proofreading, and publishing. Coherence and organization will also be highlighted. In addition, proper grammar, mature sentence style, correct spelling, and increased vocabulary will be stressed. The literature units will include 1) short stories, 2) poetry, including The Odyssey, 3) novels, and 4) drama, including Romeo and Juliet. The literature portions will also emphasize literary elements, comprehension skills, reading strategies, and vocabulary development.

Family and Consumer Science

Foods and Nutrition 1

Level: Academic 9, 10, 11, 12

Length of course: One semester

Department: Family and Consumer Science

Pre-requisite: None

Course description:

This orientation level course includes basic classroom and laboratory experiences needed to develop knowledge and understanding of food principles and applied nutrition for people of all ages. This course centers on promoting food service and preparation. Subject areas covered include safety and sanitation, equipment, including microwave cookery, measurement, cooking terminology, table setting, manners, consumerism, and Family and Consumer Science careers. Foods prepared include quick breads, breakfasts, soups, sandwiches, salads, simple desserts, cookies, snacks, and casseroles.

Creative Fashions 1

Level: Academic 9, 10, 11, 12

Length of course: One semester

Department: Family and Consumer Science

Pre-requisite: None

Course description:

This orientation level course provides basic classroom and laboratory experiences. The topics include self-esteem, wardrobe planning, buying and caring for clothes, grooming including hair styling and make-up, selection of textiles and notions, use and care of a sewing machine, use of a pattern and following directions, completions of four beginning level projects, hand sewing and mending. Projects include, pincushion pillows, drawstring bag and lounge pants. Some basic sewing equipment is provided. Fabric and notions must be purchased by the student.

Creative Fashion 2

Level: Academic 9, 10, 11, 12

Length of course: One semester

Department: Family and Consumer Science

Pre-requisite: Creative Fashion 1

Course Description:

This course is a continuation of Creative Fashions 1 where students will build on their previous knowledge. Students will review basic sewing skills, pattern selection and fabrics. New techniques will include cording, zipper application, gathers, darts, lining and interfacings, and use of the serger machines. Projects include, corded pillow, make-up bag, nicktie, and shirt. Equipment, supplies and fabrics are provided by the students.

Child Development

Level: Academic 9, 10 or permission of instructor for 11, 12 students

Length of course: One semester

Department: Family & Consumer Science

Pre-requisite: None

Course description:

In this orientation level course, the development of children from conception through school-age is studied. Emphasis is placed on increased understanding of children and the development of basic skills in relating to them. Students will observe infants, toddlers, and pre-school children. The broad areas of emphasis include: prenatal development, physical development, social development, relationships, educational and mental development, emotional development, play-purposes, supervision, the special needs child, and child abuse.

Foreign Language

Latin 1 & 2

Level: Academic 9, 10, 11

Length of course: One year

Department: Foreign Language

Pre-requisite: none

Course description:

Latin 1-2 emphasizes the building of vocabulary, especially those words with English derivatives, and the ability to read and write simple Latin. Emphasis also is placed on civilization and culture since we owe so much to the Romans. Latin abbreviations, phrases, mottos, and professional phrases used in English are also taught. The students complete a project each nine weeks over some aspect of Roman life, food, houses, or mythology. The final nine weeks includes a group project and presentation to the class.

Spanish 1 & 2

Level: Academic 9, 10, 11

Length of course: One year

Department: Foreign Language

Pre-requisite: None

Course description:

The first year Spanish course involves four facets of language learning - reading, writing, speaking, and understanding. Hispanic culture, including the countries, life and holidays are introduced. This course is on a developing level with stress on conversational vocabulary, common nouns, action verbs, and adjectives.

Industrial Technology

Survey of Industrial Technologies

Level: Academic 9, 10, 11

Length of course: One year

Department: Industrial Technology

Pre-requisite: None

Course description:

This course includes nine weeks; COMMUNICATION: units on drafting, graphic arts, telecommunications, and computers. ENERGY; nine weeks of energy conversion and transmission, fossil fuels and energy conservation, solar power, and alternative energy systems; POWER: nine weeks of land, water, air, space, and material transportation, basic engine parts and processes, hand tools, tune-up of one cylinder internal combustion engines, model rocketry; and PRODUCTION: nine weeks of mass production with wood and metal products, hand and power tools, planning and work procedures. Each unit will involve students in a wide range of activities and experiences. All aspects of lab safety are taught and applied as the students work. Exercises include basic fundamentals of technology that the student will meet in practical everyday life. Laboratory work consists of theory, operation and maintenance as well as trouble shooting.

Technical Transportation

Level: Academic 9, 10, 11,12

Length of course: One semester

Department: Industrial Technology

Pre-requisite: Concurrent enrollment in Algebra 1-2

Course description:

This course is a broad overview of power and how it is applicable to industry and everyday living. A thorough study is made of two and four cycle internal combustion engines. Fluid power, the diesel engine, the Wankel (rotary combustion engine), steam power, jets, and rockets are discussed. Laboratory work consists of theory, operation, and maintenance, trouble shooting, and tune-up of a four-cycle engine. Emphasis is placed on technique, accuracy and safety in the use of hand and power tools and testing instruments. Because laboratory work in this class involves a single major project, the satisfactory completion of that project is mandatory in order to receive a passing semester grade for this class.

Technical Electricity/Electronics

Level: Academic 9, 10, 11, 12

Length of course: One semester

Department: Industrial Technology

Pre-requisite: Concurrent enrollment in Algebra 1-2

Course description:

This course offers a study of the basic principles of electricity and what produces direct and alternating current. Magnetism - with the various means of producing electrical energy, electrical circuits, their construction and measurement - is studied. Heating, lighting, wiring, and electric motors, are studied. Voltage, current, and resistance are taught by using multi-meters. Tubes, transistors, and integrated circuits are used to study their application in business, industry, and communication. Class work includes laboratory, experiments, student exercises, demonstrations, and lectures/discussion.

Technical Manufacturing

Level: Academic 9,10,11,12

Length of course: One semester

Department: Industrial Technology

Pre-requisite: Concurrent enrollment in Algebra 1-2

Course Description:

This course is a comprehensive explanation to the basic principles of metalworking, manufacturing, and material processing as it applies to industry and everyday use. The program emphasis is on classroom (theory) activity supported by meaningful laboratory experiences. It associates the student with all the various areas of metalworking, such as basic design qualities, producing development layout and measuring, bench work, hand and machine fabrication, temporary, semi-permanent and permanent fastening, material penetration, machine tools and operations, forging and heat treating, mass production, and their related functions. Emphasis is placed on safety practices.

Technical Wood

Level: Academic 9, 10, 11, 12

Length of course: One semester

Department: Industrial Technology

Pre-requisite: Concurrent enrollment in Algebra 1-2

Course Description:

This course presents to the student, interested in lumbering methods, and methods of wood construction, the opportunity to develop skills with the use of hand and power tools; attention is given to the home workshop and home repair, in addition to vocational and consumer information. Emphasis is placed on safety precautions and work procedures.

Math

Algebra 1A & 1B

Level: General 9, 10, 11

Length of course: Two years

Department: Math

Pre-requisite: None

Course Description:

This course is designed to prepare the student for Geometry, although it may be a terminal course for low level students. Topics from Practical Math are reviewed, and then extended to Algebra 1. These include solving equations; properties of numbers; number theory; operations with fractions; ratios, proportions, and percents; perimeter, area, and volume; graphing on the number line or coordinate plane of equations and inequalities; probability and statistics; and similar and right triangles.

Algebra 1

Level: Academic, Enriched 9, 10, 11, 12

Length of course: One year

Pre-requisite: None

Course Description:

In this course, the student will come into contact with: symbols and sets; variables and open sentences, axioms, equations, and problem solving; the negative numbers; equations, inequalities, and problem solving; working with polynomials; special products and factoring; working with fractions; graphs; sentences in two variables; the real numbers; functions and variations; quadratic equations and inequalities. Emphasis on the structure of algebra is combined with systematic instruction in the techniques of algebra. Precisely worded presentations encourage reasoning, discovery, and develops a familiarity with an understanding of algebraic proof

Geometry 1-2

Level: Academic, Enriched 9, 10, 11, 12

Length of course: One year (May be taken by freshmen with completion of Algebra 1 at the Junior High)

Department: Math

Pre-requisite: Algebra 1 with a grade of C- or higher

Course Description:

Geometry is a study of the properties, relations, and construction of such plane figures as the point, lines, angles, straight line figures, and the circle. A careful study is made of ratio and proportion. The meaning of proof is emphasized, and the student is given many opportunities to discover facts and relationships. The student receives training in logical thinking both in the analysis and in the development of a formal proof. Non-geometrical exercises are introduced to provide transfer to the field of non-mathematical reasoning. Emphasis is placed on how a mathematical system is developed. The course also includes some of the essentials of solid geometry. The goal is to develop original and independent thinking.

Music

Symphonic Band/Marching Band

Level: Academic

Length of course: Up to four years (Marching and Symphonic)

Department: Music

Pre-requisite: Well developed technical skills and ability to demonstrate musicianship at an advanced level.

Course Description:

This course covers the study and performance of advanced music literature covering a broad range of styles and historical periods, music theory and listening skills, opportunities for study and performance of chamber music and solo literature, and conducting. Enrollment will be based on instrumentation needs of the ensemble. Membership is by audition or director recommendation only. Performance expectations include concert performances in February and May, festival and contest performances in March and April, graduation activities, and other performances as determined by the director and band members. Marching expectations include participation in home football games, pep assemblies, festivals and parades, a concert performance in December, and other performances as determined by the director and band members.

Concert Band/Marching Band

Level: Academic

Length of course: Up to four years (Marching and Concert)

Department: Music

Pre-requisite: This class is open to all students who play a band instrument.

Course Description:

This course covers the study and performance of music appropriate to the intermediate student. Attempts will be made to include literature covering many styles and historical periods, music theory and listening skills, opportunities for study and performance of chamber music and solo literature, and conducting. Performance expectations include concert performances in February and May, festival and contest performances in March and April, graduation activities, and other performances as determined by the director and band members. Marching expectations include participation in home football games, pep assemblies, festivals and parades, a concert performance in December, and other performances as determined by the director and band members.

Percussion/Marching Band

Level: Academic

Length of course: Up to four years (Marching and Percussion)

Department: Music

Pre-requisite: Pre-requisite: Open to all percussionists with well developed technical skills and ability to demonstrate musicianship at an advanced level.

Course Description:

This course covers the study and performance of music literature covering a broad range of styles and historical periods, music theory and listening skills, opportunities for study and performance of chamber music and solo literature, and conducting with specific attention to the unique needs and techniques of the percussionist. Performance expectations include concert performances in February and May, festival and contest performances in March and April, graduation activities, other performances as determined by the director and band members. Marching expectations include participation in home football games, pep assemblies, festivals and parades, a concert performance in December, and other performances as determined by the director and band members.

The Marching Band membership is comprised of students enrolled in the Concert and Symphonic Bands and Percussion class. All students enrolled in band classes are expected to participate unless special arrangements are made with the director.

Choir (Freshmen Girls & Boys)

Level: Academic

Length of course: One year

Department: Music

Pre-requisite Open to all students interested in singing. No previous choral experience necessary.

Course Description:

This course is a beginning choir class for freshmen girls, designed to introduce the young singer to the basic fundamentals of vocal production and ensemble singing. The basics of music theory, necessary to function successfully in a choral ensemble, will be taught. The 9th grade singer will be prepared to advance to the Concert Choir the following year.

Some of the functions members of the Prep Choir will be involved in include:

4 school year concerts - mandatory
IHSA Sponsored Music Contests - optional
High School Musical - optional
IMEA District Music Festival - optional
Chorale (Pop Choir) - audition

Physical Education

Physical Education

Level: Academic

Length of course: One year Course 10 – 12 grades; One semester 9th grade

Department: Physical Education

Pre-requisite None

Course Description:

Physical Education is required all 4 years of high school. Students are exposed to a wide variety of activities. These activities include: individual and team sports, fitness, team building, adventure challenge, rhythmic activities, guest speakers and self-defense. Fitness testing and wellness are a special emphasis in our physical education program.

Health

Level: Academic

Length of course: One semester (In most cases taken freshmen year)

Department: Health

Pre-requisite : None

Course Description:

Students will be given information that they need to better understand the different aspects of health and wellness. A constant theme throughout health education focuses on the development and application of student decision-making skills as it relates to his/her own health. Emphasis focuses on developing basic knowledge and understanding of food and nutrition principles, first aid procedures/techniques, drug and alcohol awareness and normal growth and development processes. Other areas explored are mental/emotional health, stress and stress management, relationship/dating, and disease prevention. Activities include oral discussion, small group work, role playing, demonstrations, journal-keeping and guest speakers on current and various health related topics.

Science

Biology 1-2

Level: Academic 9, 10, 11, 12

Length of course: One year

Department: Science

Pre-requisite : None

Type: Life science

Course Description:

This course is a blend of modern and traditional biology. Concepts and principles of biology applicable to all life are presented to emphasize that all living systems are similar and related. The environment and ecology are stressed throughout the course. Laboratory investigations are provided when appropriate to enhance classroom instruction.

Enriched Biology 1-2

Level: Academic Enriched 9

Length of course: One year

Department: Science

Pre-requisite : Based on recommendation of 8th grade teacher

Type: Life science

Course Description:

This course is based on the unifying themes of biology: living systems, patterns and products of change, maintenance of dynamic equilibrium, relationships between energy and the organization of matter, reproduction and inheritance, growth and differentiation, and interaction and interdependence.

Basic Geology

Level: Academic – 9, 10, 11, 12

Length of course: One semester (1st only)

Department: Science

Type: Physical Science (Earth)

Prerequisite: None

Course Description:

Basic Geology includes topics covering: map reading, minerals rocks, mountain building, plate tectonics, earthquakes and volcanoes.

Enriched Basic Geology

Level: Enriched – 9, 10, 11, 12

Length of course: One semester (1st only)

Department: Science

Type: Physical Science (Earth)

Prerequisite: B- in previous Enriched Science, teacher recommendation, or based on 8th grade MAP score (if taken as a freshman).

Course Description:

Enriched Basic Geology includes topics covering: map reading, minerals, rocks, mountain building, plate tectonics, earthquakes, and volcanoes. Enrichment will involve deeper study and investigation of content. Assessment will include numerous essays that will require the student to demonstrate his/her depth of understanding of the content. drawings and paintings.

Astronomy and Weather

Level: Academic – 9, 10, 11, 12

Length of course: One semester (2nd only)

Department: Science

Type: Physical Science (Earth)

Prerequisite: None

Course Description:

Astronomy and weather topics include: the Sun-Earth-Moon system, our solar system, objects in the universe, atmosphere composition, weather systems, storms, and climate.

Enriched Astronomy and Weather

Level: Enriched – 9, 10, 11, 12

Length of course: One semester (2nd only)

Department Science

Type: Physical Science (Earth)

Prerequisite: B- in previous Enriched Science, teacher recommendation, or based on 8th grade MAP score (if taken as a Freshman)

Course Description:

Astronomy and weather topics include: the Sun-Earth-Moon system, our solar system, objects in the universe, atmosphere composition, weather systems, storms, and climate. Enrichment will involve deeper study and investigation of contest. Assessment will include essays that will require the student to demonstrate his/her depth of understanding of the contest.

Social Science

Academic Geography 1-2

Level: Academic 9, 10, 11, 12

Length of course: One year

Department: Social Science

Pre-requisite : None

Course Description:

This elective course features a wide variety of materials designed to develop social studies skills and concepts. The major objectives of this course are to point out the practical importance of geography in human life in all ages, and especially in our own time; to point out that geography is not an isolated body of subject matter, but one that is intimately tied to history and other social sciences.