

SHEPAUG  
VALLEY SCHOOL

COURSE OFFERINGS

and

PLANNING TOOL

2020-2021

## Overview

This document provides a summary of all current courses offered at Shepaug, categorized by academic department. For every department, the document shares a chart which lists the following for each course:

- course name;
- the grade(s) served by that course;
- the credit earned in that course (.5 or 1.0);
- the level and weight of the course toward the GPA: college preparatory (1.0), honors (1.15) or advanced placement- (1.20); and,
- the prerequisites required to enroll in the course.

At the end of the document, you will find an explanation of the *Shepaug Learner Outcomes*. Successful demonstration of each learner outcome is also a graduation requirement. Measurement of each learner outcome is embedded into specific course assessments that are defined at the end of this document. Please keep in mind that Shepaug students must also complete 30 hours of community service as part of our *Answering a Call to Citizenship* Learner Outcome.

This document will help when you speak with counselors to discuss course selection and attend future planning meetings. It is our expectation that this document is a planning tool only. School counselors have the expertise needed to help every student choose effective, engaging course schedules that meet current and future needs.

Please visit the Shepaug Valley School website. Under the Academics tab on this website, you can find detailed syllabi for each course offered at Shepaug. These syllabi are important documents that will help you make informed decisions.

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**HUMANITIES - ENGLISH COURSE SEQUENCE (4 credits required)**

**Courses Required: English 9, 10, 11 and 12**

<i>Middle School</i>	6-8	9	10	11	12	Offered 2020- 2021
English Language Arts - 6	Required					Y
English Language Arts - 7	Required					Y
English Language Arts - 8	Required					Y
<i>High School Courses</i>						
Western Studies/ENG 9 (1 credit)		Required-Honors Challenge Available				Y
American Studies/ENG 10 (1 credit)			Required-Honors Challenge Available			Y
World Lit and Comp/ENG 11 (1 credit)  Prerequisite: American Studies/ENG 10				Required-Honors Challenge Available		Y
AP Language and Composition (1 credit)  Prerequisite: American Studies/ENG 10, B+ or higher strongly recommended				Advanced Placement Elective  Can fulfill the requirement for World Lit and Comp/ENG 11 or ENG 12	Advanced Placement Elective  Can fulfill the requirement for World Lit and Comp/ENG 11 or ENG 12	Y
Eng 12 (1 credit) This requirement can be fulfilled through two, semester-based courses chosen from the courses listed below:						

AP Literature and Composition/ UCONN ECE (Early College Experience) <i>(1 credit)</i>  Prerequisite: World Lit and Comp/ENG 11 or AP Lang. & Comp., B+ or higher strongly recommended					Advanced Placement UCONN ECE* Elective  Can fulfill the requirement for ENG 12	Y
The Great Books (.5 credit) Prerequisite World Lit and Comp/ENG 11					Elective, Honors Challenge Available	
Creative Writing (.5 credit) Prerequisite World Lit and Comp/ENG 11					Elective, Honors Challenge Available	
Literary Science Fiction (.5 credit) Prerequisite World Lit and Comp/ENG 11					Elective, Honors Challenge Available	
Journalism (.5 credit) Prerequisite World Lit and Comp/ENG 11					Elective, Honors Challenge Available	

\*UConn ECE requires a tuition cost paid to UCONN. Students are issued a UCONN transcript upon successful completion of the course.

All students are required to pass four years of English in order to graduate high school. To prepare for a selective college, students should take the honors challenge option in grades 9-11 and at least one advanced placement English course.

**HUMANITIES- SOCIAL STUDIES (3 credits required, including .5 Civics)**

**Courses Required: SS 9, SS 10, and SS 11**

<i>Middle School</i>	6-8	9	10	11	12	Offered 2020- 2021
Social Studies 6 Asia / Africa	Required					Y
Social Studies 7 Latin America / Europe	Required					Y
Social Studies 8 Early American History	Required					Y
<i>High School Courses</i>						
SS 9 - Western Studies (1 credit)		Required- Honors Challenge Available				Y
SS 10 -American Studies/Civics (1 credit)			Required- Honors Challenge Available			Y
SS 11 - Modern World History (1 credit)  Prerequisite: SS 10- American Studies/Civics				Required- Honors Challenge Available		Y
AP/UCONN ECE Modern European History  Prerequisite: American Studies; B+ or higher strongly recommended				Advanced Placement & UCONN ECE* Elective  This course can fulfill the requirement for SS 11 or be taken as an additional elective.	Advanced Placement & UCONN ECE* Elective	Y

AP American Government and Politics (1 credit)  Prerequisite: American Studies/ Civics, B+ or higher strongly recommended				Advanced Placement Elective  This course can fulfill the requirement for SS 11 or be taken as an additional elective.	Advanced Placement Elective	Y
Psychology (.5 credit)			Elective, Honors Challenge available	Elective, Honors Challenge available	Elective, Honors Challenge available	Y
UCONN ECE Foundations of Western Thought (.5 Credit)*				Elective, Early College Experience	Elective, Early College Experience	Y
Gender Studies (.5 credit)  Offered on a rotating basis			Elective, Honors Challenge Available	Elective, Honors Challenge Available	Elective, Honors Challenge Available	Y
Sociology (.5 credit)  Offered on a rotating basis			Elective, Honors Challenge Available	Elective, Honors Challenge Available	Elective, Honors Challenge Available	Y
History Through Film and Documentary (.5 credit)				Elective, Honors Challenge Available	Elective, Honors Challenge Available	Y

\*UCONN charges a small tuition fee for this course. The student is awarded a UCONN transcript upon successful completion of the course.

All students are required to pass three years of Social Studies, including one half credit in Civics in order to graduate high school. At Shepaug, Civics is taught in conjunction with American Studies in grade ten. To prepare for a selective college, students should take the honors challenge option in grades 9-11 and at least one advanced placement Social Studies course.

HUMANITIES - MUSIC (Music is a Fine Arts elective.)

<i>Middle School</i>	6-8	9	10	11	12	Offered 2020-2021
Ensemble Band or Chorus 6	Required					Y
Ensemble Band or Chorus 7	Required					Y
Ensemble Band or Chorus 8	Required					Y
General Music 7 & 8 Taken in place of Band or Chorus	Alternative Gr. 7 & 8					Y
<i>High School</i>						
Ensemble Band 9-12 (1 credit)		Elective	Elective	Elective	Elective	Y
Ensemble Chorus 9-12 (1 credit)		Elective	Elective	Elective	Elective	Y
Music Theory I (.5 credit)		Elective-Honors Challenge available	Elective-Honors Challenge available	Elective-Honors Challenge available	Elective-Honors Challenge available	Y
American Popular Music (.5 credit)			Elective - Honors Challenge Available	Elective - Honors Challenge Available	Elective - Honors Challenge Available	Y
Sound Design (.5 credit) Can fulfill tech requirement .5			Elective-Honors Challenge available	Elective-Honors Challenge available	Elective-Honors Challenge available	Y



HUMANITIES - VISUAL ARTS (Visual Arts is a Fine Arts elective)

<i>Middle School</i>	6-8	9	10	11	12	Offered 2020- 2021
Exploring the Visual Arts Grade 6	Required					Y
Exploring the Visual Arts Grade 7	Required					Y
Exploring the Visual Arts Grade 8	Required					Y
<i>High School</i>						
Intro to Drawing & Painting (.5 credit)		Elective	Elective	Elective	Elective	Y
Intermediate Drawing & Painting (.5 credit) Prerequisite - Introductory level		Elective	Elective	Elective	Elective	Y
Advanced Drawing & Painting (.5 credit) Prerequisite- Intermediate level			Elective	Elective	Elective	Y
Intro to Sculpture & Ceramics (.5 credit)		Elective	Elective	Elective	Elective	Y
Intermediate Sculpture & Ceramics (.5 credit) Prerequisite - Introductory level		Elective	Elective	Elective	Elective	Y
Advanced Sculpture & Ceramics (.5 credit) Prerequisite- Intermediate level			Elective	Elective	Elective	Y
Intro to Photography (.5 credit)		Elective	Elective	Elective	Elective	Y

Intermediate Photography (.5 credit) Prerequisite- Introductory level  <i>Can fulfill tech requirement .5</i>		Elective	Elective	Elective	Elective	Y
Advanced Photography (.5 credit)  Prerequisite- Intermediate level  <i>Can fulfill tech requirement .5</i>			Elective	Elective	Elective	Y
Studio Art Honors I and II (.5 credit each)  Prerequisite - Intermediate Level in any area				Elective Honors	Elective Honors	Y
AP Studio Art (1 credit)  Prerequisite: Advanced Level in one subject area or Intermediate Level plus Studio Art				Advanced Placement - choose one medium	Advanced Placement- choose one medium	Y
<a href="#">Botanical Art and Illustration (.5 credit)</a> NEW  <i>Offered on a rotating basis</i>		Elective	Elective	Elective	Elective	Y

## WORLD LANGUAGE

For students in the graduating Class of 2023 and beyond, one year of World Language is required for graduation. This can be either Spanish or French. Colleges often require two or three World Language credits.

	6-8	9	10	11	12	Offered 2020-2021
Grade 6 Exploratory French /Spanish	Required					Y
Grade 7 French or Spanish 1A	Required					Y
Grade 8 French or Spanish 1B	Required					Y
<p><u>Acceleration opportunity for middle school</u> -Students who successfully complete <i>Grade 7 Level 1A</i> and <i>Grade 8 Level 1B</i>, in either Spanish or French, may enroll directly into the Level II high school course. Students in Grade 8 may elect to take the Level 1 final exam. If the student earns a score of 75 or above on the final exam, he/she will earn one World Language credit for high school.</p>						
<i>High School</i>		9	10	11	12	Offered 2020-2021
Spanish I <i>(1 credit)</i>		Elective- Meets a Requirement for Class of 2023				Y
Spanish II <i>(1 credit)</i> Prerequisite: Spanish I		Elective- Honors Challenge available	Elective- Honors Challenge available	Elective- Honors Challenge available	Elective- Honors Challenge available	Y
Spanish III <i>(1 credit)</i> Prerequisite: Spanish II			Elective- Honors Challenge available	Elective- Honors Challenge available	Elective- Honors Challenge available	Y
Spanish IV Honors <i>(1 credit)</i> Prerequisite: Spanish III			Elective Honors	Elective Honors	Elective Honors	Y
AP Spanish					Advanced Placement	Y

(1 credit) Prerequisite: Spanish IV Honors					Elective	
French I (1 credit)		Elective- Meets a Requireme nt for Class of 2023				Y
French II (1 credit) Prerequisite: French I		Elective- Honors Challenge available	Elective- Honors Challenge available	Elective- Honors Challenge available	Elective- Honors Challenge available	Y
French III (1 credit) Prerequisite: French II		Elective- Honors Challenge available	Elective- Honors Challenge available	Elective- Honors Challenge available	Elective- Honors Challenge available	Y
French IV Honors (1 credit) Prerequisite: French III			Elective Honors	Elective Honors	Elective Honors	Y
AP French (1 credit) Prerequisite: French IV Honors					Advanced Placement Elective	Y

All students who wish to enroll in college should take a minimum of two years of a world language. To prepare for a selective college, students should take at least three years of a world language. Students who wish to major in a language, should take the Advanced Placement level in the applicable language(s).

**STEM - SCIENCE (3 credits required in Science)**  
**Courses Required: Physics 9, Chemistry, Biology**

<i>Middle School</i>	6 - 8	9	10	11	12	Offered 2020- 2021
Science 6	Required					Y
Science 7	Required					Y
Science 8	Required					Y

<i>High School Courses</i>						
Physics 9 (1 credit)		Required- Honors Challenge available				Y
Chemistry (1 credit)  Prerequisite Physics 9			Required			Y
Chemistry Honors ( 1 credit)  Prerequisite Physics 9 with a B+ or higher strongly recommended			Required Honors Level  This course fulfills the Chemistry requirement			Y
Biology (1 credit)  Prerequisite Chemistry				Required		Y
AP Biology (1 credit)  Prerequisite Chemistry with a B+ or higher strongly recommended				Advanced Placement Elective  This course may be taken to fill the Biology requirement if prerequisites are met.	Advanced Placement Elective  May also be taken as an elective after Biology	Y
Anatomy & Physiology / A & P Honors (1 credit)				Elective or Elective Honors	Elective or Elective Honors	Y
Physics 11/12 (1 credit)  Prerequisite: Algebra II, Chemistry, Biology				Elective	Elective	Y

<p>AP Physics <i>(1 credit)</i></p> <p>Prerequisites: Trigonometry/ Pre Calculus or a B+ or better in Honors Algebra II; Chemistry and Biology also required</p>				<p>Advanced Placement Elective</p>	<p>Advanced Placement Elective</p>	<p>Y</p>
<p>AP Chemistry <i>(1 credit)</i></p> <p>Prerequisites: Honors Chemistry, Algebra II, B+ or higher in both subjects strongly recommended</p> <p>Offered every other year</p>				<p>Advanced Placement Elective</p>	<p>Advanced Placement Elective</p>	<p>N</p>

Students who wish to apply to a four year college should take four years of science choosing honors level as appropriate. Students who wish to prepare for a selective college should participate in honors challenge for Physics 9, Chemistry Honors, and one AP/ECE level science course. Students who wish to major in a science should take two AP/ECE science courses, if possible.

STEM - MATH (4 credits required in Math)

Algebra I and Geometry are required. Students may then choose Introduction to Algebra II OR Algebra II to fulfill the third math requirement. The fourth required math credit is student choice.

<i>Middle School</i>	6-8	9	10	11	12	Offered 2020-2021
Mathematics 6	Required					Y
Mathematics 7	Required					Y
Mathematics 8	Required					Y
Accelerated Mathematics 7 & 8	Elective 2-year program*					Y
<p>*Acceleration opportunity for middle school students who meet specific criteria may enter a two-year accelerated math program in grades seven and eight which teaches the standards for grades seven, eight, and Algebra I in a two-year period. Criteria for 2019-20 are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A grade of B+ or higher in the grade six math class for each marking period.</li> <li>• Successful participation in an IXL (online) course at an 85% level of proficiency. Completion within the established time frame is an indication of readiness for the pace of the accelerated course. In addition, the IXL work will help prepare students for the Grade 6 Smarter Balanced Assessment administered in May.</li> <li>• A score of 4 on the Grade 6 Math Smarter Balanced Assessment (results are released in June). Level 4 indicates proficiency with most or all grade level skills and the readiness to accelerate. Parents and students will be informed as soon as Smarter Balanced Assessment scores are released to the school.</li> </ul>						
<i>High School</i>						
Algebra I (1 credit)		Required				Y
Geometry (1 credit) Prerequisite: Algebra I			Required			Y
Geometry Honors (1 credit) Prerequisite: Algebra I with a B+ or higher and teacher recommendation strongly recommended			Required Honors Level  This course fulfills the Geometry requirement			Y
Introduction to Algebra II			Required	Required	Required	Y

(1 credit) Prerequisite: Algebra I.			Intro to Algebra II OR Algebra II fulfill the third math requirement	Intro to Algebra II OR Algebra II fulfill the third math requirement	Intro to Algebra II OR Algebra II fulfill the third math requirement	
Algebra II (1 credit) Prerequisite: Algebra I. Strongly recommended that students who wish to take Algebra II concurrently with Geometry have a B+ or higher in Algebra I and teacher recommendation			Required  Intro to Algebra II OR Algebra II fulfill the third math requirement	Required  Intro to Algebra II OR Algebra II fulfill the third math requirement	Required  Intro to Algebra II OR Algebra II fulfill the third math requirement	Y
Algebra II Honors (1 credit) Prerequisite: Algebra I and Geometry with a B+ or higher and teacher recommendation strongly recommended.			Required Honors Level  This fulfills the Algebra II requirement	Required Honors Level  This fulfills the Algebra II requirement	Required Honors Level  This fulfills the Algebra II requirement	Y
Trigonometry/Pre Calculus (1 credit)  Prerequisite: Algebra II			Elective	Elective	Elective	Y
Trigonometry/Pre Calculus Honors (1 credit)  Prerequisite: Algebra II with a B+ or higher and teacher recommendation strongly recommended.			Elective Honors	Elective Honors	Elective Honors	Y
*AP Calculus/ UCONN ECE Calculus (1 credit)  Prerequisite: Trigonometry/Pre Calculus with a B+ or higher and teacher recommendation strongly recommended.				Advanced Placement Elective  AP and UCONN ECE options available*	Advanced Placement Elective  AP and UCONN ECE options available*	Y



Statistics (1 credit)  Prerequisite: Algebra I and Geometry				Elective	Elective	Y
AP Statistics (1 credit)  Prerequisite Algebra II with B+ or higher and teacher recommendation are strongly recommended.				Advanced Placement Elective	Advanced Placement Elective	Y
Personal Finance (1 credit)				Elective	Elective	Y

\*UConn charges a small tuition fee for this course. The student is awarded a UConn transcript upon successful completion of the course.

Students applying to a four year college should take Algebra, Geometry, Algebra II and either Statistics or Trigonometry/Precalculus. Students who wish to prepare for a selective college should take honors courses in Geometry, Algebra II, and Trigonometry/Precalculus and one AP Math course.

Students who complete AP Calculus/UConn ECE prior to their senior year have the ability to take AP Calculus BC through Virtual High School.

### Career and Technical Education

Students in the Class of 2023 and beyond (incoming freshmen) are required to take 9 STEM credits; for these students, technology and digital media courses can fulfill two of the STEM elective credits. Incoming students in grades ten, eleven and twelve must take 1 technology credit and 1 STEM elective.

CTE	Middle School	9	10	11	12	Offered 2020-2021
Technology						
Project Lead the Way - 6 Design and Modeling	Required					Y
PLTW - 7 Energy and the Environment	Required					Y
PLTW - 8 Robotics and Automation	Required					Y
High School Digital Media						

TV Production & Broadcasting (Can be a .5 Journalism/English credit for seniors only) (.5 credit)		Elective	Elective	Elective	Elective  Can fulfill a .5 English credit for seniors only	Y
Digital Media Communications I (.5 credit)		Elective	Elective	Elective	Elective	Y
Digital Media Communications II (.5 credit)		Elective-Honors Challenge option	Elective-Honors Challenge option	Elective-Honors Challenge option	Elective-Honors Challenge option	Y
Graphic Design and Computer Illustration (.5 credit)		Elective	Elective	Elective	Elective	Y
High School Technology						
Robotics Fall Semester (.5 credit)		Elective	Elective	Elective	Elective	Y
Robotics II Fall Semester (.5 credit)		Elective Honors Challenge option	Elective Honors Challenge option	Elective Honors Challenge option	Elective Honors Challenge option	Y
Computer Aided Design (CAD) (.5 credit) Offered on a rotating basis		Elective-Honors Challenge option	Elective-Honors Challenge option	Elective-Honors Challenge option	Elective-Honors Challenge option	N
Mobile App Design (.5 credit) Offered on a rotating basis		Elective-Honors Challenge option	Elective-Honors Challenge option	Elective-Honors Challenge option	Elective-Honors Challenge option	Y
Exploring Computer Science (1 credit)		Elective-Honors Challenge Available	Elective-Honors Challenge Available	Elective-Honors Challenge Available	Elective-Honors Challenge Available	Y
3D Modeling and Animation (0.5 credit) NEW			Elective-Honors Challenge Available	Elective-Honors Challenge Available	Elective-Honors Challenge Available	Y
High School Business						

Introduction to Business (.5 credit)		Elective	Elective	Elective	Elective	Y
Investing (.5 credit)		Elective-Honors Challenge option	Elective-Honors Challenge option	Elective-Honors Challenge option	Elective-Honors Challenge option	Y
Entrepreneurship (.5 credit)		Elective-Honors Challenge option	Elective-Honors Challenge option	Elective-Honors Challenge option	Elective-Honors Challenge option	Y
*UConn ECE Economics (.5 credit)				Elective AP Weighting	Elective AP Weighting	Y

\*UConn charges a small tuition fee for this course. The student is awarded a UConn transcript upon successful completion of the course.

### Agriscience Program

Requirements for the Agriscience Program:

- First year students enrolled in the Agriscience program begin with a one-credit, first year exploratory course to learn about the four pathways: *Plant Science, Animal Science, Food Production & Processing, and Power, Structure and Mechanics*. Once students select a pathway, they will take classes devoted to their chosen pathway and a lab experience and may choose agriscience elective classes.
- Each year, Agriscience students are also required to complete Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) hours and serve as members of the FFA. This includes a commitment to engage in SAE and FFA presentation and leadership development and affiliation growth requirements. When Agriscience students reach grade twelve, the SAE will be incorporated into the Senior Project.

### AGRISCIENCE

<i>Middle School</i>	6 - 8	9	10	11	12	Offered 2020-2021
Introduction to Agriscience 7	Required					Y
Introduction to Agriscience 8	Required					Y
<i>High School</i>						

Agriscience Exploratory (1 credit)		Required Each pathway is explored for 1 marking period.	Required for 10th graders new to Agriscience Each pathway is explored for 1 marking period.			Y
Natural Design (.5 credit)		Elective	Elective	Elective	Elective	Y
Introduction to Foods (.5 credit)		Elective	Elective	Elective	Elective	Y
Animal Systems I: Fundamentals of Veterinary Science and Animal Behavior and Handling			Required for Students in Animal Science Pathway			Y
Plant Systems 1: Fundamentals of Plant Growth and Plant Propagation & Production			Required for Students in Plant Science Pathway			Y
Food Production and Processing 1: Local Food Production and Global Food Supply			Required for Students in Food Production and Processing Pathway			Y
Power Structural and Technical Systems 1: Applications of Technical Systems and Concepts of Design & Structure			Required for Students in Power Structures and Technical Systems Pathway			Y
*UConn ECE Floral Art (.5 credit) NEW				Early College Experience Elective	Early College Experience Elective	Y
*UConn ECE Environmental Science (.5 credit) NEW				Early College Experience Elective	Early College Experience Elective	Y
Future Courses						

Animal Systems II and III						N
Plant Systems II, III						N
Food Production and Processing II, III						N
Power Structural and Technical Systems II, III						N

\*UCONN charges a small tuition fee for this course. The student is awarded a UConn transcript upon successful completion of the course.

### SENIOR PROJECT

All Shepaug seniors are required to participate in Senior Project. Senior Project is a one credit, year long course that engages seniors in a self-directed project to apply the knowledge, skills, and learner outcomes learned throughout their high school experience. Detailed information regarding Senior Project is shared with each student and his/her parents in the beginning of the senior year. For this course students must earn a grade of 70 or above to pass and earn credit. All seniors are given a Senior Project Guide at the beginning of the course and parents are sent progress reports each quarter.

Students enrolled in the Agriscience program may use the SAE experience as the basis of the Senior Project. Senior project is a mastery-based course and fulfills the requirement for a mastery-based course/experience for students in the Class of 2023 and beyond.

### PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND HEALTH

High school students graduating after 2022 must take one full credit of physical education and one full credit of health in order to graduate high school. All other grades must take one full credit of physical education and one half credit of health. For Physical Education, students will choose either the Personal Fitness or Team Sports pathway, and they will take levels I and II in that pathway. The pathways are detailed below.

	6-8	9	10	11	12	Offered 2020-2021
Physical Education 6 Every other day, all year	Required					Y
Physical Education 7 Every other day, all year	Required					Y
Physical Education 8 Every other day, all year	Required					Y
Health 6, every other day for one semester	Required					Y

Personal Fitness Pathway						
Personal Fitness I (.5 credit)		Required				Y
Personal Fitness II (.5 credit) Prerequisite PF I			Required			Y
Team Sports Pathway						
Team Sports I (.5 credit)		Required				Y
Team Sports II (.5 credit) Prerequisite TS I			Required			Y
Health						
Health and Wellness (.5 credit)		Required				Y
Health and Society (.5 credit) NEW			Required			Y
ELECTIVE						
Lifeguarding Certification Course - must be 15 years of age or older (.5 credit)				Elective	Elective	Y

### Virtual High School

Students who would like to explore courses not offered at Shepaug can enroll in Virtual High School classes. The online catalog of courses can be viewed at <https://my.vhslearning.org/PublicStudentCourseList.aspx>

Students interested in learning more about the VHS option should see their school counselor to ensure that course selection aligns with graduation plan. Students should then meet with the VHS coordinator at Shepaug, Mrs. Joan Temple. In ALL CIRCUMSTANCES, PRIOR APPROVAL of the principal is needed if students wish to use a VHS course for credit, including during the summer. Families will meet with the student's school counselor who will then speak with the principal.

### Independent Study

Students who would like to explore courses not offered at Shepaug may also investigate independent study and mastery-based learning. Students must meet with their counselor, complete a detailed proposal, and have prior approval before engaging in any independent work. Students must have an on-staff teacher who is certified in the appropriate discipline as the independent study facilitator. Independent study is allowed for elective credit and cannot replace required SVS courses.

### Shepaug Students Who Take Courses from Another Institution

Students who take a course at another institution, such as a community college or a summer academy, **MUST OBTAIN PRIOR APPROVAL** from the principal if they wish to transfer course credit from the granting institution to Shepaug.

## Shepaug Valley School Core Values, Guiding Beliefs and Learner Outcomes

Shepaug is a small but comprehensive middle and high school, and this combination allows us to offer flexible, varied learning programs while making personal connections with each student. We recognize the developmentally unique academic, personal and social needs of our middle and high school students. Our goal is to offer challenging courses, engaging teaching methods, and proactive support services that address these differences, enhance student achievement and promote the continued success of each student. Families are an integral part of this goal, as are the community members who offer us continual support and encouragement.

### Core Values and Guiding Beliefs

Our learning community challenges and inspires us to demonstrate critical thinking, ethical behavior, creativity, and compassion each day in pursuit of intellectually curious and fulfilling lives as citizens of a dynamic, multicultural America and global society.

Because we value Challenge, Inspiration, Creativity and Compassion, we believe that:

- Learning requires courage.
- Everyone shares responsibility for an effective learning community.
- Effective teaching fosters the natural curiosity of all learners.
- Twenty-first century learners creatively solve problems.
- Mastery of content and skills is the foundation of learning.
- Successful learners question, analyze and synthesize information.
- Adversity is an opportunity for growth.
- Continual mastery of communication skills is essential in a digital age.
- Physical and emotional wellness is critical to a fulfilling life.

### Shepaug Learner Outcomes

The four Shepaug Learner Outcomes are the foundation of our educational program:

- Engaging in the Creative Process
- Solving Problems
- Defending Conclusions & Judgments
- Answering a Call to Citizenship

Each outcome is based on a rigorous skill set deemed essential for 21<sup>st</sup> century learning and productivity, and all outcomes combined ensure that students are prepared to navigate college, career and life long learning. The complete skill set associated with each Shepaug Learner Outcome is clearly defined through an analytic rubric with a defined level of proficiency. This rubric is used to guide instruction, to encourage self-assessment, and to measure student progress in meeting each outcome.

All departments address the skills associated with the learner outcomes. In addition, each department has responsibility for comprehensively teaching a specific learner outcome, and upper level courses within the department have responsibility for measuring achievement of that learner outcome. Shepaug reports student progress in meeting each learner outcome on the student transcript. For the Class of 2018 and beyond, demonstrated proficiency of each outcome is a graduation requirement. Assessments which measure achievement of each outcome are embedded into specific course curricula and do not require additional, separate assessments.



Shepaug Valley students will demonstrate the ability to:

<p>Engage in the Creative Process <i>using</i>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Conceptual Ability</li> <li>● Connections</li> <li>● Curiosity and Exploration</li> <li>● Technical Skill</li> <li>● Intellectual Risk Taking</li> <li>● Reflection and Refinement</li> </ul>	<p>Defend Conclusions and Judgements <i>using</i>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Structure</li> <li>● Critical Stance</li> <li>● Insight and Argument</li> <li>● Evidence</li> <li>● Defense</li> <li>● Evaluation</li> <li>● Fluency</li> </ul>
<p>Solve Problems <i>using</i>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Problem Clarification</li> <li>● Divergent Thinking</li> <li>● Convergent Thinking</li> <li>● Problem Solution</li> <li>● Evaluation</li> </ul>	<p>Answer a Call to Citizenship <i>using</i>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Awareness</li> <li>● Respect</li> <li>● Participation and Collaboration</li> <li>● Leadership</li> </ul>

Courses Designed to Promote Each Shepaug Learner Outcome

Engaging the Creative Process	Departments and Courses that measure this Learner Outcome
	ELA- American Literature (10)
	ELA- World Literature (12)
	Music - Sound Design
	Art - Photography, Sculpture, Drawing and Painting
	Art - Studio and AP Art
	CTE-Robotics I and II, Wearable Technology, CADD
	CTE-Digital Media Communications I and II

Solving Problems	Department/Course
	Math -Geometry
	Math -Algebra II, Intro to Algebra II
	Math- Statistics
	Math -Trig/Pre Calculus
	Science -Biology
	Science- Chemistry

<b>Defending Conclusions and Judgments</b>	<b>Department/Course</b>
	Social Studies - American Studies
	Social Studies - Modern World History
	French and Spanish IV H

<b>Answering a Call to Citizenship</b>	<b>Department/Course</b>	
	School Counseling Courses and Programming	30 hours of Community Service with written reflection for each event. Interview with the student to complete the learner outcome rubric.
	Physical Education/Health Courses	Respect component of the rubric is measured in PE and then shared with counselor to complete the rest of the rubric at the time of student interview.