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DARIEN HIGH SCHOOL

CLASS of 2024

CURRICULUM NIGHT

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Welcome to the Class of 2024!

- Principal
- 3 Asst Principals
- Dept Chairs and Coordinators for each Dept
- 8 school counselors, 1 Director of Guidance
- 3 FT psychologists, 1 FT social worker,
- SRO
- 2 Librarians
- 160 faculty
- Excellent support staff throughout the building

REGISTRATION TIMELINE

February 6-13 : Selection of electives with MMS counselors

February 13: Academic Recommendations Available

February -March: Counselor Follow-Up

April-June: Master Schedule created/corrections made

Spring: DHS upperclassmen meet with MMS students

Day before school starts in August: Orientation (1/2 day)

TYPICAL 9TH GRADE SCHEDULE

1. English 9
2. Biology
3. Math
4. Western Civilization
5. PE/Health/lab
6. Elective (including World Language)
7. Elective
8. Elective or Study Hall

All 9th graders **MUST** take **SIX** classes plus PE or Health each semester.

Who do I call with questions?

Questions about placement or course questions?

MMS teacher and then Dept Chair

Questions about overall program?

MMS counselor or Meg Emanuelson

** Many resources on the DHS website/Guidance page

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WORLD LANGUAGES

CHRISTINA MAURICIO

DEPARTMENT CHAIRPERSON

OUR VISION FOR LANGUAGE LEARNING K-12

We believe that proficiency in more than one language is essential to function in a global society. By integrating language and culture, the K-12 World Language Department of the Darien Public Schools seeks to broaden students' communication skills, while fostering inquisitiveness and respect for other cultures.

We believe in the dynamic development of communication and language skills, empowering students to take risks using the target language, with the ultimate goal of preparing them to collaborate, problem-solve, and engage as thoughtful citizens with people around the world.

World Language Course Sequence

Middlesex Middle School

French 6



French 7



French 8

Spanish 6



Spanish 7



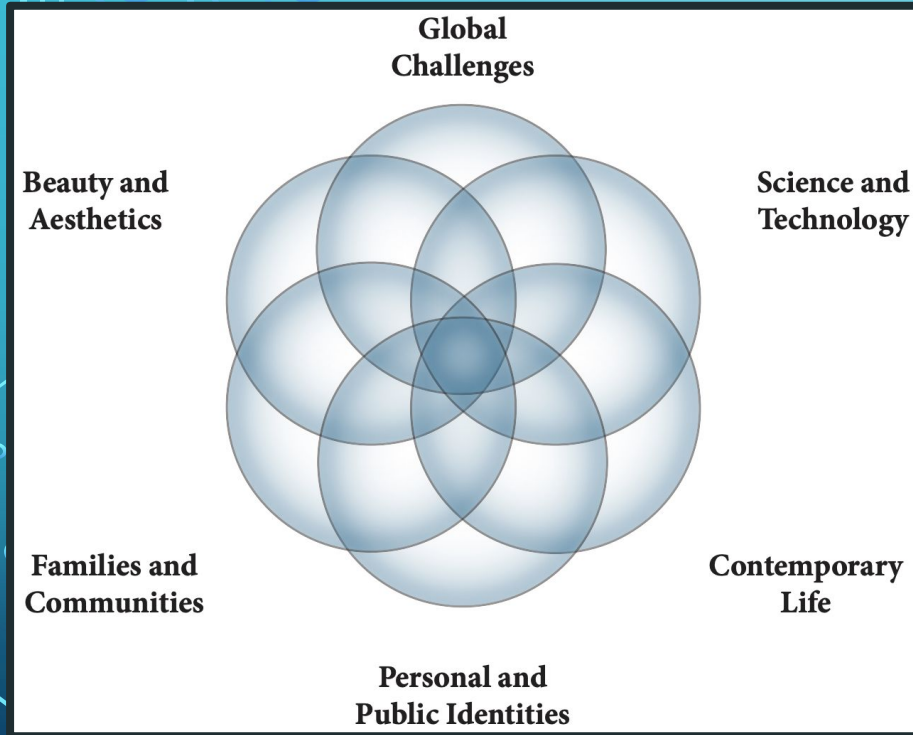
Spanish 8

World Language Course Sequence

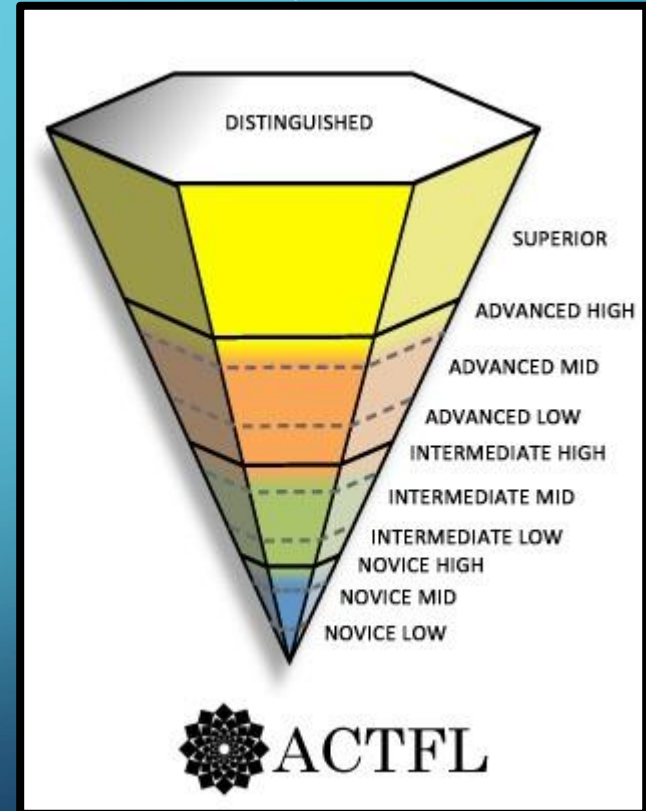
Darien High School



Content Standards



Proficiency Standards



World Language Opportunities Outside of Our Classrooms

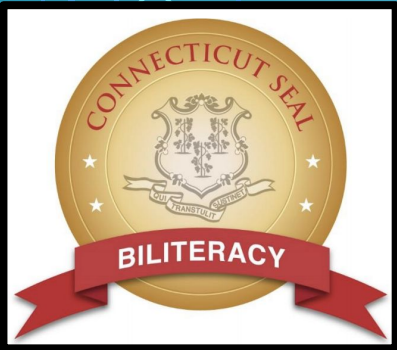
Connecticut Organization of Language
Teachers State-wide Poetry Recitation Contest



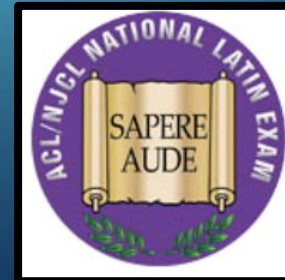
Honor Societies in
French, Latin, Mandarin, and Spanish

World Language Opportunities Outside of Our Classrooms

Connecticut Seal of Biliteracy &
Global Seal of Biliteracy
for all students scoring Intermediate-Mid on
the STAMP Proficiency Assessment
as Juniors and Seniors



National French, Latin,
and Spanish Exams





More resources!

Contact me
cmauricio@darienps.org

Follow us on Twitter
[@DPSWorldLang](https://twitter.com/DPSWorldLang)

Website!
tinyurl.com/DPSWorldLanguages



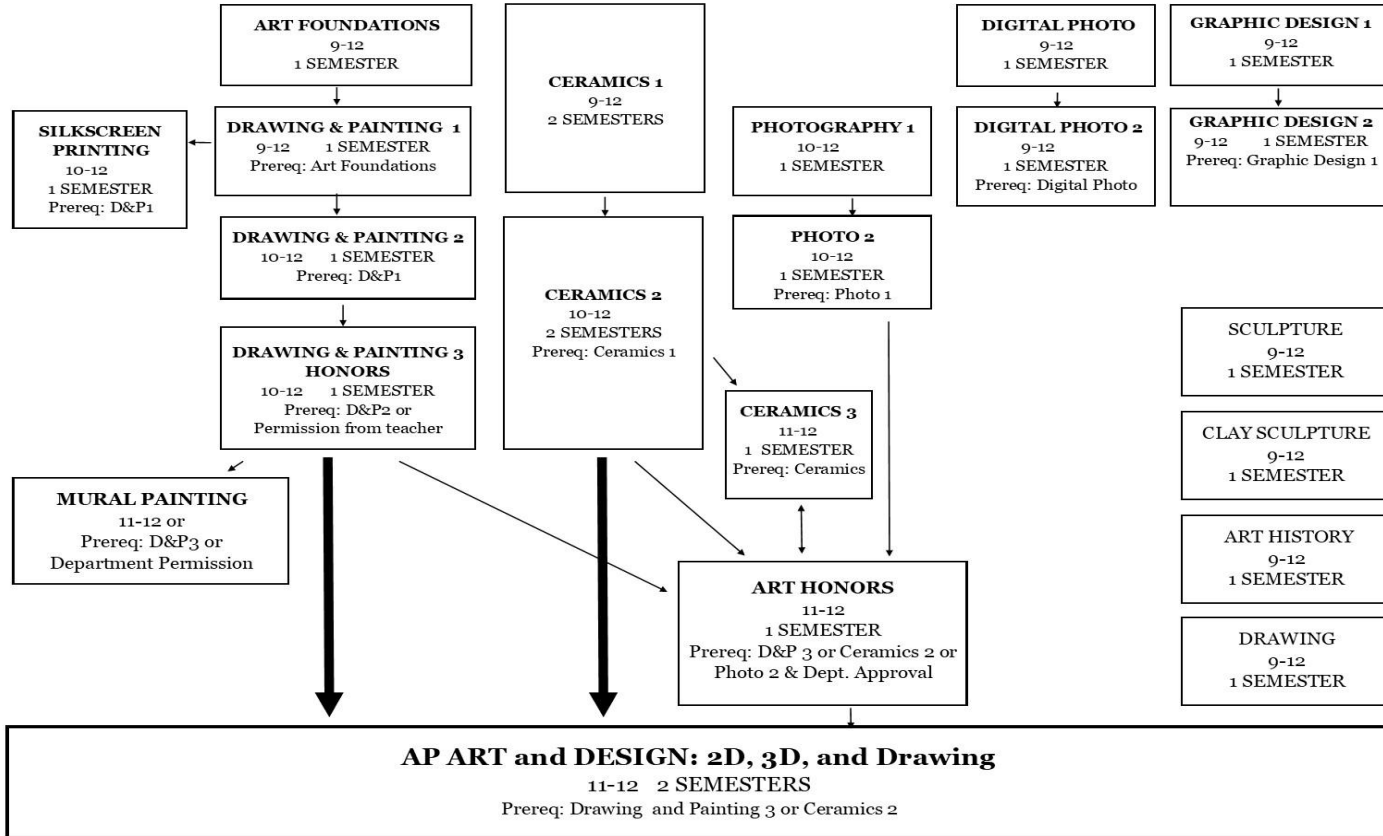
Kelly Niederreither
2020 Scholastics Silver Key
Award Winner

DHS Art Department Jaclyn Sammis, K-12 Art Coordinator

Overview:

- 21 courses: (11 open to Freshmen)
 - Drawing and Painting Path
 - Ceramic/ Sculpture Path
 - Photo/ Digital Path
- AP and Honors level courses through all paths
- Students can try a wide variety of art electives and move between paths based on interest

Art Department Courses and Sequences



ART FOUNDATIONS

POTENTIAL PROJECTS:

Contour Line Drawing

Sculpture

Subtractive Drawing

Watercolor Painting

Perspective

Still Life Drawing

Photogram in Dark Room



DRAWING AND PAINTING 1

POTENTIAL PROJECTS:

Landscapes

Impressionism

Gesture Drawing

Food Illustration

Exaggerated Portraits

Surrealism Drawing



CERAMICS 1 (Full Year)

POTENTIAL PROJECTS:

Wheel Thrown Forms

Zoomorphic vessel

Mandala Tiles

Slump Mold Forms

Carved Designed Forms

Themed Boxes

Artist Inspired Forms

Bird Houses

Bottles



CLAY SCULPTURE (½ Year)

POTENTIAL PROJECTS:

Letter/Shape Study

Gargoyle

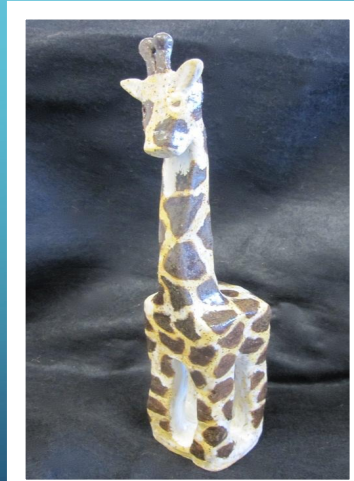
Food

Wall/Mandala

Shells

Idioms

Pop Art



DRAWING

POTENTIAL PROJECTS:

Charcoal Still Life

Ink Drawings

Pastel Portraits

Food "Portraits"

Mandala Designs

Dr. Seuss Inspired Letters



HISTORICAL ART MAKING

POTENTIAL PROJECTS:

Mask Making

Cave Paintings

Renaissance Paintings

Modern Art



SCULPTURE

POTENTIAL PROJECTS:

Soap Carving

Shoe Sculpting

African Masks

Tribal Art

Food Sculptures

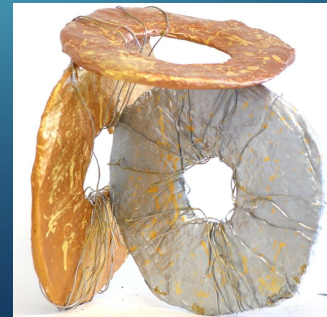
Monsters

Wire Sculptures

Plaster

Mix Media

Wood







2011 STUDENT

ART SHOW

FEATURING
SENIOR
EXHIBITS

MAY 18

RECEPTION

5:30 to 7:00







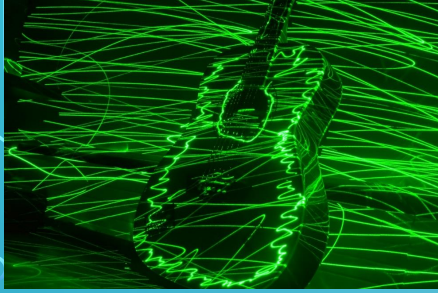
JOE HADDAD
OSCAR PARSONS



GOING GREEN FOR THE COMMUNITY



DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY 1 and 2



Potential Projects:

- Light and shadow
- Portraits
- Action and movement
- Understanding the Camera
- Depth of field
- Aperture and Shutter speed
- Photo Collage
- Composition
- Principles of Design

EXTRAS:



Follow us on **instagram**

@dhs_art_dept

@mmsartdept

Summer School:

Opportunities for students
in drawing and painting
and ceramics

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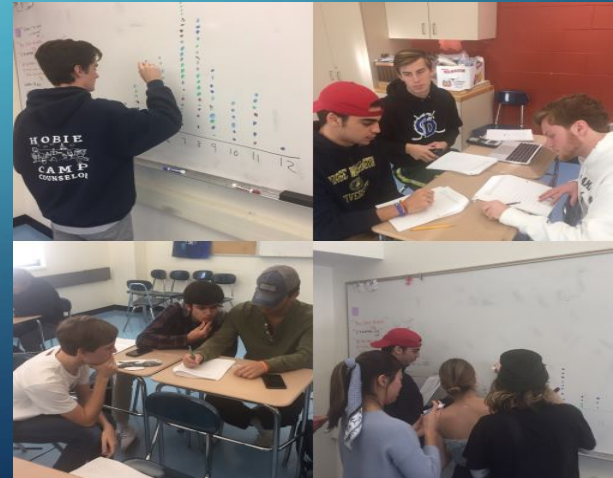
MATH

FELICIA BELLOWS

DEPARTMENT CHAIRPERSON

Grade 8	Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
Course 3 Pre- Algebra	Algebra 1	Geometry	Algebra 2	PreCalculus College Math Topics Probability and Statistics
Algebra 1	Geometry or Accelerated Geometry	Algebra 2	PreCalculus	Calculus AP Statistics Probability and Statistics College Math Topics AB Calculus
Accelerated Algebra	Geometry or Accelerated Geometry	Algebra 2	PreCalculus	Calculus AB Calculus BC Calculus AP Statistics
Accelerated Geometry	Algebra 2	PreCalculus	AB Calculus BC Calculus	AP Statistics Multivariable Calculus

Student Centered Learning in Math





Math Team


Participate in Fairfield County Math League—challenge your skills with clever problems and compete against other schools. There is something for students of all skill levels—Algebra 1 through Calculus. No experience needed, all are welcome!

Mathematical Modeling Club

Mathematical Modeling Club focuses on resolving real world problems like, food waste, rising sea levels, or an airline overbooking flights so there are no empty seats—but at the same time not have to pay people to get off. Students participate in the MathWorks Math Modeling Challenge, among others. No math background needed and all are welcome!

Mu Alpha Theta Math National Honor Society

Mu Alpha Theta recognizes mathematical scholars who are interested in the field—providing enrichment opportunities. Participate in the American Mathematics Competition, community outreach, and Pi Day festivities. Check out the application to see admission requirements, and plan for the future.





Visit our Math Department Website

Darien Public Schools

Resources

Parent Resources

[Math 6 - 12](#)



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ENGLISH

FRANCIS JANOSCO

DEPARTMENT CHAIRPERSON

ENG8	LEVEL	ENG9	ENG10	ENG11	ENG12 [S1]	ENG12 [S2]
	400		English 10 Honors	AP Lang/ American Literature	AP Lit AP Lang	AP English Capstone
Advanced English 8	300	English 9 Accelerated	English 10	American Literature (Studies)	British Lit East Asian Lit Lit & Philosophy Lit of Suspense Lit in Performance Sports & Lit Women & Fiction	English Capstone
English 8		English 9		American Literature		

GRADE 9 ENGLISH

ENGLISH 9

“What is a classic?”

- focus on fundamental skills
- narrative, argument, analysis writing genres
- *To Kill a Mockingbird, Romeo and Juliet, The Odyssey*
- graduated pace, scaffolding, skills-based
- culminating independent-book project

ENGLISH 9 ACCELERATED

“The Hero’s Journey”

- focus on comprehension/application of theoretical concepts
- *The Power of Myth, The Bear, The Golden Compass (summer)*
- challenging pace, greater text complexity, theoretical and philosophical concepts

GRADE 9 ENGLISH ELECTIVES

INTRODUCTION TO MEDIA STUDIES

“Practical, Technological Communication Skills”

MEDIA STUDIES: VIDEO PRODUCTION*

“Telling Stories Through Visual Effects and Techniques”

MEDIA STUDIES: DIGITAL JOURNALISM

“Interviewing, Drafting, Editing + Photography, Design, Layout”

DRAMA 1*

“Speaking and Presentation Skills for Live Audience Situations”

CREATIVE WRITING 1

“Workshopping Opportunity for Poetry, Stories, Chapters”

SUPPORTED CLUBS & ACTIVITIES

NEIRAD

*Student-Produced
Newspaper (Print and Digital)*

CURRENT

*Student-Produced
Literary Journal/Magazine*

BLUE WAVE NEWS

*Student-Produced
News Broadcast Videos*

FILMMAKERS CLUB

*Student-Produced
Short Films*

NEHS/WRITING CENTER

*Student-Run
Peer Writing Help Center*

THEATRE 308

*Student-Run
Dramatic Arts Organization*



READING AND STUDY SKILLS

KERRY MCKAY

kmckay@darienps.org

READING SPECIALIST

Reading and Study Skills

Kerry McKay

Reading Specialist

Email: kmckay@darienps.org

Results of a study done by Cunningham & Stanovich regarding the correlation between time spent reading books and students' performance on standardized tests.

- 1) Students in the 98th percentile read books on average for 65 minutes per day.
- 2) Students in the 90th percentile read books on average for 21.1 minutes per day.
- 3) Students in the 80th percentile read books on average for 14.2 minutes per day.
- 4) Students in the 20th percentile read books on average for .7 minutes per day.

Reading and Study Skills

What we cover:

Organization and Time Management: keeping a planner, studying for quizzes and tests, creating an exam study schedule, backwards planning for long-term projects, breaking assignments into manageable chunks, making SMART goals

Reading: expanding tier two (SAT/ACT) vocabulary, practicing close reading strategies, developing a sense of who students are as readers, reading time in class, pre- and post-reading test data shared with parents

Writing: planning for essays and DBQs, talking through thesis statement ideas, organizing thoughts into an essay plan

Speaking: presentation practice, class discussions, practice meeting with teachers and self-advocacy

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SPECIAL EDUCATION

KRISTIN O'REILLY

DEPARTMENT CHAIRPERSON

WHAT TO EXPECT

Case Manager

- Facilitate communication between students, parents, teachers and related service providers
- Progress monitor and report quarterly on student's individual IEP goals and objectives
- Monitor IEP accommodations & modifications
- Coordinate the delivery of related services
- Administer educational assessments for initial and triennial testing

Learning Center

- Similar to Resource Room model at MMS
- Taught by special education teachers who target skill development through Specially Designed Instruction (SDI)
- Lessons include pre and post teaching, study skills, executive functioning, reading, writing, math, and post-secondary skills such as advocacy

WHAT TO EXPECT

Co-Taught Class

- General education setting that includes both a general education teacher and a special education teacher who provides Specially Designed Instruction (SDI) in English and Math
- The goal of a co-taught class is to provide specialized instruction in the general education setting to allow students access to the general education curriculum

Comprehensive Class

- Modified academic classes that are taught by special education teachers who are dually certified in the course content area (e.g., dually certified in math and special education)
- Aligned to 300-level courses and are available in all academic content classes required for graduation

WHAT TO EXPECT

Transition (MMS to DHS) Parent Coffee

- Wednesday, January 22nd from 9:30 am - 11:00 am at Darien High School in the Chill Zone

Upcoming Articulation Meetings

- Opportunity to “articulate” student’s IEP services from grades 8 to 9
- Occur between the dates of Monday, February 24 and Friday, March 6
- Receive notice of your child’s scheduled PPT time in the mail
- Meetings take place at Darien High School
- Encourage students to attend

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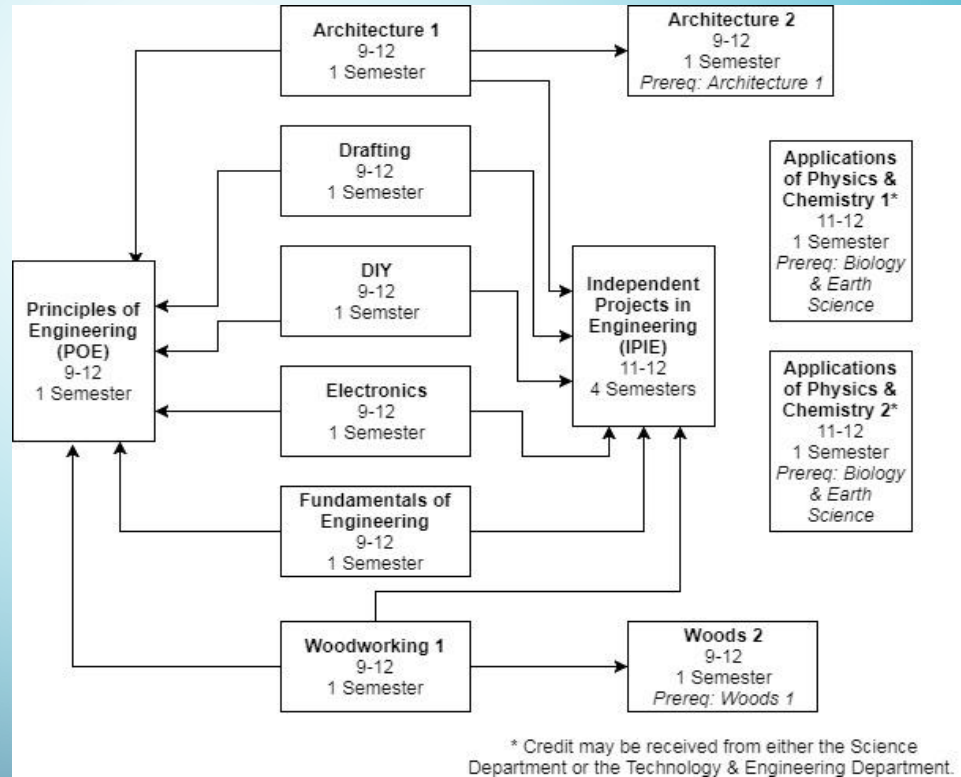
TECHNOLOGY & ENGINEERING, BUSINESS, COMPUTER SCIENCE

RICH REYNOLDS

Twitter- @HeyReynolds

DEPARTMENT COORDINATOR

TECHNOLOGY & ENGINEERING COURSES

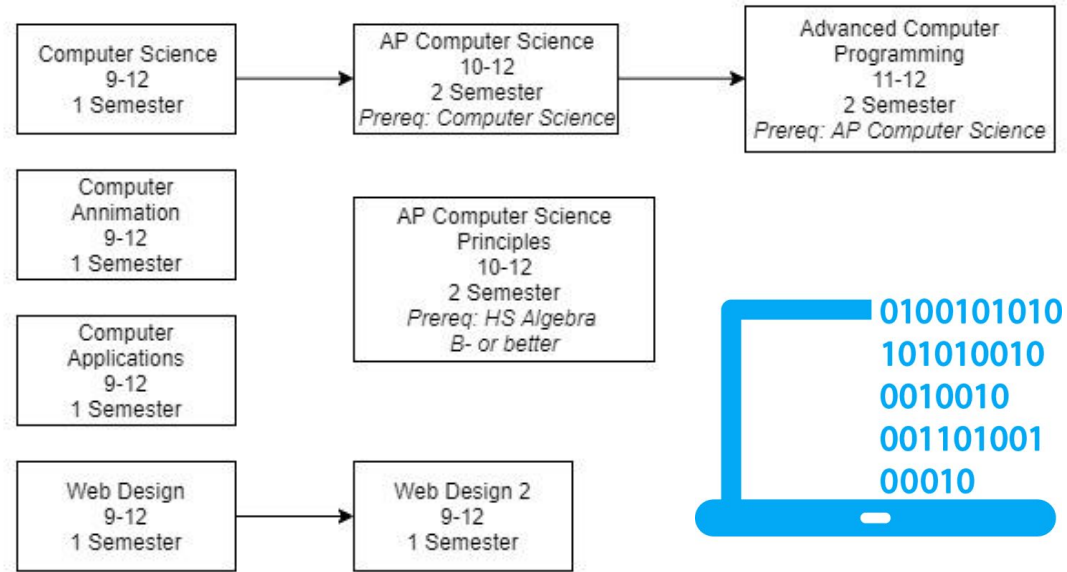


Classes Available to Freshmen

Architecture 1	
Drafting	Electronics
Fundamentals of Engineering	Woodworking 1



COMPUTER SCIENCE COURSES

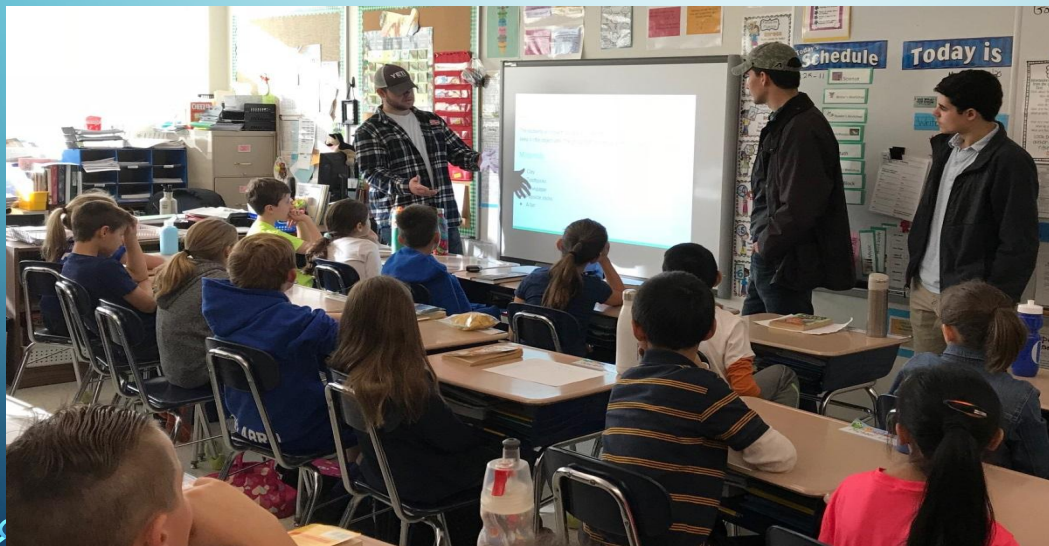


Programming Club

Game Design Club

Classes Available to Freshmen

Intro to Computer Science	Computer Animation
Computer Applications	Web Design 1



```
Class Edit Tools Options
Compile Undo Cut Copy Paste Find... Close Source Code
/**
 * This program will cause the computer to
 * print "Hello, World" on the console window.
 *
 * Author: Mrs. Westervelt
 * Date: 1-30-14
 */

public class Greeting
{
    public static void main (String [] args)
    {
        // prints Hello World
        System.out.println("Hello, World!");
    }
}

Class compiled - no syntax errors
```


BUSINESS COURSES

Business Education Courses

Business and Entrepreneurship (1 semester, 9-12)

Investing and Personal Finance (1 semester, 9-12)

Marketing Essentials (1 semester, 9-12)

Pre-Law (1 semester, 9-12)



Classes Available to Freshmen

Business & Entrepreneurship	Investing & Personal Finance
Marketing Essentials	Pre-Law



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HISTORY

KEITH KEELER

DEPARTMENT CHAIRPERSON

HISTORY DEPT AT DHS

- The dept prepares students to be active citizens
 - We want them to be informed and capable
 - We focus our activities, exercises, content, and skill development towards this goal
- Ask ourselves and want students to ask: "so what? Why does this matter?"

HISTORY DEPT AT DHS

Required Courses for graduation:

9th – Western Civilization

10th – World Studies

11th – American History

12th – Law and Government (1/2 year)

9TH GRADE IN THE HISTORY DEPT AT DHS

- **Western Civilization:** a study of European culture from Ancient Greece to WWII. Designed to develop an understanding of the foundations of our country and prepare students to be capable citizens.
- **What skills we're trying to develop in our students:**
 - Read analytically and critically
 - Write effectively
 - Research effectively
 - Study effectively
 - Raise questions and challenge ideas
 - Synthesize ideas and make connections
 - Communicate effectively
 - Work Collaboratively
 - Think creatively and originally

9TH GRADE IN THE HISTORY DEPT AT DHS

- Content:

- Throughout the course: political, economic, social, intellectual, religious, military histories and how they shape the modern world
- Semester 1: Greece, Rome, Middle Ages, Renaissance
- Semester 2: Reformation, Absolutism, Revolutions, Industrialization, WWI, WWII

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MUSIC

RICK SADLON, DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

JON GRAUER, DIRECTOR OF BANDS, AP MUSIC
THEORY, PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE

JANE MINNIS, DIRECTOR OF ORCHESTRAS

CHRISTOPHER ANDRADE, DIRECTOR OF
CHORUSES, MUSIC TECHNOLOGY, MUSIC
THEORY

OVER 325 STUDENTS AT DARIEN HIGH SCHOOL CHOOSE A MUSIC COURSE AS ONE OF THEIR ELECTIVES.



9TH GRADE MUSIC OFFERINGS

Full Year Courses

- Concert Band
- Concert Choir
- Concert Orchestra
- Percussion Ensemble

Half Year Courses

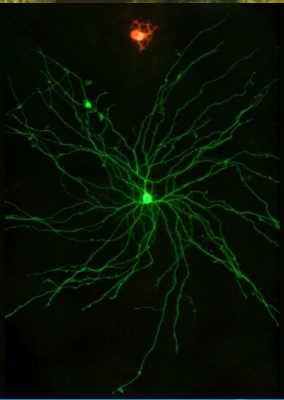
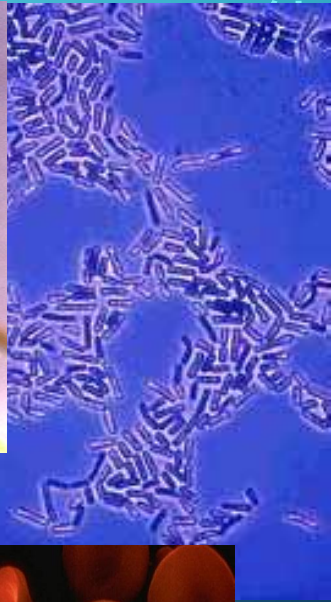
- Music Technology
- Music Theory

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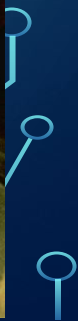
SCIENCE

CHRISTIAN DOCKUM

DEPARTMENT CHAIRPERSON



9th Grade BIOLOGY



8TH GRADE CURRICULAR SHIFTS

- Genetics & Natural Selection
 - Inheritance and variation of traits
 - Human Influences
 - Environmental Influences
- Comparative Structures
 - Compare and contrast anatomical structures
 - Relationships between organism.

SCIENCE COURSES AND SEQUENCE

9th grade

- Biology

10th grade

- Earth science or Chemistry

11th and 12th grades

- Electives in Physics, Botany, Marine Science, Neurobiology, Forensic Science, AP Physics, AP Chemistry, AP Biology, and AP Environmental Science

Authentic Science Research program

- Students enroll at end of 9th grade



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LIBRARY LEARNING COMMONS

JACKIE BENNETT

DEPARTMENT COORDINATOR

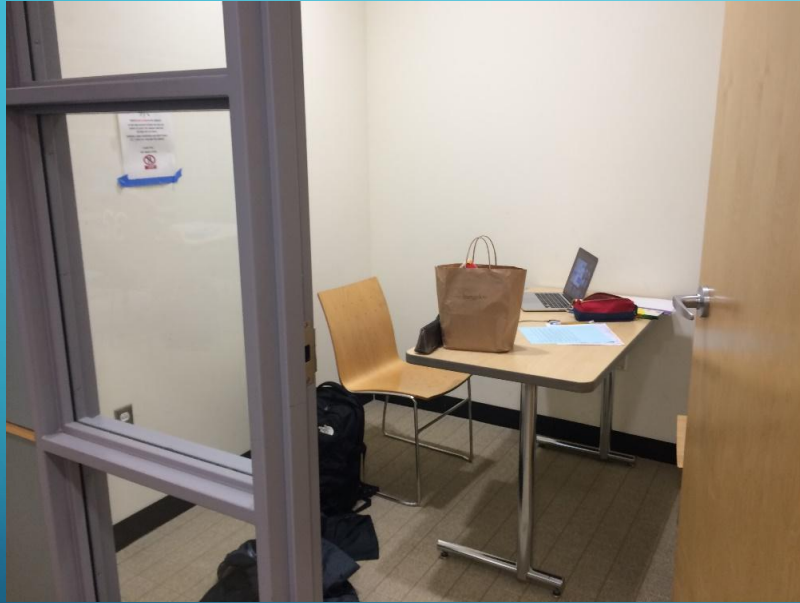
WELCOME



OPEN AREAS



STUDY ROOMS



LIBRARY CLASSROOM



READING ROOM



PRINT RESOURCES



LLC RESOURCES

Browser window showing the Darien Public Schools website. The URL is <https://www.dariens.org/page.cfm?p=691>. The page title is "Darien Public Schools". The navigation menu includes: Our Schools, District Information, Board of Education, Departments, and Resources.

The main image shows a large brick school building.

Darien High School

- Home
- DHS Basics and Flickr Photo Feed
- Calendars & Schedules
- Student Life
- Guidance
- Academics & Faculty Websites
- Library Learning Commons**
- Databases

Library Learning Commons

Destiny Databases eBooks NoodleTools Sora OverDrive Primary Sources Videos

Icons representing various resources: Destiny, Databases, eBooks, NoodleTools, Sora, OverDrive, Primary Sources, and Videos.

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Meet Sora...the new reading app from OverDrive!

Windows taskbar at the bottom shows the time as 1:19 PM on 1/28/2019.

ONLINE DATABASES

The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the Darien Public Schools website. The address bar shows the URL <https://www.darienps.org/page.cfm?p=822>. The page features a navigation menu on the left with links to Home, DHS Basics and Flickr Photo Feed, Calendars & Schedules, Student Life, Guidance, Academics & Faculty Websites, and Library Learning Commons. Under the Library Learning Commons link, there is a sub-menu titled "Databases" with links to Class Pathfinders, Darien Library, eBooks, OverDrive, Primary Sources, Videos, Citations, iPads, and iTeam.

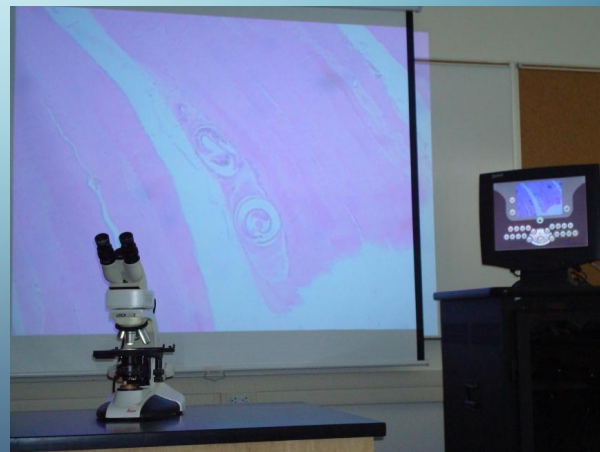
The main content area is titled "Databases" and is organized into sections:

- General Reference**: Includes logos for Britannica Academic Edition, researchIT CT OneSearch, and findIT CT Statewide Library Catalog.
- American History**: Includes logos for Facts On File American History, U.S. History in Context, U.S. History Collection, and FactCite.
- World History**: Includes logos for Modern World History, World History in Context, World History Collection, World Geography, and CIAO.
- Ancient History**: (Section header visible at the bottom)
- Contemporary Issues**: (Section header visible at the bottom)

The Windows taskbar at the bottom shows the date and time as 1:45 PM on 1/28/2019.

iTEAM







Additional resources for students

Learning Connections Rooms - English/History,
Math/Science, World Language

Extra help with teachers

NHS Peer Tutors



Summer School/Enrichment Opportunities

High School 101-Participants in this program can get a head start on learning about the high school so that they can be more successful from the beginning of their freshman year. Students will discover the best routes to get from class to class, explore the elective class offerings with a variety of teachers, experiment with study strategies, time management, and useful technology, and learn about the resources and clubs that they can take advantage of during their high school years.

Advanced Chamber Orchestra- Students will work on advanced string ensemble music to prepare them for or maintain their skills for participation in a youth orchestra or middle school/high school ensemble.

Algebra 1- Review of the operations on positive and negative numbers; a review of the arithmetic of polynomials (addition, subtraction, multiplication, division); factoring, particularly of quadratics; solving quadratic equations by factoring and formula; linear equations of two variables; graphing; inequalities; and radicals.

Geometry- Properties of elementary plane and solid figures, formal proof, notions of congruence, similarity, parallelism, ratio and proportion

Algebra 2- Factoring extended cubic expression; complex numbers; matrices; exponents and algorithms; quadratic formula and applications; linear equations; parabolas.

Biology- Study of the great diversity that exists among organisms with topics ranging from one-celled organisms through the human being

Ceramics- This course is for the student with no previous experience or for those seeking further development of handbuilding, throwing and glazing skills.

Summer Jazz Workshop- Your child will experience making music through creative jazz improvisation.

Sports- Lacrosse, Football, Field Hockey, Volleyball, Basketball, Wrestling



THANK YOU for joining us!

Please attend our optional information sessions with each Department to learn more about the opportunities we offer



Room locations/school maps available in the auditorium entrance