

DeQuincy High School Course Descriptions

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

BUSINESS ENGLISH - 9th, 10th, or 11th grade

This English course is designed for the students pursuing a Jumpstart Diploma. It is an innovative, dynamic course designed to help student's master literacy skills needed to be successful in life after high school. This course does not count as an English on the TOPS University pathway

ENGLISH I - 9th or 10th grade

Prerequisite: Approaching Basic or higher on 8th grade English LEAP 2025. This course is a study of various forms of literature and fundamentals of composition. Reading comprehension and analytical skills are expanded through the study of the short story, the novel, nonfiction prose, poetry, and drama. One Shakespearean play and some modern works are included. Writing skills move from strengthening the paragraph essay. A minimum of ten writings is required. Improvement in vocabulary is stressed. Independent readings each nine weeks are also included. Grade computed on a 5 point scale Required state testing: LEAP 2025

ENGLISH II - 10th or 11th grade

This course consists of studying various forms of literature, grammar, composition, vocabulary, and spelling. The skills of analysis and critical reading are developed through the study of short story, the novel, poetry, drama, and nonfiction prose. To improve composition skills, the course includes continual work on sentence structure, spelling, usage, vocabulary, paragraph development, and essay organization. The major emphasis in composition is on techniques and organizational patterns of exposition and persuasion. Course credit requires the completion of ten compositions as well as independent reading. Required state testing: LEAP 2025

ENGLISH III - 11th or 12th grade

This course studies the complex text of American Literature. English III encompasses literature, composition, grammar, vocabulary, oral communication, ACT practice, and End of Course testing strategies. Emphasis is placed on literature and composition. This course covers the literature of the United States, from the colonial days to the modern age. Students will be required to write compositions with focus on argumentative/persuasive and rhetorical devices, and a research paper as well as other required writing assignments. Outside reading will be required for the course.

Advanced Placement ENGLISH III (11th graders)

Prerequisite: English II Mastery or Advanced LEAP 2025 Score, Summer assignment requirement. Required test: AP Exam - \$90 test fee. This is a college level course in literature and composition. It will involve extensive college-level reading and writing. The final high school credit will be computed on a five point scale. In addition, those who score well enough on the AP exam at the end of the year may earn 3 hours of credit.

ENGLISH IV - 12th grade

This course emphasizes literature and composition. The literature program covers the development of the English language from the literature of Anglo-Saxon England to modern literature of England. Special emphasis is placed on thematic units and literary analysis. Outside reading of novels is required for this course. Multiple research papers based on literary themes and rhetorical modes are required. In addition, a comprehensive ACT English preparatiuon unit is included.

MATH DEPARTMENT

MATH ESSENTIALS - 9th, 10th, or 11th grade

This course is a survey course that includes basic Algebra I and Geometry concepts. This course does not count as a math on the TOPS University pathway.

BUSINESS MATH (Open to juniors and seniors ONLY on the JumpStart pathway)

The course content includes the fundamental processes of mathematics with emphasis on problem-solving techniques. Students will perform basic arithmetic operations and solve word problems. They will recognize and understand the techniques of measurement in the English and Metric systems as well as understand and apply concepts of algebra and their use in formulas related to occupational areas of study. This course does not count as a math on the TOPS University pathway.

FINANCIAL LITERACY - 11th or 12th grade

This course will serve as a foundation for students to learn to make mathematically sound decisions in their roles as consumers and/or entrepreneurs. Course topics include insurance, personal banking, financial planning, and analysis of financial management tools. This course does not count as a math on the TOPS University pathway.

GEOMETRY - 9th or 10th grade

Prerequisite: Algebra I. This course focuses on the study of the physical universe and representations of mathematic concepts. Students use inductive and deductive reasoning to confirm conjectures through proof. Topics studied include measurement formulas; geometric and spatial visualization; drawing skills; properties of congruence, similarity, parallelism, and perpendicularity; proofs; and properties of plane and solid figures. Grade computed on a 5 point scale. Required state testing: LEAP 2025

ALGEBRA II

Prerequisite: Algebra I and Geometry. This course sharpens the understanding of concepts taught in Algebra I and extends the use of functions as models for real-world situations. Topics studied include logarithmic, trigonometric, and higher-order polynomial functions; sequences; and matrices.

ALGEBRA III

Prerequisite: Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II. This course is designed to prepare students for their first mathematics course in college. Includes the following topics: functions, real number properties, trigonometry and trigonometric functions, limits, sequences, logs, and matrix algebra.

MATH 113 - Dual Enrollment course offered through McNeese State University

Prerequisite: Overall GPA of 2.75. Student must also obtain a math ACT score of at least 19, English ACT score of at least 18, and composite ACT of at least 19. ACT scores must be earned by the June test date. Students passing this course will earn 1 high school credit of Trigonometry and 3 college credits. This course is offered in the fall semester through compressed video in and can also be taken at other local high schools. Course includes, fundamental algebraic operations, linear and quadratic equations and inequalities with applications, radical and rational equations, functions (exponential and logarithmic), graphing, zeros of polynomials, and systems of equations and inequalities. Students must complete the dual enrollment application for McNeese and pay the tuition cost. This course is often paired with Psychology 101 which is offered in the spring semester.

MATH 170 - Dual Enrollment course offered through McNeese State University

Prerequisite: Overall GPA of 2.75. Student must also obtain a math ACT score of at least 19, English ACT score of at least 22, and composite ACT of at least 19. ACT scores must be earned by the June test date. Students passing this course will earn 1 high school credit of Advanced Math - Math Functions and Statistics and 3 college credits. Topics from Advanced Algebra include real number properties, solutions of equations and inequalities, relations, functions, graphs, polynomial and rational functional functions, exponential and logarithmic functions, complex numbers, systems of equations, and the theory of equations. Students must complete the dual enrollment application for McNeese and pay the tuition cost.

SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE - 9th grade

This course is the study of the biological, chemical, and physical aspects of the environment. Emphasis is placed on environmental problems and remedies as well as on consumer education in the field.

BIOLOGY - 10th grade

The life process common to all organisms from bacteria to humans are the focus of the course. These processes include growth, heredity, energy use, adaptation, and homeostasis. A variety of class and lab experiences encourage observation, analysis, and interpretation skills. Students may be required to complete class projects applying these skills in addition to the regular lab work. Grade computed on a 5 point scale. Required state testing: LEAP 2025

CHEMISTRY - 11th or 12th grade

This course is the study of the various phases of matter, their characteristics, and their atomic and molecular structure.

BIOLOGY II - 12th grade

Prerequisite: Biology and Chemistry. This course expands on the biological principles and concepts presented in Biology I. It is intended to strengthen students' background for a career in medicine or the biological sciences.

SOCIAL STUDIES DEPARTMENT

CIVICS - 9th grade

This course is a study of the American political heritage and the American political process as well as the structure of national, state, and local governments. Students will engage in projects understanding how real-life situations have affected government. In addition, students will analyze the steps taken to build the foundation of our government today, "The Constitution." Students will analyze the characteristics of the American economic system. Included in the study of economics is business organizations stimulated by profit motivation and competition, supply and demand, scarcity, and international trade.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT HUMAN GEOGRAPHY - 10th grade in place of World Geography

Prerequisite: Mastery or Advanced scores on previous LEAP 2025. Required test: AP exam - \$90 test fee. This is a college level history course. This course introduces students to the systematic study of patterns and processes that have shaped human understanding, use, and alteration of the Earth's surface. Students employ spatial concepts and landscape analysis to examine human social organization and its environmental consequences. They also learn about the methods and tools geographers use in their science and practice. The particular topics studied in AP Human Geography course should be judged in light of the following five college level goals that build on the National

Geography Standards developed in 1994. On successful completion of the course, the student should be able to (a) use and think about maps and spatial data (b) understand and interpret the implications of associations among phenomena in places (c) recognize and interpret at different scales the relationships among patterns and processes (d) define regions and evaluate the regionalization process (e) characterize and analyze changing interconnections among places. Grade computed on a five point scale. Students who score a 3 or higher on the AP exam at the end of the year may earn 3 hours of college credit.

World Geography - 10th or 11th grade

The emphasis of geography focuses on the interaction between peoples and places. Students will acquire map and globe skills and become familiar with physical geography, changing landscape, natural resources, climate, culture and human geography. Using technology, students will create projects analyzing how young people live throughout the world. Students will also acquire skills connecting other educational disciplines.

U.S. History - 11th grade

This course will be taught in a chronological sequence. Students will begin the year with a brief review of American history up to reconstruction. Topics to be covered in this course over the full year include: Growth in the West, Industrialization and Immigration, The Progressive Era, Imperialism, World War I, the Roaring Twenties, the Great Depression, and the New Deal, the Rise of Dictators and World War II, the Cold War Era, the Civil Rights Era, the Vietnam War Years, and America in a Changing World, including current events as they relate to today. Reading comprehension, analytical skills, use of primary sources, and map reading are stressed, as well as key concepts and oral discussion. Writing skills are developed through short themes and constructed response questions to be included in district Common Assessments, as well as teacher-created assessments. Required state testing: LEAP 2025

History 201/202 U.S. History Dual Enrollment - 11th grade

Prerequisite: PreACT or ACT Composite 19 with an 18 in English and 19 in Math and overall GPA of 2.75. ACT scores must be earned by the June ACT date. This is a dual enrollment compressed video course with McNeese that allows students to earn both high school and college credit. History 201 is a survey of American History to 1877 and History 202 is an American History from 1877 to present.

Psychology 101 Dual Enrollment

Prerequisite: PreACT or ACT Composite 19 with an 18 in English and 19 in Math and overall GPA of 2.75. ACT scores must be earned by the June ACT date. This is a dual enrollment compressed video course with McNeese that allows students to earn both high school and college credit. This course provides an understanding of human behavior and lays a foundation for additional work in psychology. This course is offered in the spring semester and is often paired with Math 113 which is offered in the fall semester.