

Freshman Center Elective Course Descriptions

253 Introduction to Computer Science & Applications

Full year

1 credit

PREREQUISITES:

1) Pass the Algebra Regents Exam

2) Teacher recommendation

This is an introductory course for students who have an interest in computers or wish to continue with the computer programming courses offered at the high school. Topics in the course include: binary code, computer languages, computer components, networking, computer ethics, cyber safety, and careers in the computer field. Students will complete projects using Geometer's Sketchpad, Powerpoint, Excel, and Word. Students will take a departmental final exam. **Students cannot take this course as a third credit of math.**

360 Health Education (RA)

Half year

½ credit

Health Education is instruction in concepts, understandings and behaviors in regard to several dimensions of health. Instructional areas are in mental health, nutrition, alcohol, tobacco and other drugs, safety, disease prevention and control, environment and public health, family life education and other health related areas. Within each content area students examine their behavior, identify the decision making process and alternate behaviors and evaluate benefits and/or consequences. Students will know about and be able to use valid health information, products and services. This process of resource management and examining, evaluating and making decisions affecting behavior is intended to promote quality living and a healthful life style.

54 Freshman Seminar

Full year

1 credit

Freshman Seminar is designed to help incoming freshmen acclimate to and manage the academic demands of a high school academic program, and offers opportunities that you won't get anywhere else. Through films, guest speakers, TED Talks, and interesting text-rich sources, students will learn how to build effective habits to be more successful, including time-management and organizational skills. This course will also introduce students to digital literacy, how to apply for jobs and create a resume, SAT prep, financial literacy, and the exploration of colleges and careers to support their future goal attainment. In addition, students will engage in meaningful discussions about the impacts of social media in our lives, social justice issues and how to be a positive change agent in our world.

Business

510 Career and Financial Management (RA)

Half year

½ credit

Do you know what you would like to do with your future? Do you worry because you have no idea what career best suits you? Would you like to learn the keys to retire debt free? If your answer is **YES** to any of these questions, this course is for you. Come discover career opportunities, learn interviewing techniques that will help you land a job, investigate where all of your paycheck goes when taxes come out, explore the world of banking, credit, and the impact on your future. This course is a must for all students to learn about their futures while still in high school.

521 Keyboarding and Business Communications (RA)

Full year 1 credit

This is an introductory computer course that will give students the skills required for almost any career. In this course, students will learn the proper touch typing techniques enabling them to key at a rate of 35 words per minute without looking at their hands or the screen! Equally important, students will be able to prepare numerous business documents including formal letters, memos, tables, and reports as well as the ability to use widely accepted proofreader marks. Professional level oral and written communication skills are covered to ensure students are ready for collegiate and professional level employment. Students will use a combination of the course text and on-line typing games to help build speed and accuracy.

540 Personal Business Management (RA)

Half year ½ credit

Students will learn how to become the master of their own destinies by acquiring wealth building skills and techniques. Students will get to create the life they want to live via a movie utilizing Windows Movie Maker (WMM). This course will help students compete in the global market by giving them an in-depth understanding of what it takes to be an ideal employee or venture into the world of entrepreneurial ship. Activities included are selecting stocks and evaluating trends in the stock market, WMM, and other real world experiences. Specialized search engines will be used along with financial management tools.

Technology

701 Design for Drawing and Production* (RA)

Full year 1 credit

This course intends to provide opportunities in the areas of design and drawing through creative thinking, decision making and problem-solving experiences.

*** This course meets the Art/Music requirement.**

719 Introduction to Woodworking (RA) 9

Half year ½ credit

Most of the residential buildings, commercial buildings, roadways, dams and bridges used by man are a result of construction activity. Students will learn to use the tools and machines essential to their construction. They will complete several construction projects using the concepts and techniques of the construction industry. Safety and career information will be stressed throughout the course.

720 Woodworking Design & Construction (RA) 9

Half year ½ credit

Material Processing is a generic and broad view of the way man changes materials. Students will be involved in shop processes that will demonstrate specific concepts similar to those taught in a typical Metal and/or Woodworking laboratory. The technologies behind the various machining (processing) will be analyzed.

Art

801 Studio in Art (RA)

Full year 1 credit

Studio in Art is a foundation course, which surveys the visual arts (drawing, painting and sculpture) through hands-on project work that explores both the fine and commercial Art approaches. Students acquire skills in a variety of art media, learn about their art heritage and develop an ability to critically evaluate art works, while meeting the State graduation requirement of one (1) art elective.

***802 Studio in Two Dimensional Design (RA)**

Full year 1 credit

Prerequisite: Studio in Art (RA)

Students will examine two-dimensional graphic design in both fine and commercial arts applications. They will experiment with a variety of two-dimensional media and techniques, which will be used to explore concepts dealing with the principles and elements of arts and design.

813 Drawing (RA)

Half year ½ credit

Students will experiment with basic drawing techniques by experiencing various styles and media (pencil, charcoal, markers, pastels, etc). The curriculum moves students from simple line drawings, to more complex mass and value renderings that give objects and figures a three-dimensional quality.

819 Animation (RA)

Half year ½ credit

The animation course is designed to teach students the basics of creating art in motion by using past and present animation techniques and materials. The curriculum will cover the technical as well as creative aspects of animation. It is strongly suggested that students take the half year cartooning course prior to enrolling in the animation class.

821 Cartooning (RA)

Half year ½ credit

This half year cartooning courses is designed to teach students the basic design techniques of creating comic strips, editorial cartoons, single gag panel cartoons and comic book pages. Students learn to draw existing cartoon characters as well as develop their own original characters.

Music

860 Music in Our Lives (RA) (Grade 9)

Full year 1 credit

In this course, students will participate in listening, performing and composing activities using basic skills and developing special interests. This course is designed primarily for the student who wishes to fulfill the one graduation credit requirement through music.

66 Band (9) (RA)**Full year 1 credit****Prerequisite:** Band 8th Grade

The Band is open to all high school students with performing ability and experience on woodwind, brass or percussion instruments. Students will be assigned to sections of band based on previous experience and an audition and will perform a wide variety of musical compositions in daily rehearsals, concerts, school assemblies and community events. All students must participate in rotating lessons and activities as directed by the music department.

874 Orchestra (9) (RA)**Full year 1 credit****Prerequisite:** Orchestra 8th Grade

The orchestra is open to all high school students with performing ability on violin, viola, cello or string bass. Students will be assigned to sections of orchestra based on previous experience and an audition, and will perform a wide variety of musical compositions in daily rehearsals, concerts, school assemblies and community events. All students enrolled in orchestra must participate in rotating lessons and activities as directed by the music department.

875 Choir (9) (RA)**Full year 1 credit**

The choir is open to all high school students with an interest and ability in vocal music. Students will be assigned to sections of choir based on previous experience and an audition, and will perform a wide variety of musical compositions in daily rehearsals, concerts, school assemblies, and community events. All students enrolled in choir must participate in rotating lessons and activities as directed by the music department.

Course Descriptions for Languages Other Than English (LOTE)**428 Spanish IB (RA)****Full year 1 credit****Prerequisite:** Spanish IA

Second year Spanish continues the development of vocabulary, idiomatic expressions and grammar. Dictation, translation, and readings provide for greater understanding of Spanish culture. Major emphasis is placed on the speaking/listening skills.

431 Spanish I (RA)**Full year 1 credit**

First year Spanish offers the student the opportunity to develop the ability to speak, understand, and read simple Spanish. Emphasis is placed on basic conversation, pronunciation, fundamental points of grammar, and an understanding of the Spanish culture. Speaking and listening skills are stressed.

432 Spanish II (RA)**Full year 1 credit****Prerequisite:** Accelerated Spanish

Students will be able to comprehend, initiate, and sustain short conversations on simple everyday topics with native Spanish speakers. At this level students should develop more fully their skills in reading and writing. Communicative writing includes being able to persuade, describe, narrate, and seek information.

468 French IB (RA)

Full years 1 credit

Prerequisite: French IA

Second year French continues the emphasis begun in the first year on the fundamentals of grammar, syntax, special vocabulary and common idiomatic expressions. Dictation, translation and reading based on the foreign environment give further acquaintance with varied aspects of the French culture. Major stress is on speaking and listening comprehension of the language.

491 Italian I (RA)

Full year 1 credit

This course offers the student the opportunity to develop the ability to understand, speak and read basic Italian, Emphasis is placed on speaking, pronunciation, basic grammar, and an under-standing of the Italian culture.