

SUSSEX CENTRAL

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

FOR

FRESHMEN

2023-2024

# GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Sussex Central High School is committed to providing a quality well-rounded educational program for all students. Our core subject areas provide rigorous preparation for the Delaware Comprehensive Assessment System (DCAS), Scholastic Aptitude (SAT), and for post-secondary higher educational institutions. Our career and technical programs provide a high level of activities for students using modern equipment and innovative ideas. The chart below indicates the minimal coursework required for a student to graduate successfully from Sussex Central High School:

English	4.0 credits
Math	4.0 credits
Social Studies	3.0 credits
Science	3.0 credits
Physical Education	1.0 credits
Health	0.5 credits
World Language	2.0 credits
Career Pathways	3.0 credits
<u>Electives (Other)</u>	<u>4.0 credits</u>
<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>24.5</b>

## **Indian River School District Policy**

Students' who acquire a minimum of 24.5 credits as set forth in this policy, will receive an Indian River School District Diploma as defined in the pending legislation of Title 14, Section 505 of the Delaware Code.

Students receiving a diploma must earn a minimum of three (3) credits in a planned program of sequenced or specialized courses (Career Pathway) and four (4) credits in elective courses that comply with the student's Education Plan.

## **COURSE LEVELS**

The focus of our core subjects is to prepare students for post-secondary success. Critical reading and writing is strongly emphasized in all four major core areas: English, math, science and social studies. Below is a brief description of each academic level:

### **International Baccalaureate (IB)**

The International Baccalaureate Programme is recognized worldwide as an interdisciplinary approach to a liberal arts education in a rigorous environment. The International Baccalaureate Organization was founded in 1965, to develop an international standard for high student achievement that could be recognized worldwide. All curriculums at Sussex Central High School are based on Delaware State Standards and the Common Core. All International Baccalaureate courses carry a grade point weighting of **5.0**.

### **Academic Challenge (AC)**

The Sussex County AC program is where qualified students can take accelerated courses in English and/or mathematics at Del Tech. It is possible to earn up to twenty-seven college credits (12 English, 15 Math) from Del Tech through this program. Must have started program in 8<sup>th</sup> grade. AC courses in 8<sup>th</sup> -10<sup>th</sup> grade carry a weight of **4.5**. AC courses in 11<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade carry a grade point weighting of **5.0**.

### **Advanced Placement (AP)**

Advanced placement courses are offered in many areas. These courses are aligned with the National Advanced Placement Curriculum, which may allow students to earn college credit while in high school by passing the Advanced Placement Exam. These courses are rigorous and require the student to dedicate him/herself to the work involved; extensive reading and writing outside of class is required and may include a summer assignment. Students enrolling in this course will be expected to take the AP exam. Test fee required (inquire with Guidance for information about test fee assistance and waivers). All Advanced Placement courses carry a grade point weighting of **5.0**.

### **Honors**

Our honors programs are designed to challenge the highly motivated student who is four-year college bound. The design of these types of classes helps prepare students for AP, IB and Dual Enrollment courses. Students enrolled in honors levels courses will be required to complete more rigorous coursework and may. All honors level courses carry a grade point weighting of **4.5**.

### **College Prep**

Our college preparatory program is designed to prepare students for a 4-year post secondary college or university. This traditional level will provide the students with a course of study with emphasis placed on preparing the students for college level expectations. All academic courses carry a grade point weighting of **4.00**.

## **COURSE SELECTIONS**

- All courses are one credit unless noted.
- All elective courses **NOT** labeled IB, AP, Honors, or College Prep are not weighted.

### **ENGLISH**

#### **ELA-092 ENGLISH 9 Honors**

**This course is designed for the highly motivated student who has advanced reading and writing skills.** Students will make application of advanced grammatical constructions for the purpose of learning more about the structure of language and the mechanics of writing involving various rhetorical modes. Literature analyzed to support the extension of middle school writing strategies includes the forms of multi-paragraph compositions, essays, and letters. Literary forms include expressive, informative, and persuasive. Reading comprehension and vocabulary skills will also be developed to meet grade 9 rigor. Through independent projects and readings, students will increase critical and creative thinking. The research process will be introduced emphasizing MLA formatting. This course aligns with State and National Standards and prepares students for the State Test. **Honors Requirement: Teacher recommendation from current teacher or a minimum final grade of a B+.**

#### **ELA-093 ENGLISH 9 College Prep**

This course extends and refines the writing, speaking, listening, reading, and critical thinking skills attained by students in middle school. A survey approach to multi-cultural literature will be studied for the purpose of acquiring an overview of expressive, persuasive, and informative literature through reading and writing these texts. The research process will be introduced emphasizing MLA formatting. This course aligns with State and National Standards and prepares students for the State Test.

### **MATH**

#### **MATH-093 ALGEBRA I College Prep**

Aligned to Delaware's statewide standards for grade 9, Integrated Algebra I develops major mathematical ideas around the following interwoven math strands: algebra and functions, probability and statistics, and geometry. Units studied in this course include "Patterns of Change," "Linear Functions," "Exponential Functions," "Quadratic Functions," "Patterns in Shape," and "Patterns in Data." This course emphasizes mathematical modeling and reasoning, and features full use of graphing calculators and other technology.

#### **MATH-102 GEOMETRY Honors**

Aligned to Delaware's statewide standards for grade 10, honors level Integrated Geometry continues to develop major mathematical ideas around the following interwoven math strands: geometry, algebra and functions, probability and statistics, and trigonometry. Units studied in this course include "Coordinate Methods," "Functions, Equations, and Systems," "Matrix Methods," "Regression and Correlation," "Nonlinear Functions and Equations," "Trigonometric Methods," and "Probability Distributions." This course emphasizes mathematical modeling and reasoning, and features full use of graphing calculators and other technology. **Students in this course will be expected to complete a highly academic and rigorous level of study. Honors Requirement: Teacher recommendation from current teacher or a minimum final grade of a B+. Prerequisite: 8<sup>th</sup> grade Honors Mathematics.**

**MATH-103 GEOMETRY College Prep**

Aligned to Delaware's statewide standards for grade 10, Integrated Geometry continues to develop major mathematical ideas around the following interwoven math strands: algebra and functions, probability and statistics, and geometry and trigonometry. Units studied in this course include "Coordinate Methods," "Functions, Equations, and Systems," "Matrix Methods," "Regression and Correlation," "Nonlinear Functions and Equations," "Trigonometric Methods," and "Probability Distributions." This course emphasizes mathematical modeling and reasoning, and features full use of graphing calculators and other technology. **Prerequisite: Algebra I.**

## SOCIAL STUDIES

### **SS-092 CIVICS Honors**

In this course students will study American government, politics, and our economic system and is taught at an accelerated pace. Further, students will gain an understanding of America's place in the modern world with respect to government, foreign policy and global economic patterns with in depth, hands-on, problem-based enrichment activities. This course focuses primarily on Delaware Civics and Economics standards. **Honors Requirement: Teacher recommendation from current teacher or a minimum final grade of a B+.**

### **SS-093 CIVICS College Prep**

In this course students will study American government, politics, and our economic system. Further, students will gain an understanding of America's place in the modern world with respect to government, foreign policy and global economic patterns. This course focuses primarily on Delaware Civics and Economics standards.

### **SS-131 AP HUMAN GEOGRAPHY**

This course is designed to introduce students to the systematic study of patterns and processes that have shaped human understanding, use and the alteration of the Earth's surface. Students employ spatial concepts and landscape analysis to examine human social organization and its environmental consequences. They learn about the methods and tools geographers use in their science and practice. This course is for students who have been accepted into the IB Programme.

**AP Requirements: Teacher recommendation from current teacher or a minimum final grade of an B+ in a previous Honors course. Students may need to complete a summer assignment. Students enrolling in this course will be expected to take the AP exam. Test fee required (inquire with Guidance for information about test fee assistance and waivers).**

## SCIENCE

### **SCI-092 PHYSICAL SCIENCE Honors**

This honors-level course is geared towards preparing students for the rigor of IB and AP courses. This course will push students to think deeply about the content and to explain their thinking clearly and meaningfully through writing and class discussion. Emphasis is placed on student-led discovery and 3D learning as outlined in the NGSS (standards). Students will practice their science skills (modeling, asking questions, evidence-based writing, etc.) and grow in their ability to think like a scientist (finding patterns, scale comparisons, looking at stability and change, etc.) all while learning about matter and its interactions. **Honors Requirement: Teacher recommendation from current teacher or a minimum final grade of a B+.**

### **SCI-093 PHYSICAL SCIENCE College Prep**

This is a freshman-level course and can count towards the three required sciences for graduation. Emphasis is placed on student-led discovery and 3D learning as outlined in the NGSS (standards). Students will practice their science skills (modeling, asking questions, evidence-based writing, etc.) and grow in their ability to think like a scientist (finding patterns, scale comparisons, looking at stability and change, etc.) all while learning about matter and its interactions.

## WORLD LANGUAGE

### **SPA-103 SPANISH I College Prep**

This college preparatory course is intended for the student who has not been exposed to the language, or for the one who needs background for advancing to Spanish II. The emphasis is on spoken and oral comprehension and the end results are achieved through conversations and vocabulary growth. The student is exposed to Spanish culture through dialogues and cultural notes included in the text. Basic grammatical structures are introduced and reinforced with oral questions and answers. Grammatical structures are explained in English to ensure proper understanding.

### **SPA-203 SPANISH II College Prep**

This college preparatory course is intended for the student who wants to continue their pathway in Spanish. Spanish II reviews all the material learned previously. New vocabulary and grammar is introduced in this course which continues to offer the opportunity to acquire basic skills. It expands the cultural items of the first level. Listening and speaking skills are the main focus of study. Cultural aspects are integrated throughout the program. **Prerequisite: SPA 103 or required score on AAPPL.**

### **SPA-302 SPANISH III Honors**

Spanish III Honors is an intermediate class conducted primarily in Spanish. Grammar is reviewed and advanced concepts, verb tenses are reviewed and added. Reading authentic materials such as newspaper articles for comprehension is emphasized. Speaking and writing about real situations are two skills that will be developed at a higher level. Listening comprehension is also a point of emphasis. All four linguistic modalities (listening, speaking, reading, and writing) are stressed in the course to increase fluency and self-confidence in order to master the skill of speaking Spanish. Students will be introduced to extensive Spanish culture, art, and literature. **Prerequisite: Required score on AAPPL.**

### **FR-103 FRENCH I College Prep**

This college preparatory course emphasizes spoken and oral comprehension and the end results are achieved through conversations and vocabulary growth. The student is exposed to the culture through dialogues and cultural notes included in the text. Basic grammatical structures are introduced and reinforced with oral questions and answers. Grammatical structures are explained in English to ensure proper understanding.

## PE/HEALTH/KNIGHT WAY

### **HPE 100 PHYSICAL EDUCATION/HEALTH**

**Physical Education** is a required course for high school graduation as mandated by the state of Delaware. Students will participate in team and individual sports/activities that provide physical play, social development, and the opportunity to learn leisure time activities. Students are required to dress and participate on a daily basis. Students will develop an appreciation of fitness and its life-long benefits. **(.5 credit)**

**Health Education** is a required course for high school graduation as mandated by the state of Delaware. Students will have the opportunity to explore topics such as nutrition/diet, substance abuse/use prevention, mental health, anatomy and physiology, disease prevention and human sexuality. The course will provide decision-making, character building, and time management skills so the students may be prepared to make healthy choices in their lifetime. **(.5 credit)**

## **KW 100 KNIGHT WAY (SC Golden Knight Orientation)**

**Knight Way** is a Freshman Orientation class in which 9<sup>th</sup> graders will learn how to be a model Golden Knight, and a productive, well-balanced citizen beyond SCHS through a content focus on: *The Knight Way* - Respect, Responsibility, Resilience. Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) Self- Management/Life Skills: time management, stress management, the value of reading, and career preparation.

## **CAREER PATHWAYS & ELECTIVES**

### **DN-100 DANCE I BEGINNER – NON- STUDIO TRAINED DANCERS**

This course is designed for the student who wants to learn about dance as an art. Students enrolled in the dance program will be studying various topics to help develop them as a dancer including but not limited to dance history, vocabulary, dance theory, choreography techniques, and writing a critique. Dance will include but is not limited to basic dance technique, ballet, jazz and academics. Dance students will have several performance opportunities throughout the year ending with a winter or spring Dance Gala. **Performance in Dance Gala is required to move on to the next course level. To select the DNC 200 ADVANCED/TRAINED DANCERS course, successful completion of DN100 AND audition is required.**

**DCT-100 FOUNDATIONS OF DIGITAL DESIGN (formerly Digital Media & Design)** introduces students to the foundational principles, techniques, and skills of visual communications. Students learn the elements and principles of design, color theory, photography, packaging/promotional design, copyright/fair use, and image manipulation techniques along with the communication skills required to work within the media industry and client-based realm. Students learn raster image manipulation, editing, software application, publishing and digital media literacy. Students are prepared with the skills to develop digital files in Adobe Photoshop.

### **ART-100 ART I INTRODUCTION TO CONCEPTS IN VISUAL ART**

Students will work with the Elements and Principles of Art following the Design Model. Two and three dimensional explorations still life, portrait and imaginative drawing will include measured proportional drawing and sighting. Media will include graphite, prism, pastel, and hand building constructions with clay. This is a holistic class that will address the way artists see the world and respond to it through Art history readings, discussions, investigative journaling, and project based learning. A weekly sketchbook homework assignment will be required for passing grade.

### **CBND-100 CONCERT BAND**

Concert Band is open to all students who wish to become proficient on a wind or percussion instrument and play in a traditional symphonic band setting. Students will be given the opportunity to audition for All State Band and All County Band. This ensemble will perform in several concerts throughout the year. Students will also have small-group instrumental lessons as a component of this course. At least one year of instrumental music is required unless instructor permission is granted. **Attendance at all performances and practices is mandatory.**

### **MBND-100 MARCHING BAND (0.5 credit)**

Marching Band will meet outside of the school day and is open to all students who wish to further their musicianship on a wind or percussion instrument and perform at Sussex Central football games, soccer games, and local parades and festivals. All students will be expected to attend a required number of practices in June and July and band camp in August. After band camp and through the 2<sup>nd</sup> marking period, students will be expected to attend Friday afternoon rehearsals. **Attendance at all games, parades, festivals, and practices is mandatory.**

### **MBND-100 BAND FRONT (0.5 credit)**

Band Front will meet outside of the school day and is open to all students who wish to perform as an integral part of the Marching Band at Sussex Central football games, soccer games, and local parades and festivals. Students will have the opportunity to learn flag, swing flag, rifle, sabre, and dance techniques. All students will be expected to attend a required number of practices in June and July and band camp in August. After band camp and through the 2<sup>nd</sup> marking period, students will be expected to attend Friday afternoon rehearsals. **Attendance at all games, parades, festivals, and practices is mandatory.**  
**(BF-100; BF-200; BF-300; BF-400)**

### **MUS-100 INTRO TO BAND**

This class is designed primarily for students who are new to a particular band instrument or may need a review and reinforcement of music reading, playing fundamentals and technique that are vital for lasting musical development on their instrument **before** joining the Concert Band and/or Marching Band. Fundamentals stressed include proper posture and playing position, development of characteristic tone quality and training in music literacy. Students in “Intro to Band” should expect to join Concert Band and Marching Band the following semester. The instruments offered are: Flute, Oboe, Clarinet, Saxophone, Trumpet, French Horn, Trombone, Euphonium, and Tuba. Students are given the opportunity to try the different instruments before they choose one to focus on. Rental and purchase options will be discussed in the first classes. Students will need to purchase their own lesson books and provide their own instruments that are in working condition. A few of the larger and/or more expensive instruments may be provided by the school, if possible. Percussionists will be limited and decided on during the 1<sup>st</sup> week of class. The main focus of beginning percussionists will be on learning the xylophone. Students of any grade level are welcome. Students will perform in the Winter and/or Spring Band Concerts. No audition is required for Intro to Band - all that is necessary is the desire and motivation to study a musical instrument!

### **CHR-100 CONCERT CHOIR I**

Students will sing daily in class and perform within the school and community. Vocal music from a variety of cultures, languages, countries, and periods of history will be explored through performance, analysis, and discussion. All choir members learn basic music notation and how to read a choral score through basic music theory. Students will gain an understanding of the vocal tract and other basic anatomy required for safe and productive singing technique. Students will have opportunities to audition for solos, travel with the band and choir, audition for Sussex County and Delaware All State Honors Ensembles, and participate in other special performances as they arise. All students participating in Choir 100 are required to perform in the semesterly concert and one other performance (Hall of Fame Ceremony, Graduation Ceremony, Arts Festival, etc)

### **THR-100 INTRODUCTION TO THEATRE**

This course guides the beginning theatre student to explore the world of the Theatre through its history, professions, and stagecraft. Students will learn about the types of drama, setting the stage, job responsibilities in the theatre, and characterization through costumes and makeup. This course guides the beginning theatre student through a series of experiences in stage movement, voice projection, and acting exercises. Students will be encouraged to see theatrical productions during the year and to participate in at least one production in the after school program sponsored by the "Take II Drama Club". At the end of this course, students will be assessed for promotion to **THR-200 INTERMEDIATE THEATER** through a memorized monologue assignment.

### **TA-100 HUMAN GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT**

Human Growth and Development (HGD) introduces students to human physical, cognitive, social, and emotional development beginning with conception and ending with early adolescence. Theories supporting current thinking and research on human development are examined, as well as the processes and influences affecting the developing person. Further, students explore challenges to normal growth and development. This course is the first in the Teacher Academy.

### **ANI-100 ANIMAL SCIENCE I**

This is a hands-on course that will cover the Fundamental of Animal Science which includes the major characteristics of animal life, the careers in the animal industry, animal safety and sanitation, breed of animals, reproduction and genetics, nutrition, animal health and diseases, and animal rights vs. welfare. Students will be expected to participate in FFA activities and maintain a Supervised Agriculture Experience (SAE) project. This is an entry-level course and the Delaware State Standards will be followed closely. Students in this class should be in the Animal Science Pathway.

### **HORT-100 PLANT/HORTICULTURE SCIENCE I**

This course is designed to build a foundation of agriculture and plant systems. Students will gain fundamental classroom knowledge on plants, greenhouse production and business, floral crops, landscaping plants, reproduction, buying and selling plants. Students will gain leadership skills and experiences through participation in the National FFA Organization activities and maintain a Supervised Agriculture Experience (SAE) project.

### **ASPE-100 FUNDAMENTALS OF AGRICULTURAL STRUCTURES & POWER ENGINEERING**

Fundamentals of Agricultural Structures & Power Engineering (FASE) provides students a variety of experiences in the fields of agricultural structures and engineering. Students engage in hands-on projects reading and developing construction plans and drawings, evaluating site preparation techniques, selecting wood types, constructing buildings, and tool identification, use and safety. Students participate in project based instruction and apply principles of agricultural structures and engineering.

### **ASPE-100 FUNDAMENTALS OF AGRICULTURAL POWER & ENGINEERING**

Fundamentals of Agricultural Structures & Power Engineering (FAPE) introduces students to the skills needed in the occupational area of agricultural power and engineering. This course offers hands-on opportunities in workplace safety, communication skills, application of construction math, reading and developing construction plans, tool usage and safety practices.

### **ARV-100 AUDIO, RADIO AND VIDEO ENGINEERING & DESIGN I**

This course provides students an opportunity to explore, identify, and understand the foundations of audio, radio, video engineering and design as a platform from which students may continue into the advanced levels of the Audio, Radio, Video Engineering and Design career pathway. Students in this course will be exposed to the history of film, video production, and broadcast related work. They will learn about business, legal, and ethical issues pertaining to the career and industry. Fundamental strategies of preproduction, production, and post-production will be explored. Students will use digital video cameras and non-linear editing software to produce real-world projects. Students enrolled in this course will participate in appropriate grade level cross-curricular learning opportunities. They will also play an introductory role in their high school's chapter of the Technology Student Association.

### **CIS-100 COMPUTER & INFORMATION SCIENCES I**

This first year course is an introduction to the world of computers. Students will be taught the history of computers, types of computers, uses of computers. Students will also learn the different parts of internal and external hardware, the basics of software programming, and the basics of computer aided drafting. Students will use online resources such as Code.org, Codecademy, and Khan Academy. Students will also research potential careers and participate in the Technology Student Association.

### **LET-100 LEADERSHIP EDUCATION AND TRAINING I (LET I)**

LET I is the first of four levels of the U.S. Army's Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC) program. JROTC is not a recruiting tool for the military or a boot-camp for juvenile delinquents. This introductory course focuses on the JROTC mission statement: "To motivate young people to become better citizens." Students learn basic leadership, teamwork, citizenship, drill & ceremony and military-style physical training. Classes are taught in both a structured classroom environment and outdoors. Military customs, courtesies and traditions are explained and observed. **Uniforms are issued at no charge to the student and required to be worn weekly for the entire course.** Extracurricular activities include: Drill Team, Color Guard and Raider Adventure Training. Selected students may voluntarily attend weekend Leadership Camps and week-long summer encampments where they practice leadership and teamwork skills with students from other high schools, on actual military installations. This course may only be repeated with Senior Army Instructor (SAI) approval.

### **MED-100 INTRO TO MEDICINE**

Students will focus primarily on exploration of careers in the medical profession and related allied health services. During the first year, the program will focus on medical terminology; health care settings with exploration in health careers; human growth and development; infection control; and beginning Anatomy and Physiology. Skill sets in the first year include vital sign measurement and recording. Even though this course is an elective **Knowledge gained in this course will be beneficial for students who wish to take the Allied Health Pathway their second year in high school.**

**BFM-100 MARKETING ESSENTIALS FOR A DIGITAL AND DYNAMIC WORLD**

The first course in the Marketing Management Pathway introduces students to the core elements of marketing: the 4 Ps of Product, Promotion, Place, and Price as well as ethics, identifying target markets and understanding consumer behavior. Students will also learn about product positioning in the market as well as branding. They will have the opportunity to get certification in the Microsoft Office Suite: Word, Excel, PowerPoint, and Outlook.

**AOF-100 FUNDAMENTALS OF FINANCE**

This course provides students with an essential knowledge of the function of finance in society, the impact of technology on the financial services field, and the role of finance in organizations.

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