

**MESA RIDGE  
HIGH SCHOOL**

**Course Description Book  
2025-2026**



# MESA RIDGE HIGH SCHOOL

## Home of the Grizzlies

6070 Mesa Ridge Parkway  
Colorado Springs, Colorado 80911  
(719) 391-3600  
[www.mrhs.wsd3.org](http://www.mrhs.wsd3.org)

Instagram: [mrhs\\_grizzlynation](#)

Facebook: [mrhsgrizzlynation](#)

Twitter: [mrhsgrizzlies](#)

### **Administration**

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Principal	Levka Craft
Assistant Principal	Brian Petzold
Assistant Principal	Marisa Murphy
Athletic Director/Dean	Mike Felice
Dean of Students	Brittany Farrior

### **Counselors**

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Freshmen	Taylor Moore
Sophomores	TaLaura Rhodes
Juniors	Veronica Twenge
Seniors	Brooke Hesse

### **Important Phone Numbers**

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Athletic Director's Office	391-3614	NJROTC Department	391-3624
Attendance Office	391-3600/01	PE –Boys/Girls	391-3669/3667
Band Department	391-3684	Principal's Office	391-3690
Business Office	391-3610	Registrar's Office	391-3625
Counseling Center	391-3631	Science Department	391-3652
Discipline Office	391-3616	Social Studies Department	391-3654
Drama Department	391-3688	Special Services	391-3651
English Department	391-3653	Transportation	391-3540
Health Office	391-3622	Vocal Department	391-3664
Library	391-3640	World Language Department	391-3654
Math Department	391-3655		

### **Sports**

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#### **Fall Sports**

Cross Country  
Football  
Golf (Boys)  
Soccer (Boys)  
Softball  
Spirit Squad (Boys/Girls) Yearlong  
Tennis (Boys)  
Volleyball (Girls)

#### **Winter Sports**

Basketball (Boys)  
Basketball (Girls)  
Swimming (Girls)  
Wrestling (Boys & Girls)

#### **Spring Sports**

Baseball  
Soccer (Girls)  
Tennis (Girls)  
Track (Boys & Girls)  
Volleyball (Boys)

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## ***Course Description Book***

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This guide will assist you in planning for a successful high school experience. It contains the requirements that you must meet to graduate from Mesa Ridge High School. It also contains brief descriptions of the courses offered at Mesa Ridge High School. For information on bell schedules, student expectations and conduct, and general information about the school, please refer to the [Mesa Ridge High School Student Handbook](#) available on our website under Information->The Grizzly Way.

Please note that some of the courses listed in this guide may not be offered if the number of students requesting the courses is insufficient, or if the class has reached full capacity before the student applies.

## ***Registration Procedure***

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Students wishing to enroll at Mesa Ridge High School must first register online with Widefield School District 3. [Click here to go directly to the Student Registration page](#), or go to the District 3 website (wsd3.org) and select Student Registration from the Parents & Students Menu. Once you have completed your district registration, please contact the Mesa Ridge Registrar's Office for assistance (719-391-3625).

Current and newly-accepted students will

- have access to a course description book online for family consideration; and
- have the opportunity to meet individually with a counselor/administrator to develop a yearlong schedule.

## ***Counseling Center Information***

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Counseling Center services include student scheduling, new student registration, career and vocational counseling, scholarship information, as well as short-term solution focused personal and social counseling.

### **Concurrent Enrollment, Scholarship, and Employment Information??**

Students should recognize the importance of their school records for admission to college, scholarship, and/or financial aid. A student's record is the accumulation of courses from ninth grade through twelfth grade. Students can earn weighted grades in Advanced Placement and Honors courses. **A weighted grade of A through D carries ½ point more for Honors courses, as well as Post-Secondary Options classes, and one point more for Advanced Placement courses.** A student's record includes grade point average, rank in class based on academic courses completed and standardized test results.

In addition to the classes offered at Mesa Ridge High School, the Board of Education will approve rigorous academic classes that students successfully complete at colleges and universities participating in Concurrent Enrollment.

Every student should recognize that employers are looking for high school graduates whose records indicate good attendance, a well-rounded education, responsible behavior, and an in-depth study of a career area; i.e., business, technical, and industrial crafts. Mesa Ridge High School offers a limited number of seniors the opportunity to train in a variety of technical and industrial programs through PPCC's Career Start Program. In addition, Mesa Ridge High School offers classes in marketing, business and vocational education, auto mechanics, carpentry, electronics, and consumer & family studies.

## ***Withdrawal Procedure***

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The student who needs to withdraw, transfer, or drop from school for any reason must use this procedure:

1. The parent/guardian must come to the Registrar's Office in person to initiate the withdrawal. Bring with you the name and address of the next school the student will attend.
2. Return all textbooks, library books, and school technology. Pay all fines/fees. The completed withdrawal form must be returned to the registrar.
3. The Registrar's Office will forward transcripts when the withdrawal and checkout procedure is complete.

# ACADEMIC INFORMATION

## Student Classification

Mesa Ridge is a comprehensive, 4-year high school. Graduation requirements are based on the year students enter high school and assume a four-year progression.

Year in High School	Classification
1 <sup>st</sup> year in high school	Freshman (9)
2 <sup>nd</sup> year in high school	Sophomore (10)
3 <sup>rd</sup> year in high school	Junior (11)
4 <sup>th</sup> year in high school	Senior (12)

## Graduation Requirements

The information below is a summary of Widefield School District 3 graduation requirements. Forty-eight (48) semester credits in grades 9-12 are required for graduation. A semester credit is given for successful completion of a course. Some courses may have required standards which also must be met.

Please view [District Policy IKF](#) for full details.

### Classes of 2026

Course Type	Credits	Special Notes
Communication	8	3 Composition   2 Literature   2 Comp. or Lit.   1 Speech
Mathematics	6	
Science	6	2 Life Science   2 Earth Science   2 Physical Science
Social Science	7	1 Survey   1 Geography   2 World History   2 American History   1 American Government
Personal Development	5	2 Physical Education   1 Health   2 Fine Arts OR World Language OR Careers
	<b>32</b>	<b>Required Credits</b>
Electives	16	Credits earned beyond the requirements listed above will count as unrestricted elective credit
	<b>48</b>	<b>Total Credits</b>

### Classes of 2027 & Beyond

Course Type	Credits	Special Notes
English	8	
Mathematics	6	
Science	6	2 Life Science   2 Earth Science   2 Physical Science
Social Science	6	6 credits   1 American Government   2 in US History or World History
Personal Development	5	2 Physical Education   1 Health   2 Fine Arts OR World Language OR Careers
	<b>31</b>	<b>Required Credits</b>
Electives	17	Credits earned beyond the requirements listed above will count as unrestricted elective credit
	<b>48</b>	<b>Total Credits</b>

Key: **W\*/W\*\***=Weighted Credit; **IC**=Industry Certification Available; **GC/P**=Meets Graduation Competencies with Portfolio

## Graduation Competencies

In addition to the above credit requirements, the Class of 2021 and beyond will need to achieve one of the following competencies in English and Math to qualify for graduation.

Menu of Options	English	Math
Accuplacer	62 on Reading Comprehension 241 Reading or 236 SW (NextGen)	61 Elementary Algebra ~or~ 255 AR or 230 QAS (NextGen)
ACT Work Keys – National Career Readiness Certificates	Bronze or higher	Bronze or higher
Advance Placement Exams (AP)	2 or higher on the following AP exams: AP English Language AP English Literature AP European History AP US Government AP US History AP Biology AP Environmental Science	2 or higher on the following AP exams: AP Calculus I (AB) AP Calculus II (BC) AP Computer Science AP Statistics AP Chemistry AP Physics I AP Physics II
Concurrent Enrollment	Passing per district higher education policy	Passing per district higher education policy
SAT	470	500
ACT	18	19
ASVAB	31	31
Industry Certificate	Per district approval	Per district approval
District Portfolio or District Course with Embedded Portfolio (CEP)*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ACE-CD I &amp; II (both required)</li> <li>• ACE-WE &amp; SF (both required)</li> <li>• ACE-SF <b>and</b> CD I <sup>OR</sup> CD II</li> <li>• ACE-WE <b>and</b> CD I <sup>OR</sup> CD II</li> <li>• Creative Writing</li> <li>• Technical Writing</li> <li>• Technical Writing 300</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ACE PFL</li> <li>• Algebra 2/H Algebra II (1<sup>st</sup> sem.)</li> <li>• Algebra 2A (full year)</li> <li>• Consumer Math (entire year)</li> <li>• Math Today</li> <li>• Personal Financial Literacy (PFL)</li> </ul>

\*Transfer credit & credit recovery courses of the same name do not qualify for competency requirements due to the lack of portfolio.

## Early Graduation

The Board of Education believes that most students benefit from four years of high school experience and students are encouraged not to graduate early. However, in some cases, students need the challenge provided by postsecondary education or other opportunities at an earlier age. Therefore, the principal may grant permission to students wishing to graduate early, provided the student has met all district graduation requirements. Students interested in early graduation must speak with their counselors for academic advisement and to complete the early graduation application.

Students who graduate in December of their senior year are no longer eligible for participation in Student Cabinet or CHSAA-governed athletics and activities. Four-year colleges generally do not recommend graduating early unless there are extenuating circumstances; students should coordinate with college admissions prior to making this decision.

## Late Graduation

All seniors must complete all graduation requirements in order to participate in the graduation ceremony. Those who do not complete requirements by the deadline but do complete them by July 31 will be considered a graduate of that school year.

## Senior Reduced Schedule Request

Seniors who are in good standing and who are on-track to graduate on time may request a “Reduced Schedule,” meaning that they could have a period with no class. Reduced schedules allow seniors additional time to work or to complete classwork for school and concurrent enrollment classes. Reduced schedule periods are limited based on the current bell schedule, and students must be enrolled in a minimum of five credits for participation in athletics and activities. Students may not have a reduced schedule period between two other scheduled classes.

Additionally, students/families are responsible for

- verifying that the student is on track to graduate
- understanding and assuming all potential risks including graduation requirements, NCAA eligibility, and post-secondary education admission requirements
- knowing when there is an adjustment to the school schedule and for attending classes at the correct time
- providing transportation to and from school for the reduced period(s)
- being off campus during the reduced schedule period(s)
- the student’s safety and well-being during the time off campus

Forms are available in the Counseling Center and on the website.

## Early Completion Procedure

Students are expected to take their finals on the assigned date. Students disenrolling from Mesa Ridge early must have their parent contact their counselor and complete an “Early Completion of Semester” form (available in the counseling center).

## Grading & Credits

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### Grading System

Policy [IKA](#)

A	90-100 (Excellent)	P	Passing*
B	80-89 (Above Average)	CR	Credit*
C	70-79 (Average)	NC	No Credit*
D	60-69 (Below Average)	WF	Withdraw Failing
F	<59	I/F	Incomplete/Failing
		NM	No Mark

\*No impact on GPA

### Grade Point Averages & Weighted Grades

The following point values will be used to compute the grade point average. Courses which are weighted will have a consistently verifiable, elevated, and more rigorous curricula compared to unweighted courses. These courses are noted with a **W\*** (honors weight) or a **W\*\*** (AP weight) designation in the course description. Students who successfully pass a class with weighted credit will automatically receive extra grade points for the course based on the scale below. Plus/minus grades, which may appear on student grade reports, do not change GPA. A weighted grade of A through D carries ½ point more for Honors courses, as well as Post-Secondary Options classes, and one point more for Advanced Placement courses.

	Standard Weight	Honors Weight	AP Weight
<b>A</b>	4.0	4.5	5.0
<b>B</b>	3.0	3.5	4.0
<b>C</b>	2.0	2.5	3.0
<b>D</b>	1.0	1.5	2.0
<b>F or WF</b>	0.0	0.0	0.0

## Transfer Credits

Incoming students must provide an official transcript for courses to be accepted at Mesa Ridge High School (see [Homeschool Credits](#) for separate procedures). If a student transfers from a school outside of the United States (except DOD), it is requested that the student provide English translation of the transcript with an English explanation of grading and credits from the sending school. Letter grade weighting will be given only to corresponding courses and weighting available to current WSD3 students.

Courses will be accepted when the same course is offered in District 3. Classes that are not offered in Widefield School District 3 will be accepted as elective credit in the appropriate content areas. All transfer students must fulfill WSD3 Graduation Requirements in order to receive a diploma. No 8<sup>th</sup> grade course will not count for credit toward high school graduation requirements, even if already transcript by previous high school.

School officials will accept the weighed credits for courses that correspond with WSD3 course offerings. However, weighted values may need to be converted to align with WSD3's weighted course status (5.0 for AP/IB credits, 4.5 for college preparatory or honors courses). Weighted International Baccalaureate, Advanced Placement, and honors courses which are not offered in Widefield School District 3 will be converted to the district's 4.0 scale.

## Grade Reports and Transcripts

**Grades can be accessed by using Infinite Campus** at any time. Parents interested in regular grade updates should access Infinite Campus online through the Widefield School District 3 website or the IC App. The official grade that appears on the transcript is the semester grade. Grade reports are distributed to students at mid-term, quarter, and semester. Transcripts are mailed home after each semester.

A grade of "Incomplete" may be given at the discretion of the teacher. A student shall be allowed to make up an incomplete grade within a two-week period after the end of the semester unless other arrangements have been made in writing with the teacher. In the absence of prior arrangements, the Incomplete shall become an F after the two-week period. When the missing class work is made up and the incomplete grade is changed, the cumulative data will be updated appropriately.

The College/Career Center will provide transcripts for college applications. The Registrar's Office will provide transcripts for other institutions or agencies upon request. After graduation, individuals may order transcripts by contacting the registrar

## Outside Credits

[Policy IKF](#) | A maximum of four credits may be accepted for graduation for students who satisfactorily complete approved courses through accredited distance learning (correspondence or online) programs. Credits must be documented on an official transcript. Rigorous academic classes successfully completed at all colleges/universities participating in the Postsecondary Options Act may be approved as well as certain courses from other colleges/universities. Students must complete all graduation requirements to be eligible to participate in the graduation ceremony.

Students entering from outside the district must meet the district graduation requirements. The principal shall determine whether credit toward graduation requirements shall be granted for courses taken outside the district. Students who are currently enrolled in the district and wish to obtain credit from outside institutions, or through "online" programs, must have prior approval from the principal.

Students are responsible for knowing and understanding deadlines in order to receive credit and participate in graduation.

## Homeschool Credits

[Policy IKF](#) | The district shall accept the transcripts from a home-based educational program. In order to determine whether the courses and grades earned are consistent with district requirements and district academic standards, the district shall require submission academic records from an accredited program. If the program is not accredited, the family must submit documented course work (student's work) or other proof of academic performance for each course for which credit toward graduation is sought. In addition, the district may administer testing to the student to verify the accuracy of the student's transcripts. The district may reject any transcripts that cannot be verified through such testing. Homeschool

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Key: **W\*/W\*\***=Weighted Credit; **IC**=Industry Certification Available; **GC/P**=Meets Graduation Competencies with Portfolio



credits are transcribed on a P/F basis. Homeschool students must attend Mesa Ridge on a full time basis for a minimum of one semester during senior year in order to be eligible for a district diploma.

### **Concurrent Enrollment Credits**

The CU Succeed program is a unique opportunity for students to earn college credit while attending high school classes. Mesa Ridge High School has collaborated with both the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs (UCCS) and the University of Colorado at Denver (UCD) to provide this opportunity for students. Students who choose the dual credit option will be required to pay tuition to the university at a reduced rate. The tuition rate is around \$60.00 per credit hour at UCD and \$52.00 per credit hour at UCCS; these prices are set by the Universities and subject to change. We will let students and parents know the exact credit hour cost upon announcement. Most classes are three to four credit hours. Please note that the universities provide guidelines for how students earn grades in these courses. Therefore, the rigor is greater in these courses than in a traditional high school course. Upon completion of the course, students will have a college transcript that most of the public colleges and universities in the state of Colorado accept. Students who are considering going to a private school or attending college out of state should consult with their counselor prior to registering for dual credit.

## ***Class Scheduling***

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### **Selecting Classes**

The school develops the master schedule (course offerings and times) based upon the pre-registration requests by students. Early each spring, students select from available courses, taking into account graduation requirements, their post-secondary plans, and interests. Students must adhere to the procedure and dates for all scheduling procedures.

Study the graduation requirements and course descriptions carefully with your parents/guardians before planning your program and selecting courses. Your choice of courses must be based on graduation requirements, post-high school plans, teacher recommendations, interests and abilities, and your achievements. Your counselor and teachers will assist you with your decisions.

Students may choose from a broad range of course offerings at Mesa Ridge High School designed to meet individual needs, such as Advanced Placement (AP), Honors (H), Career Start Program (Pikes Peak Community College), Post-Secondary Options, General, Vocational, and Special Needs (placement requires formalized assessment procedures).

### **Schedule Changes**

Students and parents have the opportunity to choose most classes and have developed a Plan of Study in their Individual Career/Academic Plans (ICAP) with their counselors. Therefore, it is expected that students will give careful consideration to this process and be responsible for the decisions they make. Students need to consider their alternate courses carefully; alternates are taken into consideration when building schedules and may appear in student schedules. The master schedule for the school is built based upon the courses that students request. The schedule change window occurs before registration (check-in). This is the only time that students can request schedule changes, and only for the reasons listed below. A request is not a guarantee of change.

#### **Changes May be Requested for the Following Reasons**

- Academic misplacement
- Challenge by choice (to increase challenge)
- To add a course needed for graduation
- To drop a course when pre-requisites have not been met
- Empty blocks in schedules

#### **Inappropriate Schedule Change Requests**

- Requests for teacher change
- Being in a class with friends
- Changing a class to a different block, or to change lunch
- Elective changes

**Schedule changes could impact athletic/activities eligibility.**

**Weeks 1-2:**

Key: **W\*/W\*\***=Weighted Credit; **IC**=Industry Certification Available; **GC/P**=Meets Graduation Competencies with Portfolio

After the official schedule change days, changes will only be made during the first two weeks of school for teacher-recommended level changes, on a space-available basis. Students who are requesting a change due to academic misplacement must discuss their concerns with the teacher before meeting with their grade level counselor. A request is not a guarantee of a change.

#### **Week 4:**

Beginning the fourth week, students who withdraw from a course will receive a WF (withdraw fail) for the semester grade in the course they are dropping, unless they have been educationally misplaced or have serious extenuating circumstances (e.g., hospitalization, long-term illness, etc.), which must be approved by an administrator. The change will not become official until the request form is returned to the Student Services Center and the change is approved by administration. Students will remain in their originally-scheduled classes until the change is approved and all books/materials are returned. Counselors will notify the student when the change has occurred and the student will be placed in a study hall.

## **Academic Recognition and Honors**

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### **Academic Letter**

Academic Letters (gray “MR”) recognize students achieving academic excellence, much the same way that an Athletic Letter recognizes outstanding performance by a varsity athlete. To earn an Academic Letter, a student must maintain a weighted GPA of 3.5 or above for two consecutive semesters. Subsequently, students who maintain a 3.5 or higher GPA for two additional consecutive semesters receive an Academic Bar.

### **Honor Roll**

Honor Roll recognition will be awarded each semester, and students will receive a certificate recognizing their achievements. Students must be enrolled full time (7 classes). Criteria for Honor Roll recognition are a weighted, semester GPA of:

4.0 and Above	Principal’s Honor Roll
3.75 – 3.99	Grizzly Merit Honor Roll
3.50 – 3.74	Academic Honorable Mention
Single-Semester 0.5 GPA Improvement	Dean’s LEAP* Award

\*Learning, Engagement, and Academic Progress

### **Valedictorian/Salutatorian**

The valedictorian shall be the student(s) with the highest weighted grade point average (GPA). The salutatorian will be the second highest grade point average (GPA). To be eligible to be valedictorian/salutatorian, the student must attend Mesa Ridge full time for both semesters of senior year. Early graduates do not qualify. In the rare occurrence of two students with the same GPA, the school will conduct a review process to include careful verification of the academic core GPA. Consideration will also be given to the following priorities:

- The total number of academic core courses and credits earned.
- The number of honors and AP courses recognized by WSD3.

The GPA shall be calculated on a weighted scale from all classes (courses) through the completion of the eighth semester.

### **Graduation Honors and Regalia**

Official Mesa Ridge graduation regalia includes the cap, gown, and honors cords awarded by the school. Students may not add, embellish, decorate, or alter graduation regalia in any way.

Students may wear academic recognitions that are awarded by the school. Currently, honors cords are awarded to the top 3% of graduates (gold cord) and the top 15% of graduates (silver cord) based on the cumulative GPA at the end of the 8<sup>th</sup> semester. AVID students and Tri-M Honor Society students receive cords from those organizations, and students with a parent/guardian who was active duty military may also wear the red/white/blue honor cord, which is awarded by the school. Members of National Honor Society wear the NHS honors stole. Any other school-sponsored honors organization who wishes to award graduation regalia must apply for recognition and approval by administration.

## Activities Recognition

Students can earn an Activities Letter in the following school-sponsored activities if they meet the individual program criteria. See the academic advisor for lettering requirements.

AVID

Student Council

Yearbook

## Colorado Higher Education Admission Requirements (HEAR)

Students planning to attend a four-year college or university in Colorado should complete the following classes in order to fulfill the Higher Education Admission Recommendations (HEAR). HEAR is one factor of many that public four-year institutions consider in the admission decision process. Meeting HEAR does not guarantee admission to a four-year public institution. Additionally, colleges, universities and certain academic programs may have additional admission factors.

Read more about HEAR requirements by visiting this website: <https://cdhe.colorado.gov/frequently-asked-questions-hear>

Academic Area	
<b>English*</b>	4 years
<b>Mathematics</b> Must include Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II or equivalents**	4 years
<b>Natural/Physical Sciences</b> two years must be lab-based**	3 years
<b>Social Sciences</b> at least one year of U.S. or world history	3 years
<b>World/Foreign Language</b>	1 year
<b>Academic Electives****</b>	2 years

\*Two units of ESL English may count for HEAR recommendations when combined with two units of successfully completed college preparatory English.

\*\*College-preparatory ESL mathematics/science courses that include content and academic rigor/level comparable to other acceptable courses may satisfy HEAR recommendations.

\*\*\*\*Acceptable Academic Electives include additional courses in English, mathematics, natural/physical sciences and social sciences, foreign languages, art, music, journalism, drama, computer science, honors, Advanced Placement, and appropriate CTE courses.

## Athletics and Activities Eligibility

In order to be eligible to participate in athletics and activities at MRHS:

1. Students must carry 5 full-credit classes during the semester they compete, and 5 full-credit classes in the semester before they compete. Students who plan to participate in athletics and activities must always carry 5 full-credit classes. (Teacher Assistants, Peer Tutors, and Study Hall receive 1/2 credit; partial absences receive no credit.)
2. Students must not be failing more than 1 unit of credit at the time of participation or the semester before they participate.

## College Athletics: NCAA Eligibility

Students who are interested in competing in college athletics at the Division I or II level should complete an NCAA Eligibility form as early as their sophomore year and before the end of their junior year. This form is to be completed on-line at [www.eligibilitycenter.org](http://www.eligibilitycenter.org). Once registered with the Eligibility Center, students will need to request their transcripts to be sent.

### TO BE CERTIFIED TO PLAY SPORTS AT THE DIVISION I OR II LEVELS, STUDENTS MUST:

- Register with the Eligibility Center.
- Request that high school transcripts be sent to the Eligibility Center (please note: you must send a transcript from every high school you have attended to the Eligibility Center).
- Take an ACT and an SAT

Key: **W\*/W\*\***=Weighted Credit; **IC**=Industry Certification Available; **GC/P**=Meets Graduation Competencies with Portfolio

- Request that your scores are sent to the Eligibility Center directly from the testing agency (NCAA will not accept your test scores from your transcript). Use the free reporting service during test registration to send scores. The Eligibility code is: 9999
- Earn a grade point average of at least 2.3 in core classes completed during grades 9-12. Only approved MRHS classes can be used to calculate the GPA. Check MRHS' core list on the Eligibility website.
- Earn specific scores on the ACT or SAT based on your cumulative GPA. See sliding scale on Eligibility website.
- Students should check to see which MRHS courses have been approved by NCAA. To do so, log onto [www.eligibilitycenter.org](http://www.eligibilitycenter.org) and use our school code, which is **22017**. Any courses taken pass/fail are calculated as a “D” in the GPA.
- Students should access the website if they have questions or meet with the College Counselor or Athletic Director.

Students must meet the below requirements to receive athletics aid, practice, and compete their first year of college. For more information about NCAA go to [www.eligibilitycenter.org](http://www.eligibilitycenter.org). Students will also need to register with NCAA Clearinghouse before entering college.

### DIVISION 1

16 core courses in the following areas:

- 4 years English
- 3 years math at Algebra I level or higher
- 2 years natural or physical science (1 lab)
- 1 year additional English, math, or natural/physical science
- 2 years social studies
- 4 years additional from areas above or foreign language

Minimum required GPA

- Minimum GPA of 2.30 in those 16 core courses.
- Completion of sliding scale for SAT or ACT. Sliding scale depends on GPA. The SAT or ACT must be administered at a national testing site. See counseling office with questions.

Graduate from high school.

### DIVISION 2

16 core courses in the following areas:

- 3 years English
- 2 years math at Algebra I or higher
- 2 years natural or physical science
- 3 years additional English, math, or science
- 2 years social studies
- 4 years additional from areas above or foreign language

Minimum required GPA

- Minimum GPA of 2.20 in those 16 core courses.
- Completion of sliding scale for SAT or ACT. Sliding scale depends on GPA. The SAT or ACT must be administered at a national testing site. See counseling office with questions.

Graduate from high school.

## ***College Admission Recommendations***

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We encourage Mesa Ridge students to plan for post-high school education. Listed below are recommended admission criteria by level of selectivity. Requirements vary greatly (by major, etc.), so students should consult college websites, attend college fairs, and visit with college representatives. Consult with the College/Career Center for information on how to access these resources.

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Key: **W\*/W\*\***=Weighted Credit; **IC**=Industry Certification Available; **GC/P**=Meets Graduation Competencies with Portfolio

## In-State Four-Year Public Colleges

### Colorado Pre-Collegiate Curriculum

The Pre-Collegiate Curriculum is a combination of courses in the academic areas that students should take for entrance to Colorado's four-year public colleges or universities.

English	4 years, 8 credits
Math	4 years, 8 credits - Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II or equivalents
Natural/Physical Sciences	3 years, 6 credits
Social Sciences	3 years, 6 credits - 1 Year of U.S. or World History
Academic Electives	2 years, 4 credits - Additional courses from above areas and/or world languages
World Language	Most four-year colleges in Colorado recommend at least three years of the same world language. The University of Colorado system and Colorado State University requires two or three years, depending on the field of study.

Index Scores	Four-year public universities and colleges in Colorado utilize the Grade Point Average and best ACT/SAT scores to calculate an Index number which is a basic requirement for admission. Different schools have different index number requirements. Your counselor has a chart showing these scales.
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## Most Highly Selective Universities

Minimum of 36 high school credits:

English	4 years - With a continued emphasis on writing
World Language	4 years - All study completed in one language
Math	4 years - Preferably including an introduction to Calculus
Science	4 years - To include two to three years of laboratory science. Recommended biology, chemistry and physics.
Social Science	4 years - To include one year of U.S. History
Arts	1 Year

College requirements for test scores and grade-point averages will vary from the most difficult (above) to non-competitive, where virtually all applicants are accepted regardless of rank/GPA/scores. The three categories below describe where most other colleges fit.

<b>Very Selective</b>	More than 50% of the college freshmen are in the top 10% of their high school class and scored over 1230 on the SAT I or 27-35 on the ACT; about 60% or fewer of the applicants were accepted.
<b>Moderately Selective</b>	More than 75% of the freshmen are in the top half of their high school class and scored over 1010 on the SAT I or over 22 on the ACT; about 85% or fewer of the applicants were accepted.
<b>Minimally Selective</b>	Most freshmen were not in the top half of their high school class and scored somewhat below 1010 on the SAT I or below 20 on the ACT; up to 95% of the applicants were accepted.

Admissions personnel will take into consideration the rigor of your curriculum, personal essay, letters of recommendation, extra-curricular activities, and community service activities.

## Naviance

Naviance is our online college career planning program (Family Connection from *Naviance*). *Naviance* is a comprehensive website that students can utilize to help complete their Individual Career & Academic Plans (ICAP), manage career/college research and, help efficiently complete college applications. Throughout the year, counselors utilize *Naviance* during grade-level classroom guidance. Students are encouraged to discuss with their parents what they have learned and to visit the Naviance website together. Because Naviance is a web-based program, students can access their accounts 24/7. To access account, students should go to Clever located on the Widefield School District 3 website or the Mesa Ridge High School homepage and sig-in using student login information. Here are just some of the helpful features found in *Naviance*:

Key: **W\*/W\*\***=Weighted Credit; **IC**=Industry Certification Available; **GC/P**=Meets Graduation Competencies with Portfolio

- **Stay informed:** College/Career announcements and upcoming college visits
- **ICAP:** Build and update your four-year plan to satisfy graduation and college entrance requirements. Counselors will get you started on this process.
- **College research:** Sign up for college visits at MRHS, complete college searches, save prospective colleges, and request supporting documents (transcripts/letters of recommendation) for college applications your senior year. There is also a scholarship search in this section.
- **Career research:** This section has a personality survey, a career interest profiler, and you can research different careers and majors and, in many cases, look up colleges that offer particular programs! Counselors will get you started on these inventories!
- **Goal setting:** you can complete a “game plan” here to get you thinking about your goals after high school. This section also contains a user-friendly resume builder!
- **Request supporting college application materials** such as official transcripts and letters of recommendation.

## Programs and Pathways

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### Honors Program

Honors and AP courses are open to all motivated and interested students. Honors classes stress academic excellence, preparation for college, and critical and independent thinking skills. Students who enroll in Honors classes are expected to work at a high level of competence and to responsibly accept the academically rigorous challenges set forth. Honors courses exceed the minimum state standards for core content areas and have received District approval to award weighted credit. While not required for AP course enrollment, Honors courses help prepare students for the rigor of AP courses.

### The Advanced Placement (AP) Program:

The Advanced Placement (AP) program is an international program offered by Mesa Ridge High School in cooperation with the College Board that provides students the opportunity to pursue *college-level studies* while in high school. At the conclusion of the AP course, students take a College Board National AP Exam administered on a national test date. Depending on scores, a student may receive college-level credit for AP classes. Currently, 99% of colleges and universities across the globe offer college credit, advanced placement, or both, for qualifying AP Exam scores. Acceptance of AP scores for college credit is determined by each college or university. *It is the student's responsibility to research policies at individual institutions regarding AP credit. For information, refer to <https://apscore.collegeboard.org/creditandplacement/search-credit-policies>*

AP courses are intended to meet the needs of students seeking in-depth acceleration of curricular content. Because AP courses offer college-level curriculum, **they are more demanding than a standard high school course**. While AP courses have the academic rigor of a college program and reward achievement, they also provide greater opportunities to master a subject and to explore it in greater depth. Students who enroll in AP courses must be highly motivated and willing to work responsibly to develop analytical reasoning skills and disciplined study habits. AP courses exceed the minimum state standards for core content areas and have received District approval to award weighted credit.

### TAKING AN AP EXAM

Students are expected to pay an exam fee prior to the close of first semester. This exam fee is largely set by College Board and is subject to annual increases which may not be reflected by the time this course guide is published. Taking the national exam is part of the AP experience. Students are *expected* to pay the exam fee and take the exam. Students who qualify for Federal Aid programs may apply for assistance with AP exam fees.

**2025-26 Estimated Exam Fee**  
 \$25/exam  
**AP FEES MUST BE PAID BEFORE THE END OF 1<sup>ST</sup> SEMESTER**

All AP examinations contain both multiple-choice questions and free-response questions, which require essay writing and problem solving. Most of the examinations are three hours long. The exam must be taken on the date published by the College Board. If a student has a valid reason for withdrawing from taking the national exam, he/she **MUST** take an

equivalent exam with his/her teacher in order to retain the AP designation on the transcript and to retain weighted grade status. Refunds for exam fees may be issued, minus an exam handling fee.

Every examination taken by students receives an overall grade on a five-point scale: 5 (extremely well qualified), 4 (well qualified), 3 (qualified), 2 (possibly qualified), and 1 (no recommendation). All exams are based on the course outlined in the AP course description pages which can be found on the College Board website at [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com). Both the course descriptions and the examinations are prepared for the College Board by committees of school and college teachers assisted by specialists at the Educational Testing Service.

### AP SCORES

Only students have the right to forward their AP scores to colleges and universities; therefore, AP test scores will not appear on MRHS transcripts. Students can view their score report online from College Board in July following spring testing. Official score reports can be requested through the College Board to be sent to the institution of choice at [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org). Please visit the College Board/AP website for more information. [www.myap.collegeboard.org](http://www.myap.collegeboard.org)

### **Career & Technical Education Programs**

Mesa Ridge High School and Widefield School District 3 offer a variety of Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs for students to explore interests and gain valuable experience for careers after high school. These programs operate in conjunction with the core academic experience at MRHS and qualify for elective credit. Some courses also cross-qualify for other graduation requirements; see the course description for more information on specific courses. Many of these programs also offer Career Certification options in which students earn valuable certifications that are recognized in industry as proof of their mastery in specific skills.

- ACE – Career Readiness Program
- Art (Design & Multimedia Arts)
- Automotive Technology (Vehicle Maintenance & Light Repair)
- Business, Management, & Marketing
- Cabinet Manufacturing (off site at the MILL)
- Computer & Information Technology
- Construction Trades (off site at the MILL)
- Cosmetology (off site at International Salon and Spa)
- Education/Family & Consumer Sciences (Hospitality and Food Production, Education)
- PLTW – Biomedical Sciences Program
- PLTW – Engineering Program
- Production and Managerial Arts
- Theatre Technology
- Work-Based Learning

### CTE NON DISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

Widefield School District 3 offers Career and Technical Education (CTE) for all students and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, creed, religion, age, sex, or disability in its programs or activities. Inquiries regarding nondiscrimination may be referred to the WSD3 Executive Director of Human Resources, as compliance officer, at the Widefield School District 3 Administration Building, 1820 Main Street, Colorado Springs, CO 80911, [humanresources@wsd3.org](mailto:humanresources@wsd3.org), 719-391-3015.

# PLANNING YOUR ACADEMIC PROGRAM (2026)

<b>Communication</b>	<b>English 7 credits</b>								
	<b>Speech 1 credit</b>								
<b>Math</b>	<b>Math 6 credits</b>								
<b>Science</b>	<b>Science 6 credits</b>	Life	Life	Earth	Earth	Physical	Physical		
<b>Social Sciences</b>	<b>Social Science 4 credits</b>	SS9 or APHum Geo	Geog. Or APHum Geo	W Hist	W Hist				
	<b>American Government 1 credit</b>	Gov. or AP Gov.							
	<b>US History 2 credits</b>	US Hist or AP USHist	US Hist or AP USHist						
<b>Personal Development</b>	<b>Physical Education 2 credits</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> PE 9							
	<b>Health 1 credit</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Health							
	<b>Fine Arts <u>or</u> World Language <u>or</u> Careers 2 Credits</b>								
	<b>Electives 16 credits</b>								

Key: **W\*/W\*\***=Weighted Credit; **IC**=Industry Certification Available; **GC/P**=Meets Graduation Competencies with Portfolio



# PLANNING YOUR ACADEMIC PROGRAM (2027 & BEYOND)

English	English 8 credits								
	Math	Math 6 credits							
Science	Science 6 credits	Life	Life	Earth	Earth	Physical	Physical		
Social Sciences	Social Science 5 credits	World or US	World or US						
	American Government 1 credit	Gov. or AP Gov.							
Personal Development	Physical Education 2 credits	<input type="checkbox"/> PE 9							
	Health 1 credit	<input type="checkbox"/> Health							
	Fine Arts <u>or</u> World Language <u>or</u> Careers 2 Credits								
	Electives 16 credits								

# CORE DEPARTMENT COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

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ENGLISH DEPARTMENT COURSE OVERVIEW

Core Courses

<b>English 9</b> Grade 9 1 Year	<b>English 10</b> Grade 10 1 Year	<b>American Literature</b> Grades 11-12 1 Semester	<b>Technical Writing</b> Grades 11-12 1 Semester
	<b>English 11</b> Grade 11 1 Year	<b>Multicultural Literature</b> Grades 11-12 1 Semester	<b>Creative Writing</b> Grades 11-12 1 Semester
		<b>World Literature</b> Grades 11-12 1 Semester	<b>Adv. Creative Writing</b> Grades 11-12 1 Semester

Honors & Advanced Placement (AP) Courses

<b>Honors English 9</b> Grade 9 1 Year	<b>American Literature</b> Grade 11-12 Semester	<b>AP Seminar</b> Grades 10 1 Year
	<b>AP Language &amp; Composition</b> Grades 11 1 Year	<b>AP Literature &amp; Composition</b> Grades 12 1 Year

Speech Courses

<b>Speech</b> Grades 11-12 1 Semester
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Elective Course

<b>Film as Literature*</b> Grades 11-12 1 Semester
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## ENGLISH DEPARTMENT COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

### Advanced Creative Writing

**Course Number:** 18040

**Length:** Semester, S2 Only

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Prerequisite:** Creative Writing and Teacher Recommendation

**Description:** This advanced writing course is for those who wish to further their knowledge and ability in the creative writing forms. Students will also be expected to edit and produce a school edition of a creative writing magazine.

**Grade:** 11-12

**No. of Credits:** 1

**Notes:**

### Advanced Debate

**Course Number:** 18093

**Length:** Year

**Type of Credit:** COMM (Speech)

**Prerequisite:** Intermediate Debate

**Description:** Participants in this course will continue to focus on all areas of competitive debate, including Lincoln-Douglas, Cross-Examination, and Public Forum. Students will also have the opportunity to explore congressional and extemporaneous speaking. Students will select one or more area(s) for intensive study and practice, and they will eventually perform these events in actual tournament competition. Each student will be required to compete in a minimum of three tournaments per semester in order to receive credit for this course. Individual practices will be conducted in class.

**After school practices is required.** Class members will automatically become part of Mesa Ridge High School's competitive speech team, recognized by the Colorado High School Activities' Association; consequently, academic eligibility must be maintained in order to participate in tournament competition. Because of the extensive, out-of-class required activity; students who attend nine or more tournaments throughout the year will be able to earn one elective English credit, in addition to earning a speech credit in the English department. (Competitive Speech Team)

**Grade:** 12

**No. of Credits:** 1

**Notes:**

### Advanced Oral Interpretation

**Course Number:** 18096

**Length:** Semester

**Type of Credit:** COMM (Speech)

**Prerequisite:** Beginning Interpretation

**Description:** Participants in this course will be introduced to certain areas of competitive speech emphasizing oratory, the interpretations of humor, drama, poetry, and Duo interpretation. Students will select one or more area(s) for intensive study and practice, and they will eventually perform these area(s) in actual tournament competition. The advanced oral interpretation students will be able to perform two events at the competitive level. Each student will be required to compete in a minimum of three tournaments in order to earn credit for the course. Individual practices will be conducted in class. **After school practice is required.** Class members will automatically become part of Mesa Ridge High School's competitive speech team, recognized by the Colorado High School Activities' Association; consequently, academic eligibility must be maintained in order to participate in tournament competition. Because of the extensive, out-of-class required activity; students who attend nine or more tournaments throughout the year will be able to earn one elective English credit, in addition to earning a speech credit in the English department. (Competitive Speech Team)

**Grade:** 11-12

**No. of Credits:** 1

**Notes:**

### American Literature

**Course Number:** 18055

**Length:** Semester

**Type of Credit:** COMM (Literature)

**Prerequisite:** English 10 or Honors English 10, and/or Teacher Recommendation

**Description:** This traditional literature course is the study of American heritage. The literary selections read, studied, analyzed, and evaluated reflect the changes of historical moods and themes. These selections, particularly the poetry and drama, will be challenging to read and write about, requiring higher-level thinking and writing skills. The major emphasis of this course will be the study of great American and World literature and its predominant themes.

**Grade:** 11-12

**No. of Credits:** 1

**Notes:**

## AP Language & Composition

**Course Number:** 18075 A/B

**Length:** Year (2 semesters)

**Type of Credit:** COMM (Comp & Lit)

**Prerequisite:** C or better in English 10 or Honors English 10 and/or Teacher Recommendation; Honors/AP Signature Page required

**Grade:** 11

**No. of Credits:** 2

**Notes:** W\*, GC

**Description:** The purpose of this course is to help students “write effectively and confidently in their college courses across the curriculum and in their professional and personal lives.” (The College Board, AP English Course Description). This course is organized according to the requirements and guidelines in the current AP English Course Description. Students, therefore, are expected to read critically, think analytically, and communicate clearly both in writing and speech. In addition, students will prepare for the AP English Language and Composition Exam and may be granted AP, college credit, or both as a result of satisfactory performance. The rigor of this course will be comparable to college classroom. This course, accredited by the College Board, a national organization, exceeds Colorado State Content Standards and is specifically designed to prepare students to take the AP Literature & Composition Examination, providing them the opportunity to receive college credit. Students who desire to take the test may register through the Counseling Center. Registration fee will be at the student’s expense.

## AP Literature & Composition

**Course Number:** 18076 A/B

**Length:** Year (2 semesters)

**Type of Credit:** COMM (Comp & Lit)

**Prerequisite:** British Literature or Advance Placement Language & Composition and/or Teacher Recommendation  
Honors/AP Signature Page required

**Grade:** 12

**No. of Credits:** 2

**Notes:** W\*, GC

**Description:** This yearlong English course will provide college preparatory students with a traditional study of some of the world’s greatest authors and their literature. Students will explore genres of short stories, novels, dramas, poetry, and essays. The format of the class includes seminar discussions on the reading, college essays and resumes, literary critical analysis, and practice test taking. With the vast amount of reading and writing, the homework load is challenging and students must make a strong commitment of both time and effort. Absences can affect performance and grade. The rigor of this course will be comparable to a college classroom. This course, accredited by the College Board, a national organization, exceeds Colorado State Content Standards and is designed to prepare students to take the AP Literature & Composition Examination, providing them the opportunity to receive college credit. Students who desire to take the test may register through the Counseling Center. Registration fee will be at the student’s expense.

## AP Seminar

**Course Number:** 18074 A/B

**Length:** Year (2 semesters)

**Type of Credit:** COMM (Comp & Lit)

**Prerequisite:** None

**Grade:** 10

**No. of Credits:** 2

**Notes:** W\*, GC

**Description:** This course helps a wide range of students develop critical thinking, analytic writing, collaboration, and academic research skills. Its project-based learning model engages a diverse range of students, and the result is this: more students succeed in the AP course than any other AP course. Students build skills foundational for college and career success, including investigating topics, conducting research, collaborating with peers, and presenting their findings. Students work in teams to investigate a real-world or academic problem and present a solution to their proposed problem. The course lays a sure foundation for future high school and college and career success.

## Beginning Debate

**Course Number:** 18091

**Length:** Semester

**Type of Credit:** COMM (Speech)

**Prerequisite:** English 9 or Honors English 9 and/or Teacher Recommendation

**Grade:** 10-12

**No. of Credits:** 1

**Notes:**

**Description:** Participants in this course will be introduced to certain areas of competitive debate, including Lincoln-Douglas, and Public Forum. Students will also have the opportunity to explore congressional and extemporaneous speaking. Students will select one or more areas for intensive study and practice, and they will eventually perform these events in actual tournament competition. Each student will be required to compete in a minimum of three tournaments per

semester in order to earn credit for the course. Individual practices will be conducted in class. **After school practice is required.** Class members will automatically become part of Mesa Ridge High School's competitive speech team, recognized by the Colorado High School Activities' Association; consequently, academic eligibility must be maintained in order to participate in tournament competition. Because of the extensive, out-of-class required activity; students who attend nine or more tournaments throughout the year will be able to earn one elective English credit, in addition to earning a speech credit in the English department. (Competitive Speech Team)

### **Beginning Oral Interpretation/Public Speaking**

**Course Number:** 18094

**Length:** Semester

**Type of Credit:** COMM (Speech)

**Prerequisite:** English 9 or Honors English 9 and/or Teacher Recommendation

**Description:** Participants in this course will be introduced to certain areas of competitive speech, emphasizing oratory, the interpretation of humor, drama, poetry, and Duo interpretation, and extemporaneous speech. Students will select one or more area(s) for intensive study and practice, and they will eventually perform these area(s) in actual tournament competition. Each student will be required to compete in a minimum of three tournaments in order to earn credit for the course. Individual practices will be conducted in class. **After-school practice will also be required.** Class members will automatically become part of Mesa Ridge High School's competitive speech team, recognized by the Colorado High School Activities' Association; consequently, academic eligibility must be maintained in order to participate in tournament competition. Because of the extensive, out-of-class required activity; students who attend nine or more tournaments throughout the year will be able to earn one elective English credit, in addition to earning a speech credit in the English department. (Competitive Speech Team)

**Grade:** 10-12

**No. of Credits:** 1

**Notes:**

### **Creative Writing**

**Course Number:** 18035

**Length:** Semester

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Prerequisite:** Intermediate Composition, Technical Writing, Honors English 10, and/or Teacher Recommendation

**Description:** This is an upper level-writing course designed for those who have mastered grammar, usage, and mechanics, who have some sense of writing style. It aims at fostering creativity, especially in description and narration.

**Grade:** 11-12

**No. of Credits:** 1

**Notes:** GC/P

### **English 9**

**Course Number:** 18005 A/B

**Length:** Year (2 semesters)

**Type of Credit:** COMM (Comp & Lit)

**Prerequisite:** NONE

**Description:** This yearlong course stresses the fundamentals of communication in the key areas of writing, reading, speaking, and listening. Through the writing process, students will explore the methods of organizing, developing, and supporting in narrative, descriptive, expository and persuasive paragraphs and essays. Correct usage, grammar, spelling, and punctuation will be stressed as part of the revision process. In addition, the research process will be practiced. Students will also read and evaluate a variety of literary genres to practice literary analysis. Oral presentations and interpersonal discussion skills will be introduced to create a more solid foundation for communication.

**Grade:** 9

**No. of Credits:** 2

**Notes:**

### **English 10**

**Course Number:** 18015 A/B

**Length:** Year (2 semesters)

**Type of Credit:** COMM (Comp & Lit)

**Prerequisite:** English 9 or Honors English 9

**Description:** This yearlong course builds upon the fundamentals of communication in the key areas of writing, reading, speaking, and listening. Through the writing process, students will explore the methods of organizing and developing support in narrative, descriptive, expository, and persuasive paragraphs and essays. Correct usage, grammar, spelling, and punctuation will continue to be stressed as part of the revision process. In addition, the research process will culminate in a research project. Students will also read and evaluate a variety of literary genres to practice literary analysis. Moreover, oral presentations and interpersonal discussion skills will be practiced to improve communication skills.

**Grade:** 10

**No. of Credits:** 2

**Notes:**

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Key: **W\*/W\*\***=Weighted Credit; **IC**=Industry Certification Available; **GC/P**=Meets Graduation Competencies with Portfolio

## English 11

**Course Number:** 18017 A/B

**Length:** Year (2 semesters)

**Type of Credit:** COMM (Comp & Lit)

**Prerequisite:** English 10 or Honors English 10

**Description:** English 11 is a year-long American Literature and College Preparatory Composition course which follows and incorporates all the Colorado State Standards for the 11th grade English. This traditional literature course balances the study of American literature with the in-depth study of the four forms of written discourse (narration, description, exposition, and persuasion). The literary selections reflect the changes of American moods and themes. Considerable emphasis is placed upon developing essays in more sophisticated modes, including a research-based persuasive essay. Students will become proficient at analyzing literature, writing in various forms, and evaluating their own writing.

**Grade:** 11

**No. of Credits:** 2

**Notes:**

## Film as Literature

**Course Number:** 26052

**Length:** Semester

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Prerequisite:** None

**Description:** Great literature is often a precursor for great films. In this course, students will study several genres of literature and corresponding films. Students will be required to analyze both mediums to discover similarities and differences that exist between the two with special emphasis on structure, characterization, and development of theme. This course is intended to generate critical discussion and to inspire original thought while developing the skill of articulating eloquent and thoughtful analyses in order to prepare for college level analysis. Reading, writing, and in-depth discussions are the key components/skills of this class.

**Grade:** 11-12

**No. of Credits:** 1

**Notes:** This is an elective course. It cannot be used as an English credit towards graduation

## Honors English 9

**Course Number:** 18007 A/B

**Length:** Year (2 semesters)

**Type of Credit:** COMM (Comp & Lit)

**Prerequisite:** Honors/AP Signature Page Required

**Description:** This yearlong course stresses the fundamentals of communication in the key areas of writing, reading, speaking, and listening. Through the writing process, students will explore the methods of organizing, developing and supporting in narrative, descriptive, expository and persuasive paragraphs, and essays. Correct usage, grammar, spelling, and punctuation will be stressed as part of the revision process. In addition, the research process will be practiced. Students will also read and evaluate a variety of literary genres to practice literary analysis. Oral presentations and interpersonal discussion skills will be introduced to create a more solid foundation for communication.

**Grade:** 9

**No. of Credits:** 2

**Notes:** W\*

## Intermediate Debate

**Course Number:** 18092

**Length:** Year

**Type of Credit:** COMM (Speech)

**Prerequisite:** Beginning Debate

**Description:** Participants in this course will continue with certain areas of competitive debate, emphasizing both Lincoln-Douglas, and Public Forum debate. Students will select one or more area(s) for intensive study and practice, and they will eventually perform these area(s) in actual tournament competition. Each student will be required to compete in a minimum of three tournaments in order to earn credit for the course. Individual practices will be conducted in class. **After school practice is required.** Class members will automatically become part of Mesa Ridge High School's competitive speech team, recognized by the Colorado High School Activities' Association; consequently, academic eligibility must be maintained in order to participate in tournament competition. Because of the extensive, out-of-class required activity; students who attend nine or more tournaments throughout the year will be able to earn one elective English credit, in addition to earning a speech credit in the English department. (Competitive Speech Team)

**Grade:** 11-12

**No. of Credits:** 2

**Notes:**

## Multicultural Literature

**Course Number:** 18050

**Length:** Semester

**Type of Credit:** COMM (Literature)

**Prerequisite:** English 10 or Honors English 10, and/or Teacher Recommendation

**Description:** This intermediate level course studies the literature of various racial and ethnic cultures that comprise America. The literary selections read will include the genres of poetry, drama, essays, short stories, novels, biographies and autobiographies. The course will emphasize the theme of unity through understanding diversity to develop a greater appreciation for all types of literature as a record of human experience. This will be accomplished through reading, discussing and analyzing, researching, writing, and speaking.

**Grade:** 11-12

**No. of Credits:** 1

**Notes:**

## Speech Communications

**Course Number:** 18085

**Length:** Semester

**Type of Credit:** COMM (Speech)

**Prerequisite:** English 10 or Honors English 10, and/or Teacher Recommendation

**Description:** Prerequisite: This course continues to examine the broad field of communication. Students will increase their knowledge and ability to communicate with others through spoken language. Intra/interpersonal communication, group discussion, and conflict resolution skills will be studied in-depth. Individual public speaking (including informative, demonstrative, and/or persuasive speeches) will be an integral part of this course. Effective delivery and listening skills will be emphasized.

**Grade:** 10-12

**No. of Credits:** 1

**Notes:** Required for 11-12

## Technical Writing

**Course Number:** 18025

**Length:** Semester

**Type of Credit:** COMM (Composition)

**Prerequisite:** English 10 or Honors English 10, and/or Teacher Recommendation

**Description:** In this course, students already proficient in their writing abilities will use standard writing that can be applied to a variety of technical documents. Students will learn principles for organizing, writing, revising, and presenting clear, oral and written documents for industry, business, and government. **NOTE:** This course does not meet NCAA requirements.

**Grade:** 11-12

**No. of Credits:** 1

**Notes:** GC/P

## World Literature

**Course Number:** 18070

**Length:** Semester

**Type of Credit:** COMM (Literature)

**Prerequisite:** English 10 or Honors English 10, and/or Teacher Recommendation

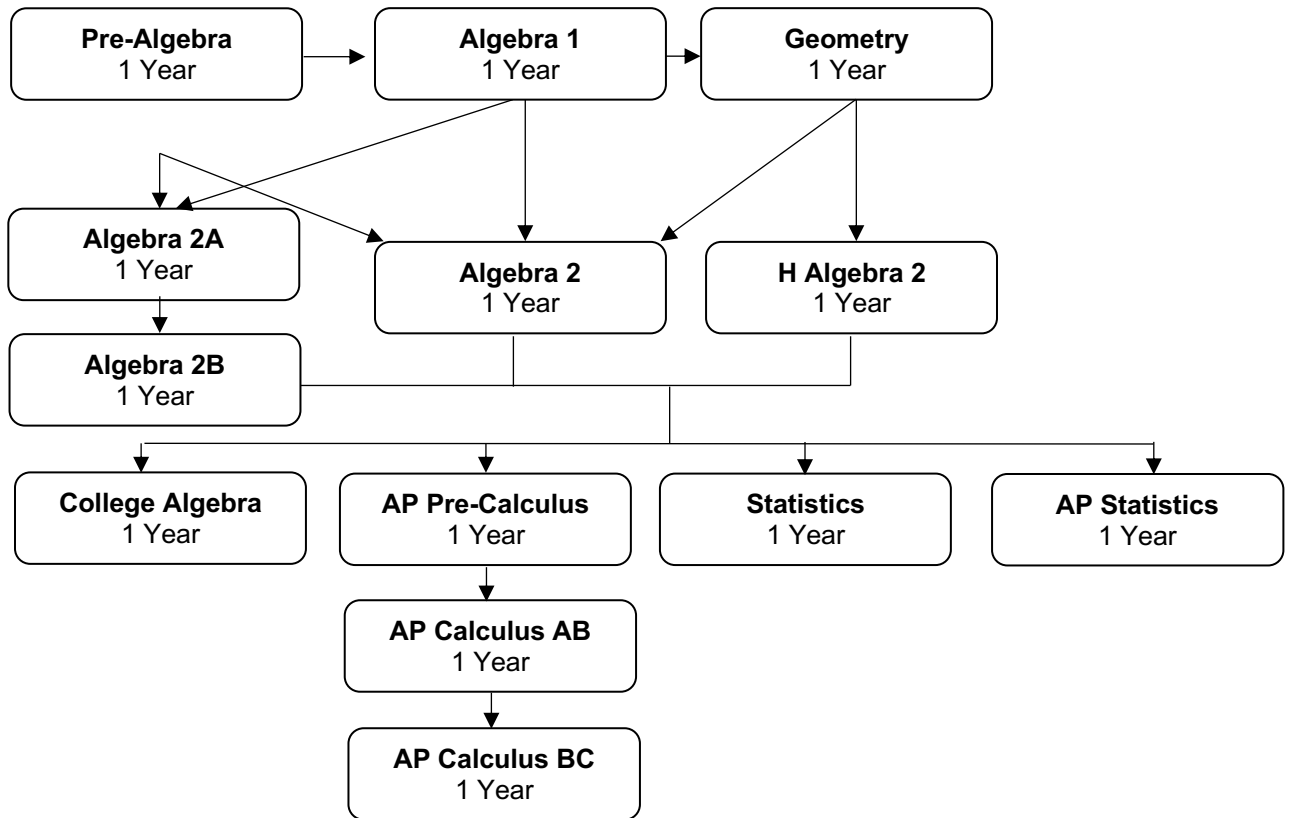
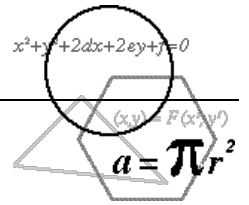
**Description:** This literature course of both classic and contemporary literary works is comprised of a wide array of selections from regions around the world. Due to the challenging and thought-provoking nature of the literature selections, students will be expected to use higher level reading comprehension and thinking skills. Emphasis will be placed on in-depth analysis through both discussion and writing.

**Grade:** 11-12

**No. of Credits:** 1

**Notes:**





**Personal Financial Literacy\***  
Grade 12 Only  
1 Semester/1 Year

**Math Today\***  
Grade 12 Only  
1 Semester/1 Year

NOTE: Students must see their current math teacher for recommendation(s) to the next math level / course(s).

## MATH DEPARTMENT COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

### Algebra 1

**Course Number:** 20045 A/B

**Length:** Year (2 Semesters)

**Type of Credit:** Math

**Prerequisite:** Pre-Algebra, or Teacher Recommendation

**Description:** Algebra I is designed to help students enhance their abstract thinking skills through the use of algebraic concepts (i.e. variables, setting up equations from word problems). Topics covered in this course are integers, solving equations and inequalities, factoring, combining rational expressions, graphing linear equations, real numbers, ratio and proportion, quadratic equations, exponents, and radicals.

**Grade:** 9-12

**No. of Credits:** 2

**Recommended Tech:** Graphing Calculator (TI-84)

**Notes:** \*\*

### Algebra 2A

**Course Number:** 20051 A/B

**Length:** Year (2 Semesters)

**Type of Credit:** Math

**Prerequisite:** Algebra 1 and Teacher Recommendation

**Description:** This is the first of a two-year sequence of coursework. Together the two years of Algebra 2A and Algebra 2B will be equivalent in content to the traditional yearlong Algebra 2. This course is designed to provide students with an alternative to the traditional yearlong Algebra 2 course. The pace of the course allows students to investigate topics in great depth. This course continues to review Algebra 1 and Geometry topics used to solve a variety of real world and mathematical problems. Topics include expressions, equations, and inequalities, functions (linear, absolute value, quadratics) and graphs, linear systems, systems of inequalities, systems with three variables, matrices, quadratic functions and equations, and complex numbers.

**Grade:** 10-12

**No. of Credits:** 2

**Recommended Tech:** Graphing Calculator (TI-84)

**Notes:** GC/P

### Algebra 2B

**Course Number:** 20052 A/B

**Length:** Year (2 Semesters)

**Type of Credit:** Math

**Prerequisite:** Algebra 2A or 1st semester of Algebra 2 & Teacher Rec.

**Description:** This is the second of a two-year sequence of coursework. Together the two years of Algebra 2A and Algebra 2B will be equivalent in content to the traditional yearlong Algebra 2. This course is designed to provide students with an alternative to the traditional yearlong Algebra 2 course while the pace allows students to investigate topics in greater depth. This course reviews quadratics and the complex number system. New topics include polynomials and polynomial functions, radical functions, rational exponents, inverses, exponential and logarithmic functions, and rational functions.

**Grade:** 11-12

**No. of Credits:** 2

**Recommended Tech:** Graphing Calculator (TI-84)

**Notes:**

### Algebra 2

**Course Number:** 20050 A/B

**Length:** Year (2 Semesters)

**Type of Credit:** Math

**Prerequisite:** Algebra I

**Description:** Required materials: Graphing Calculator (TI-84 is recommended) and graph paper  
Algebra II is an extension of Algebra I, covering linear relations, linear functions and their graphs, absolute value equations and inequalities and their graphs, systems of equations and inequalities, quadratic equations and graphs, real and imaginary roots, rational polynomial expressions and operations on them, exponents, radicals, and basic properties, of and may cover logarithms, matrices, and trigonometry. A graphing calculator is required.

**Grade:** 9-12

**No. of Credits:** 2

**Recommended Tech:** Graphing Calculator (TI-84)

**Notes:** \*\*, GC/P

## College Algebra

**Course Number:** 20060

**Length:** Year (2 Semesters)

**Type of Credit:** Math

**Prerequisite:** Algebra 2

**Description:** College Algebra includes the study of operations on polynomials, polynomial functions, basic trigonometric functions and their graphs, trig identities, right triangle trig, trig applications, logarithms, conic sections, sequences and series, and probability.

**Grade:** 10-12

**No. of Credits:** 2

**Required Tech:** Graphing Calculator (TI-84)

**Notes:** \*\*

## Geometry

**Course Number:** 20067 A/B

**Length:** Year (2 Semesters)

**Type of Credit:** Math

**Prerequisite:** Algebra 1 or Teacher Recommendation

**Description:** Geometry includes the concepts of points, lines, planes, angles, triangles, congruence proofs, inequalities, perpendicular, parallel, quadrilaterals, exponents and radicals, polygonal regions, volume and areas, similar triangles, circles, spheres, and constructions. A Scientific calculator is required.

**Grade:** 9-12

**No. of Credits:** 2

**Required Tech:** Scientific Calculator

**Recommended Tech:** Graphing Calculator (TI-84)

## General Statistics

**Course Number:** 20085 A/B

**Length:** Year (2 Semesters)

**Type of Credit:** Math

**Prerequisite:** At least one semester of Algebra 2

**Description:** Statistics introduces students to random sampling, surveys, experiments, descriptive statistics, normal distributions, linear regressions, probability, and basic statistical inference. This course requires some out of class reading to be successful.

**Grade:** 11-12

**No. of Credits:** 2

**Required Tech:** TI83+ or equivalent graphing calculator

**Notes:** \*\*\*

## Honors Algebra II/Trigonometry

**Course Number:** 20057 A/B

**Length:** Year (2 Semesters)

**Type of Credit:** Math

**Prerequisite:** Teacher Recommendation

**Description:** Algebra II/Trig covers the concepts of properties, absolute value, inequalities, linear relations and functions, graphing, matrices, systems of equations and inequalities, operations on polynomials, real and imaginary roots, quadratic equations and graphs, rational polynomial expressions, exponents and radicals, logarithms, and trigonometry. Statistical measures and graphical representation of data is integrated throughout other topics.

**Grade:** 9-12

**No. of Credits:** 2

**Required Tech:** Graphing Calculator (TI-84)

**Notes:** W\*, GC/P

## Math Today

**Course Number:** 20015

**Length:** Semester or Year

**Type of Credit:** Math

**Prerequisite:** ACE PFL, Pre-Algebra or ↑, & Teacher Recommendation

**Description:** Math Today is a consumer math class covering budgeting, checking and savings accounts, income tax calculations, comparative shopping, the purchase of a car, types of insurance, and credit and loans. Students must have the ability to work independently. A calculator is required.

**Grade:** 12

**No. of Credits:** 1 or 2

**Required Tech:** Scientific Calculator

**Notes:** GC/P

## Personal Finance Literacy

**Course Number:** 20011

**Length:** Semester or Year

**Type of Credit:** Math

**Prerequisite:** Algebra 1, 1 semester of Alg. 2, & Teacher Recommendation

**Description:** Understanding financial management concepts is an important life skill. From credit to insurance to taxes, it is imperative that students understand the consequences of their choices. Wisely managing their money, students become citizens that are more responsible. A thorough understanding of financial concepts, with practical application through activities and projects, will enable students to leave this course with applicable, useful skills for life. This course surveys the basic personal financial needs of most individuals and emphasizes the basics of budgeting, saving, checking, investments, credit, the wise use of insurance, and paying and preparing income tax returns. After high school, students face a world filled with possibilities, and the more knowledge they can acquire, the higher the probability that their financial future will be secure. Students taking this course will learn to better prepare for their financial futures. Concepts in financially are independent enough to where students can successfully take either one semester or both. (Application and Concept Based Course).

**Grade:** 12

**No. of Credits:** 1 or 2

**Required Tech:** Scientific Calculator

**Notes:** GC/P

## Pre-Algebra

**Course Number:** 20040 A/B

**Length:** Year (2 Semesters)

**Type of Credit:** Math

**Prerequisite:** Teacher Recommendation

**Description:** The primary goal is to connect new concepts with existing knowledge and to the world outside the classroom. Pre-Algebra will cover the following topics: Decimals, Rational Numbers, Integers, Solving Equations, Data Analysis, Ratios, Proportions and Probability, Percents, Graphing on the Coordinate Plane along with Problem Solving throughout each unit. Students will be required to complete a variety of hands-on labs in which they will utilize not only their math skills but also demonstrate proficiency in reading and writing.

**Grade:** 9-12

**No. of Credits:** 2

**Required Tech:** Scientific Calculator

**Notes:**

## AP Pre-Calculus

**Course Number:** 20081 A/B

**Length:** Year (2 Semesters)

**Type of Credit:** Math

**Prerequisite:** C+ or higher in both semesters of Algebra 2

**Description:** In AP Pre-Calculus, students explore everyday situations using mathematical tools and lenses. Through regular practice, students build deep mastery of modeling and functions, and they examine scenarios through multiple representations. They will learn how to observe, explore, and build mathematical meaning from dynamic systems, an important practice for thriving in a every-changing world. AP Pre-Calculus prepares students for other higher-level mathematics and science courses. The framework delineates content and skills common to college pre-calculus courses that are foundation for careers in mathematics, physics, biology, health science, social science, and data science.

**Grade:** 10-12

**No. of Credits:** 2

**Required Tech:** Graphing Calculator (TI-84)

**Notes:** W\* \*\*\*, ++

## AP Calculus (AB)

**Course Number:** 20090 A/B

**Length:** Year (2 Semesters)

**Type of Credit:** Math

**Prerequisite:** Honors Pre-Calculus or Teacher Recommendation

**Description:** Calculus introduces students to differentiation, limits, integration, applications of transcendental functions, and continuity. In addition, many of the mathematical concepts and skills introduced in previous courses will be further developed. This is a weighted course and requires out of class work for success.

**Grade:** 11-12

**No. of Credits:** 2

**Required Tech:** Graphing Calculator (TI-84)

**Notes:** W\* \*\*\*, ++, GC

## AP Calculus II (BC)

**Course Number:** 20093 A/B

**Length:** Year (2 Semesters)

**Type of Credit:** Math

**Prerequisite:** AP Calculus (AB) or Teacher Recommendation

**Description:** AP Calculus II (AB) is a continuation of AP Calculus (AB). Transcendental functions, techniques and applications of integration, Taylor's theorem, improper integrals, infinite series, analytic geometry, polar coordinates, and parametric equations. This is a weighted course and requires out of class work for success.

**Grade:** 12

**No. of Credits:**2

**Required Tech:** Graphing Calculator (TI-84)

**Notes:** **W\*** **W\*\***, ++, **GC/P**

## AP Statistics

**Course Number:** 20087 A/B

**Length:** Year (2 Semesters)

**Type of Credit:** Math

**Prerequisite:** C or higher in Algebra II/Trig

**Description:** AP Statistics introduces students to descriptive statistic, normal distribution, liner and non linear regressions, random sampling, surveys, experiments, probability, inference for proportions, inference for means, z-tests, t-tests, confidence statements, and Chi-Square distributions. This course is weighted and requires out of class work to be successful, and it follows the AP course outline.

**Grade:** 11-12

**No. of Credits:**2

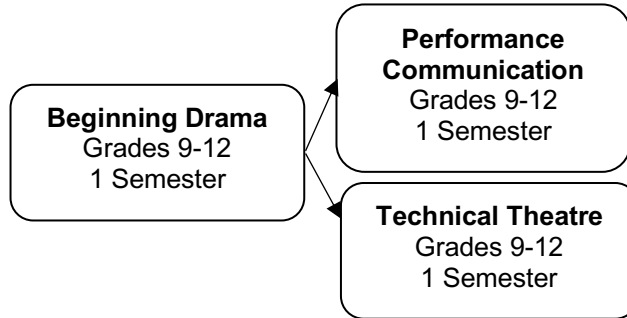
**Required Tech:** Graphing Calculator (TI-84)

**Notes:** **W\*** **W\*\***, ++, **GC/P**

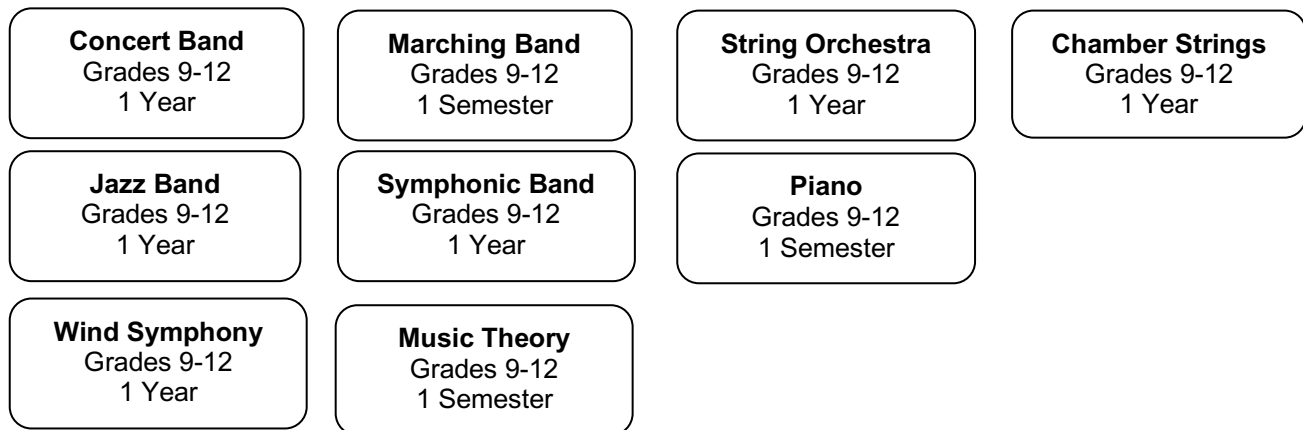
**PERFORMING ARTS DEPARTMENT COURSE OVERVIEW**



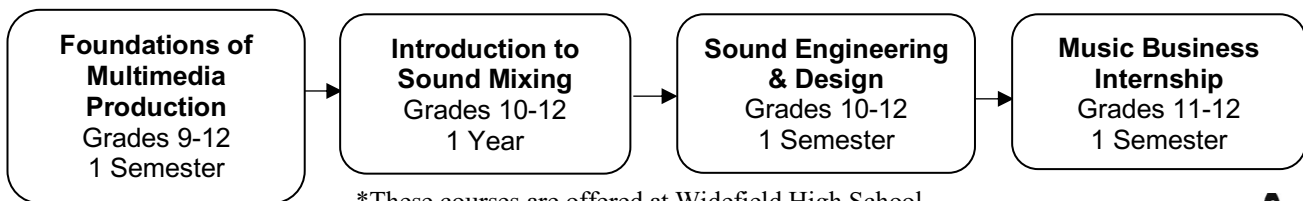
**Drama**



**Instrumental Music**

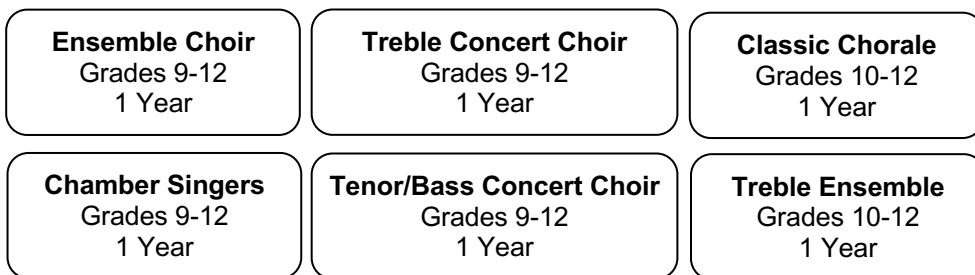


**Music Technology & Sound Engineering**



\*These courses are offered at Widefield High School

**Vocal Music**



## DRAMA COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

### **Performance Communication**

**Course Number:** 22082

**Length:** Semester

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Prerequisite:** Beginning Drama

**Description:** This course introduces students to methods of performance and performance-dependent careers. Though performance is a significant part of this course, further topics include financial awareness, promotion and marketing, and management and leadership.

**Grade:** 9-12

**No. of Credits:** 1

**Notes:**

### **Beginning Drama**

**Course Number:** 22075

**Length:** Semester

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Prerequisite:** None

**Description:** This course is an introduction to basic drama principles. Students will apply those principles through performances before their peers and through analyzing. Attendance to at least one high school drama production is required. One-hour performing arts/general credit is given. Class may not be repeated for credit.

**Grade:** 9-12

**No. of Credits:** 1

**Notes:**

### **Technical Theatre A**

**Course Number:** 22086

**Length:** Semester

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Prerequisite:** None

**Description:** Introduces methods of constructing and painting scenery and properties, operating stage lighting and sound equipment, and implementing costumes and multimedia. This course explores the proper procedures of serving on stage crews.

**Grade:** 10-12

**No. of Credits:** 1

## INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

### **Chamber Strings**

**Course Number:** 22030 A/B

**Length:** Year (2 semesters)

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Prerequisite:** String Orchestra, Symphonic Orchestra or Philharmonic Orchestra and/or by audition

**Description:** Chamber Strings is offered to 10-12 grade orchestra students who play at an advanced level. This orchestra offers students the opportunity to study and perform a variety of musical literature at an elevated level of difficulty. Home practice is required, and students will be required to participate in a number of public performances throughout the year. Students may also have the opportunity to perform at solo and ensemble competition and audition for All-City Honor Orchestra, All State Orchestra or both. Honors credit for the course is available by meeting additional requirements.

**Grade:** 10-12

**No. of Credits:** 2

**Notes:**

### **Concert Band**

**Course Number:** 22055 A/B

**Length:** Year (2 semesters)

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Prerequisite:** One year of experience playing a band instrument in a school band program, and/or director approval

**Description:** The Concert Band is for basic to proficient musicians who have at least 1 year of experience playing a band instrument in a school band program, and/or have the director's approval. This ensemble performs grade 1.5 to grade 3 level literature and will primarily focus on building skills and techniques required to advance to an auditioned ensemble. Students are expected to practice outside of rehearsal time. All performance and rehearsal dates are required and include home concerts, festivals, and district concerts. Skills that will be developed are tone, rhythm, scale proficiency, phrasing, ensemble and individual techniques required to be a proficient to advanced high school musician.

**Grade:** 9-12

**No. of Credits:** 2

**Notes:**

## Jazz Band

**Course Number:** 22050 A/B

**Length:** Year (2 semesters)

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Grade:** 9-12

**No. of Credits:**2

**Notes:**

**Prerequisite:** Must be a current member of one of the concert ensembles or at director's discretion and must audition

**Description:** The Jazz Band is for proficient to advanced musicians who perform saxophone, trumpet, trombone, piano, guitar, bass guitar, percussion, or drum set. Students must audition each year to be selected and must currently be in a major instrumental ensemble. The Jazz Band will perform high school and advanced high school literature. Students are expected to practice outside of rehearsal time. All performance and rehearsal dates are required and include home concerts, festivals, tours, and competitions. Participation in honor groups is encouraged.

## Marching Band

**Course Number:** 22060

**Length:** Semester

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Grade:** 9-12

**No. of Credits:**2

**Notes:**(First semester only, 8th period)

**Prerequisite:** Participation in Summer Camps and Director Approval, (Audition for percussion and flags)

Winds and Percussion must be enrolled in Concert, Symphonic, or Wind Symphony.

**Description:** The marching band is open to any student who plays an instrument or wishes to join the color guard. Marching band will serve as an elective credit, and meets after school every weekday. The marching band performs at competitions around the state, as well as home football games and parades. All performance and rehearsal dates are required, and summer activities must be attended. This is a physical class and requires movement, lifting, and physical fitness. Accommodations may be made with director's approval. \*NOTE: Students who successfully complete 2 semesters of marching band are eligible to waive one credit of P.E.

## Piano

**Course Number:** 22061

**Length:** Semester

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Prerequisite:** None

**Grade:** 9-12

**No. of Credits:**1

**Notes:**

**Description:** Class Piano is a semester long course that has been created to develop students' keyboard skills so that their enjoyment and level of musical expertise will be enhanced. It is an independent study-type of instruction which allows each student to progress at his/her own pace. Any student is welcome in this class regardless of previous musical/piano experience. However, current music students are encouraged to take this class sometime during high school to further progress in skill development.

## String Orchestra

**Course Number:** 22025

**Length:** Year (2 semesters)

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Grade:** 9-12

**No. of Credits:**2

**Notes:**

**Prerequisite:** Must have played an orchestral stringed instrument for a minimum of 2 years; home practicing and performances are required

**Description:** String Orchestra is offered to students in grades 9 -12 to continue and refine their study of string technique. Educational emphasis is placed on further development of music reading and comprehension skills, independent musicianship, style and a deeper understanding of ensemble music. They will be introduced to orchestral literature of varying musical periods. Home practice and performances are required.



## **Symphonic Band**

**Course Number:** 22055 A/B

**Length:** Year (2 semesters)

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Prerequisite:** Concert band and/or by audition

**Description:** The Symphonic Band is for proficient to accomplished musicians who have been selected to the ensemble based on an audition. This ensemble performs high school to advanced high school level literature, and students are expected to practice outside of rehearsal time. All performance and rehearsal dates are required and include home concerts, festivals, and competitions. Participation in city, college, and state honor groups, as well as solo and ensemble is also encouraged. Students will continue to develop tone production, sight-reading, ensemble and individual techniques needed to perform music at an accomplished level.

**Grade:** 9-12

**No. of Credits:**2

**Notes:**

## **Wind Symphony**

**Course Number:** 22046 A/B

**Length:** Year (2 semesters)

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Prerequisite:** Symphonic Band and/or audition

**Description:** Honors credit is available for this course by meeting additional course requirements.

The Wind Symphony is for advanced musicians who have been selected to the ensemble based on an audition. This ensemble performs advanced high school and college level literature. Students are expected to practice outside of rehearsal time, and encouraged to take private lessons. All performance and rehearsal dates are required and include home concerts, tours, festivals, and competitions. Participation in city, college, and state honor bands, as well as solo and ensemble is encouraged. Students will continue to develop tone production, sight-reading, ensemble and individual techniques needed to perform music at an advanced level. Students may qualify for honors credit if all additional criteria are met.

**Grade:** 9-12

**No. of Credits:**2

**Notes:**

## **MUSIC TECHNOLOGY/SOUND ENGINEERING COURSE DESCRIPTIONS**

### **Introduction to Sound Mixing**

**Course Number:** 22057 A/B

**Length:** Year (2 semesters)

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Prerequisite:** None

**Description:** This course introduces students to setup and take down of audio equipment, sound check, and management of audio volume and sound quality of various productions. Standards in this course include career exploration, an overview of the history and evolution of sound mixing.

**Grade:** 10-12

**No. of Credits:**2

**Notes:** Offered at Widefield High School

### **Foundations of Multimedia Production**

**Course Number:** 22056

**Length:** Semester

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Prerequisite:** None

**Description:** Students are introduced to the variety of programs and occupations in the arts, audio/video technology, and production. Within this context, students will be expected to develop an understanding of the various and multifaceted career opportunities in this cluster and the knowledge, skills, and educational requirements for those opportunities.

**Grade:** 9-12

**No. of Credits:**1

**Notes:** Offered at Widefield High School  
Lab Fee - \$20

### **Music Business Internship**

**Course Number:** 22059

**Length:** Semester

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Prerequisite:** Sound Engineering & Design

**Description:** Music Business Internship will provide an introductory overview of the commercial music industry, including its history and development within the context of the production of multiple popular and traditional styles. Students will consider how music (as well as musicians) has evolved into “product.” In an effort to give students a sense of practical

**Grade:** 11-12

**No. of Credits:**1

**Notes:** Currently Not Offered

direction for their futures, the course will also include an exploration of the various career options within the music industry. A capstone project will be included to fulfill the requirements of this course.

## **Sound Engineering & Design**

**Course Number:** 22058

**Length:** Semester

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Prerequisite:** Introduction to Sound Mixing

**Description:** Explores the steps in audio production following the initial sound capture and overdubbing of sound. Key concepts include sound design, mixing, and addition of effects. Integration of music with pictures is also discussed, and key concepts such as automatic dialogue replacement, foley, score, and voiceover recording are covered.

**Grade:** 10-12

**No. of Credits:**1

**Notes:** Offered at Widefield High School

## VOCAL MUSIC COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

### **Ensemble Choir**

**Course Number:** 22010 A/B

**Length:** Year (2 semesters)

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Prerequisite:** None

**Description:** This group studies all forms of vocal literature and styles. Performances are required and include home concerts, tours, and competitions.

**Grade:** 9-12

**No. of Credits:**2

**Notes:**

### **Chamber Singers**

**Course Number:** 22020 A/B

**Length:** Year (2 semesters)

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Prerequisite:** Ensemble Choir Treble Concert Choir, or Tenor/Bass Concert Choir, and permission of the director

**Description:** This group of mixed voices involves students who have completed the learning skills in Ensemble Choir, Treble Concert Choir, or Tenor/Bass Concert Choir. This course introduces the more advanced abilities in independent sight-singing and aural discrimination. Many styles of choral music will be studied and performed. Concerts are required and will include home concerts, tours, and competitions.

**Grade:** 9-12

**No. of Credits:**2

**Notes:**

### **Classic Chorale**

**Course Number:** 22021 A/B

**Length:** Year (2 semesters)

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Prerequisite:** Ensemble Choir, Treble Concert Choir, or Tenor/Bass Concert Choir and audition Chamber Singers

**Description:** Students may qualify for honors credit if all additional criteria are met

This group of mixed voices involves students who have completed the learning skills in Ensemble Choir or Treble Choir or Tenor/Bass Concert Choir. These courses introduce the most advanced abilities in independent sight-singing and aural discrimination. Many styles of choral music will be studied and performed. Concerts are required and will include home concerts, tours, and competitions.

**Grade:** 10-12

**No. of Credits:**2

**Notes:**

### **Music Theory**

**Course Number:** 22065 A/B

**Length:** Semester

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Prerequisite:** Concurrent enrollment in a music class

**Description:** This course is a semi-independent study allowing students to progress at their own pace. Basic skills will be introduced allowing students to compose and arrange their own music. This course is for music students who wish to learn music theory. All students wishing to add to their musical understanding will benefit.

**Grade:** 10-12

**No. of Credits:**1

**Notes:** S2 Only

## **Tenor/Bass Concert Choir**

**Course Number:** 22007 A/B

**Length:** Year (2 semesters)

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Prerequisite:** None

**Grade:** 9-12

**No. of Credits:**2

**Notes:**

**Description:** Also request 22007B This course introduces the concepts of choral singing. Students will be able to read choral music and understand and produce choral music by the completion of the course. Performances are required and will involve home concerts. Although members are often experienced (usually through junior high involvement), new singers can be successful.

## **Treble Concert Choir**

**Course Number:** 22005 A/B

**Length:** Year (2 semesters)

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Prerequisite:** None

**Grade:** 9-12

**No. of Credits:**2

**Notes:**

**Description:** This course introduces the concepts of choral singing. Students will be able to read choral music and understand and produce vocal music by the completion of the course. Performances are required and will involve concerts. Although members are often experienced (usually through junior high involvement), new singers can be successful.

## **Treble Ensemble**

**Course Number:** 22015 A/B

**Length:** Year (2 semesters)

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Prerequisite:** Ensemble Choir, Concert Choir, and permission of the director

**Grade:** 10-12

**No. of Credits:**2

**Notes:**

**Description:** This group of women's voices involves students who have completed the learning skills in Ensemble Choir. This course introduces more advanced concepts in choral singing. Singers are experienced and able to sight-sing independently. The group studies all forms of vocal literature and styles. Performances are required and include concerts, tours, and competitions.



PE DEPARTMENT COURSE OVERVIEW

Course Requirements for Freshmen

PE 9  
Grade 9  
1 Semester

Health  
Grade 9  
1 Semester

Course Options for Grades 10-12\*

Aerobics  
Grades 10-12  
1 Semester

Individual Sports  
Grades 10-12  
1 Semester

Personal Fitness  
Grades 9-12  
1 Semester

Team Sports  
Grades 10-12  
1 Semester

Weight  
Lifting/Conditioning  
Grades 10-12  
1 Semester

Advanced  
Weightlifting  
Grades 10-12  
1 Semester

Yoga  
Grades 9-12  
1 Semester

\*Can be repeated for credit.

PE DEPARTMENT COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Advanced Weightlifting

Course Number: 23036

Length: Semester

Type of Credit: Personal Development (PE)

Prerequisite: Weight Lifting and Conditioning

Description: This course is designed for the student with a high interest in muscle development through the resistant exercise of weight lifting, as well as cardiovascular development through use of conditioning and fitness exercises.

Grade: 10-12

No. of Credits: 1

Notes: Can be repeated for credit

Aerobics

Course Number: 23010

Length: Semester

Type of Credit: Personal Development (PE)

Prerequisite: None

Description: Aerobics refers to a system of exercises based on stimulating heart and lung activities for a period long enough to produce beneficial changes in the body. The course provides alternatives to body fitness other than weight training. Cardiovascular strength and endurance are developed through continuous movement. Flexibility through stretching is also emphasized.

Grade: 10-12

No. of Credits: 1

Notes: Can be repeated for credit

## **Athletic Training**

**Course Number:** 26030

**Length:** Semester

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Prerequisite:** Health

**Grade:** 10 - 12

**No. of Credits:** 1

**Notes:** There is a course fee for this class

**Description:** Athletic training refers to the prevention, evaluation, treatment, and rehabilitation of athletic injuries. This course will provide the student with an opportunity to learn how to recognize and treat athletic-related injuries through both classroom work and practical experience in the training room. The student will also become Red Cross certified in first aid and cardiopulmonary resuscitation. This course will be beneficial to students considering a career in the medical field by exposing them to many common medical procedures. **Please note – students must complete 10 hour of field experience outside of class.**

## **Health**

**Course Number:** 23040

**Length:** Semester

**Type of Credit:** Personal Development (Health)

**Prerequisite:** None

**Description:** This course is the study of the whole person, including a person's mental and physical well-being. Human feelings, fitness, nutrition, alcohol, drugs, tobacco, personal safety, and first aid are among the topics, which will be taught. Students will gain knowledge valuable in making healthy lifestyle decisions. *\*Health class is also offered in the summer as an alternative to taking it during the school year.*

**Grade:** 9-12

**No. of Credits:** 1

**Notes:**

## **Individual Sports**

**Course Number:** 23015

**Length:** Semester

**Type of Credit:** Personal Development (PE)

**Prerequisite:** None

**Description:** The purpose of this course is to promote skill implementation in the various indoor and outdoor activities. The focus is on the development of those skills necessary for a lifetime of successful and enjoyable participation in the various individual sports activities. A variety of conditioning aspects are reviewed.

**Grade:** 10-12

**No. of Credits:** 1

**Notes:** Can be repeated for credit

## **Lifeguard (American Red Cross Lifeguard Certification)**

**Course Number:** 23031

**Length:** Year (2 Semesters)

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Prerequisite:** None

**Description:** Provides entry-level participants the knowledge and skills to prevent, recognize and respond to aquatic emergencies and to provide care for breathing and cardiac emergencies, injuries, and sudden illnesses until EMS personnel take over. Participants who successfully complete the Lifeguarding course receive an American Red Cross certificate for oxygen administration, valid for 1 year, and Lifeguarding/First Aid/CPR/AED, valid for 2 years. A student can still earn 1 elective credit even if they do not pass the American Red Cross Lifeguard test. (The ARC test is to certify as a lifeguard).

**Grade:** 11-12

**No. of Credits:** 1

**Notes:** This class takes place at WHS

## **PE 9**

**Course Number:** 23005

**Length:** Semester

**Type of Credit:** Personal Development (PE)

**Prerequisite:** None

**Description:** This course will promote skill development and implementation; as well as physical fitness, through a variety of indoor and outdoor activities. Weight training will also be introduced as a lifetime activity with an emphasis on muscular development and safety. This course will provide an overview of the physical education program and will give students the necessary framework to participate in other physical education courses.

**Grade:** 9

**No. of Credits:** 1

**Notes:**

## Personal Fitness

**Course Number:** 23012

**Length:** Semester

**Type of Credit:** Personal Development (PE)

**Prerequisite:** None

**Description:** Personal Fitness is a semester course designed to introduce high school students to the principles and practices of Personal Fitness. The course will focus on functional movements, conditioning, and strength training, utilizing a variety of exercises to promote overall fitness, coordination, and endurance. The class will be inclusive, catering to different fitness levels and ensuring each student is challenged appropriately while maintaining safety. The aim is to equip students with the skills and knowledge necessary to maintain lifelong fitness habits.

**Grade:** 9-12

**No. of Credits:** 1

**Notes:** Can be repeated for credit

## Swimming

**Course Number:** 14108

**Length:** Semester

**Type of Credit:** Personal Development (PE)

**Prerequisite:** None

**Description:** This course is designed to develop both recreational skills and personal safety skills in the water. It will focus on the six swimming strokes and the cardiovascular benefits achieved from swimming.

**Grade:** 10-12

**No. of Credits:** 1

**Notes:** Can be repeated for credit

\*This class takes place at WHS

## Team Sports

**Course Number:** 23020

**Length:** Semester

**Type of Credit:** Personal Development (PE)

**Prerequisite:** None

**Description:** The course focuses on the fundamentals and techniques of team sport activities. The development and implementation of skills necessary for a lifetime of enjoyable participation in team activities will be the focus.

**Grade:** 10-12

**No. of Credits:** 1

**Notes:** Can be repeated for credit

## Weight Lifting and Conditioning

**Course Number:** 23035

**Length:** Semester

**Type of Credit:** Personal Development (PE)

**Prerequisite:** None

**Description:** This course is designed for the student with a high interest in muscle development through the resistant exercise of weight lifting, as well as cardiovascular development through use of conditioning and fitness exercises.

**Grade:** 10-12

**No. of Credits:** 1

**Notes:** Can be repeated for credit

## Yoga

**Course Number:** 23011

**Length:** Semester

**Type of Credit:** Personal Development (PE)

**Prerequisite:** None

**Description:** Students will practice Yoga techniques focusing on yoga for strength, flexibility, and relaxation. The class will also cover techniques for increasing concentration and decreasing anxiety which leads to stronger academic performance. Breathing exercises and health fitness activities will also be taught.

**Grade:** 9-12

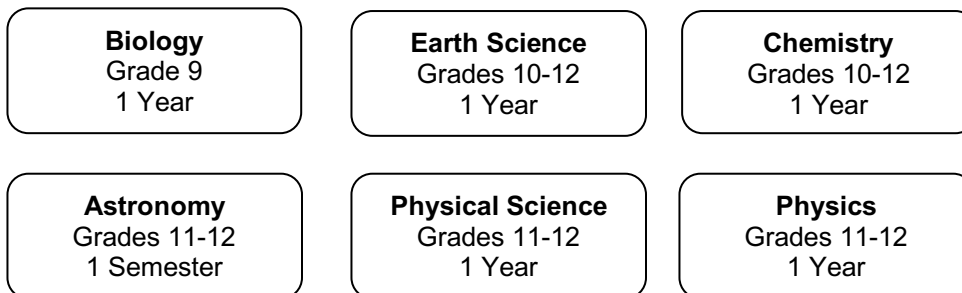
**No. of Credits:** 1

**Notes:** Can be repeated for credit

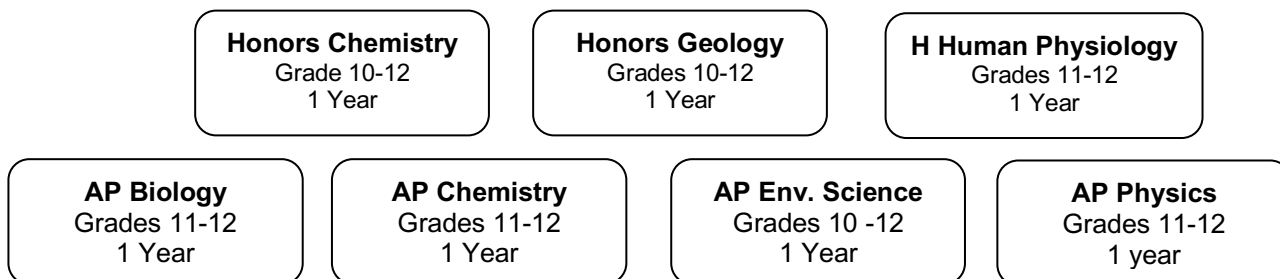


SCIENCE DEPARTMENT COURSE OVERVIEW

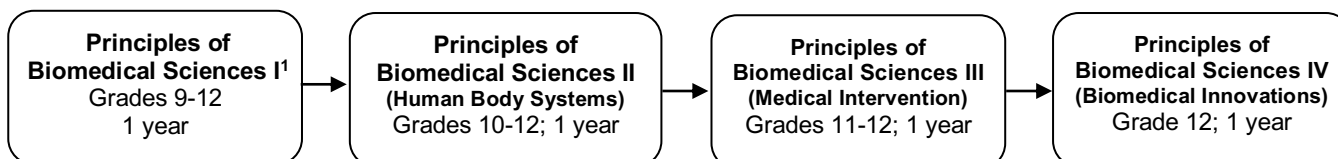
Core Courses



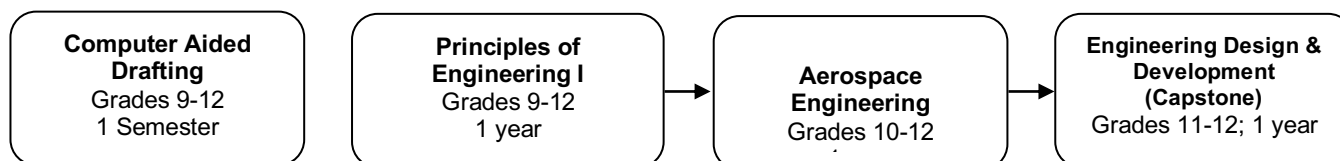
Honors & Advanced Placement (AP) Courses



Project Lead the Way Biomedical Sciences\*



Project Lead the Way Engineering\*



\*See the [Project Lead the Way section](#) of the *Course Guide* for complete course descriptions and credit information.  
<sup>1</sup>Course meets the requirement for a Life Science credit.

## SCIENCE DEPARTMENT COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

### AP Biology

**Course Number:** 24020 A/B

**Length:** Year (2 Semesters)

**Type of Credit:** Science (Elective)

**Prerequisite:** Biology recommended; Chemistry required

**Description:** AP Biology is a course designed for those students with a basic background in biology and chemistry who demonstrate a desire for advanced study in biology and an ability to do so successfully. Students will develop and refine the skills needed to understand and use biological concepts and vocabulary, use biological lab apparatus and techniques, carry out independent experimental research projects, communicate effectively in the subject area, analyze and solve biological problems, and become responsible, self-motivated learners. “This class follows the course outline set by the College Board and prepares students for the AP Test in May. All students are expected to take the AP Test.”

**Grade:** 11-12

**No. of Credits:** 2

**Notes:** Lab Fee, **W\*\***, **GC/P**

### AP Chemistry

**Course Number:** 24065 A/B

**Length:** Year (2 Semesters)

**Type of Credit:** Science (Elective)

**Prerequisite:** General Chemistry or Honors Chemistry

**Description:** The course is the equivalent of the general chemistry course usually taken during the first college year. For some students, this course enables them to undertake as college freshmen, second-year work in the chemistry sequence at their institutions or to register in courses in other fields where general chemistry is a prerequisite. For other students, the course fulfills the laboratory science requirement and frees time for other courses. The course is taken after successful completion of general chemistry or honors chemistry. “This class follows the course outline set by the College Board and prepares students for the AP Test in May. All students are expected to take the AP Test.”

**Grade:** 11-12

**No. of Credits:** 2

**Notes:** Lab Fee, **W\*\***, **GC/P**

### AP Environmental Science

**Course Number:** 24085 A/B

**Length:** Year (2 Semesters)

**Type of Credit:** Science (Earth)

**Prerequisite:** Algebra I and Biology/PBS

**Description:** The AP Environmental Science course is a full-year course designed to be the equivalent of a one-semester, introductory college course in environmental science. The goal of the course is to provide students with the scientific principles, concepts, and methodologies required to understand the interrelationships of the natural world, to identify and analyze environmental problems both natural and human made, to evaluate the relative risks associated with these problems, to examine alternative solutions for resolving and/or preventing them, and to develop and focus their own political perspective. The AP Environmental class is designed to provide students with a hands-on approach to field science; as such this class is often doing “field work” which may include strenuous outdoor activities and outdoor research in cold weather. *“This class follows the course outline set by the College Board and prepares students for the AP Test in May. All students are expected to take the AP Test.”*

**Grade:** 10-12

**No. of Credits:** 2

**Notes:** **W\*\***, **GC/P**

### AP Physics

**Course Number:** 24075 A/B

**Length:** Year (2 Semesters)

**Type of Credit:** Science (Elective)

**Prerequisite:** Honors Pre-Calculus, College Algebra, or Teacher recommendation

**Description:** The AP Physics course covers topics in classical physics. Knowledge of algebra and basic trigonometry is required for the course; the basic ideas of calculus will be introduced in connection with physical concepts such as acceleration work, momentum and circular motion. Understanding of the basic principles involved and the ability to apply these principles in the solution of problems will be the major goals of the course. *“This class follows the course outline set by the College Board and prepares students for the AP Test in May. All students are expected to take the AP Test.”*

**Grade:** 10-12

**No. of Credits:** 2

**Notes:** Dual Credit option, **W\*\***, **GC/P**



## **Astronomy**

**Course Number:** 24040

**Length:** Semester

**Type of Credit:** Science (Elective)

**Prerequisite:** Algebra or teacher recommendation

**Description:** This course is an in-depth study of astronomical phenomena and related areas. Topics that are studied include the constellations, the moon, seasons, light and telescopes, the planets, stellar astronomy, the galaxies, and the space program. Telescope work and observations, both evening and morning, are mandatory.

**Grade:** 11-12

**No. of Credits:** 1

**Notes:**

## **Biology**

**Course Number:** 24005 A/B

**Length:** Year (2 Semesters)

**Type of Credit:** Science (Life)

**Prerequisite:** None

**Description:** Biology is the study of life. Students will explore topics that include an introduction to scientific method, biochemistry, ecology, genetics, and evolution. The course will include projects, laboratory exercises, and other activities that will relate to student life, and our society. This course will also help prepare students for future science courses.

**Grade:** 9

**No. of Credits:** 2

**Notes:**

## **Chemistry**

**Course Number:** 24055 A/B

**Length:** Year (2 Semesters)

**Type of Credit:** Science (Physical)

**Prerequisite:** Successful completion of Algebra I

**Description:** This college preparatory course focuses on measurement of matter, energy, atomic structure, chemical composition, and equations. The Periodic Table is used to discuss periodic law. Radioactivity, electron configuration, chemical bonds, and solutions are also studied. Students will need access to the internet and need a scientific calculator.

**Grade:** 10-12

**No. of Credits:** 2

**Notes:** Lab Fee

## **Earth Science**

**Course Number:** 24030 A/B

**Length:** Year (2 Semesters)

**Type of Credit:** Science (Earth)

**Prerequisite:** None

**Description:** Earth Science is divided into four main areas: astronomy, meteorology, geology, and oceanography. A wide variety of audiovisual aids, labs, lectures and activities are used to present these topics to the students.

**Grade:** 10-12

**No. of Credits:** 2

**Notes:**

## **Honors Geology**

**Course Number:** 24037 A/B

**Length:** Year (2 Semesters)

**Type of Credit:** Science (Earth)

**Prerequisite:** None

**Description:** Honors Geology is an in-person, hands-on, lab-based class. This is a more detailed coverage of geologic topics introduced in Earth Science. The course covers mostly physical geologic concepts, but some time is spent on historical geology. Environmental problems will be discussed throughout the course.

**Grade:** 10-12

**No. of Credits:** 2

**Notes:**

## **Honors Chemistry**

**Course Number:** 24060 A/B

**Length:** Year (2 Semesters)

**Type of Credit:** Science (Physical)

**Prerequisite:** Successful completion of Algebra II

**Description:** Honors Chemistry is a college preparatory course, including general topics of chemistry as outlined in general chemistry with an emphasis placed on open-ended/inquiry laboratory work, conducting authentic research, problem solving, and critical thinking. Students will perform individual and group projects. The ability to apply mathematical skills is very important. Students who pass this course will earn a weighted grade. Students will need access to the internet and a scientific calculator.

**Grade:** 10-12

**No. of Credits:** 2

**Notes:** Lab Fee, W\*

## Honors Human Physiology

**Course Number:** 24016 A/B

**Length:** Year (2 Semesters)

**Type of Credit:** Science (Elective)

**Prerequisite:** Biology

**Grade:** 11-12

**No. of Credits:** 2

**Notes:** Lab Fee. **W\***

**Description:** This course consists of the study of structure and function of the human body. Instruction includes the use of laboratory activities including dissection of fresh as well as preserved specimens enabling students to visualize basic anatomical structures comparable to those in the human. Emphasis is on the anatomy and physiology of the major organ systems. Students will also learn medical terminology.

## Physical Science

**Course Number:** 24050 A/B

**Length:** Year (2 Semesters)

**Type of Credit:** Science (Physical)

**Prerequisite:** Teacher recommendation

**Grade:** 11-12

**No. of Credits:** 2

**Notes:** Calculator Recommended, **W\***

**Description:** This course is predominantly for upperclassmen who have not taken chemistry. First semester, students will encounter chemistry topics ranging from periodic table to nuclear chemistry. Second semester students will study physics with emphasis on energy. This is a hands-on course, exploring many topics in a lab or project setting

## Physics

**Course Number:** 24070 A/B

**Length:** Year (2 Semesters)

**Type of Credit:** Science (Physical)

**Prerequisite:** Successful completion of Algebra II or concurrent enrollment with Algebra II or higher

**Grade:** 11-12

**No. of Credits:** 2

**Notes:** **W\***

**Description:** The course covers an in-depth study of matter and energy, including waves, sound, light, heat, forces, motion, work, kinetic theory, electricity, and magnetism.



SOCIAL STUDIES COURSE OVERVIEW

**Core Courses**

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<b>Geography</b> Grade 9 1 Semester	<b>World History</b> Grade 10 1 Year	<b>United States History</b> Grade 11 1 Year	<b>American Government</b> Grades 11-12 1 Semester
		<b>Social Studies 9</b> Grade 11-12 1 Semester	<b>General Psychology</b> Grades 11-12 1 Year
			<b>Sociology</b> Grades 11-12 1 Semester

**Honors & Advanced Placement (AP) Courses**

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	<b>H World History</b> Grade 10 1 Year		
<b>AP Human Geography</b> Grades 9-12 1 Year	<b>AP European History</b> Grades 10-12 1 Year	<b>AP US History</b> Grades 11-12 1 Year	<b>AP US Government</b> Grades 12 1 Semester
		<b>AP African American Studies</b> Grades 11-12 1 Year	

## SOCIAL STUDIES COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

### **Geography**

**Course Number:** 25010

**Length:** Year (1 Semester)

**Type of Credit:** Social Studies (Survey/Geography)

**Prerequisite:** None

**Description:** This course is a study of the environmental systems of climate, vegetation, soils, and landforms and the cultural aspects of world geography. Through a regional or thematic studies approach, human-land interaction and spatial order are examined to explain the conditions that shape people's lives and affect people's futures. Geographic vocabulary and map skills are stressed.

**Grade:** 9-12

**No. of Credits:** 1

**Notes:** Elective

### **AP African American Studies**

**Course Number:** 25034A/B

**Length:** Year (2 semesters)

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Prerequisite:** None

**Description:** The purpose of this course is to deepen the understanding and appreciation of the Black historical experience and the role and contributions of African-Americans to the growth and development of the United States. This course offers opportunities to examine the historical significance of African-Americans from ancient origins through present times.

**Grade:** 11-12

**No. of Credits:** 2

**Notes:** W\*\*

### **AP American Government**

**Course Number:** 25060

**Length:** Semester

**Type of Credit:** Social Studies (American Government)

**Prerequisite:** Students must have completed all junior credit requirements and be considered a first semester senior at the beginning of the course

**Description:** This is a college-level introductory course in American Government designed for the student intending to take the AP U.S. Government and Politics Exam in May. Central to the course is the concept of political interaction - the interaction of the political system and the socioeconomic structures of society. The course examines political interaction from four viewpoints: the basic governmental system; liberty, equality and justice; ideology and participation; and the governmental system in action. Other topics to be addressed may include things such as public policy and historical change.

**Grade:** 12

**No. of Credits:** 1

**Notes:** W\*\*, GC/P

### **AP European History**

**Course Number:** 25032 A/B

**Length:** Year (2 Semesters)

**Type of Credit:** Social Studies (

**Prerequisite:** Successful completion of Honors World History recommended

**Description:** This is a college-level course that carries significant time demands and requires students to apply themselves at all times. It is a survey of the development of Europe from the Renaissance to the present. Focusing on political, religious, social, and economic themes, this course is designed to challenge students' ability to think, learn, and apply knowledge in order to be exposed to a richer and deeper understanding of European history. The goal of this course is to provide college-bound students with requisite knowledge and skills to pass the AP exam in May.

**Grade:** 10-12

**No. of Credits:** 2

**Notes:** W\*\*, GC/P

### **AP Human Geography**

**Course Number:** 25013 A/B

**Length:** Year (2 Semesters)

**Type of Credit:** Social Studies (Survey/Geography)

**Prerequisite:** None

**Description:** This is a college level survey course with significant time demands. This course allows students to develop advanced understanding of maps and spatial data, understanding of associations among places, recognition of relationships that influence geographic patterns and processes, evaluation of regionalization, and analysis of changing interconnections among places. Topics of study include population, cultural patterns, political organization of space, and

**Grade:** 9-12

**No. of Credits:** 2

**Notes:** W\*\*

agricultural and urban land use. The goal of this course is to provide the student with the requisite knowledge and skills to pass the AP exam in May.

### **AP United States History**

**Course Number:** 25031 A/B

**Length:** Year (2 Semesters)

**Type of Credit:** Social Studies (American History)

**Prerequisite:** Successful completion of Honors World History recommended

**Description:** This college level course is designed for students intending to take the AP exam. It is a survey of the development of the United States from the pre-Columbian period to the present. The reading requirements will be assigned from numerous primary and secondary sources. The teaching and study techniques have been chosen to prepare students to do superior work in college. The examinations and assignments will test students' ability to think, learn, and apply knowledge in creative and abstract ways. This course will be a constant challenge, and students will be expected to continually apply themselves. The goals of this course are to lead the advanced student beyond superficial exposure to a richer and deeper understanding and more lasting retention, and provide the college-bound student with the requisite knowledge and skills to pass the AP exam in May.

**Grade:** 11-12

**No. of Credits:** 2

**Notes:** **W\*\***, **GC/P**

### **American Government**

**Course Number:** 25055 A/B

**Length:** Semester

**Type of Credit:** Social Studies (American Government)

**Prerequisite:** None

**Description:** This course is an in-depth look at the American governmental system. Citizenship, civil rights, and the political processes of American democracy are examined. An emphasis is placed on those "current events" that have a significant impact on domestic and foreign affairs. Critical analysis and higher level thinking skills are required throughout the course.

**Grade:** 11-12

**No. of Credits:** 1

**Notes:** Graduation Requirement

### **General Psychology**

**Course Number:** 25035 A/B

**Length:** Year (2 Semesters)

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Prerequisite:** Students must have completed all sophomore credit requirements and be considered a first semester junior at the beginning of the course

**Description:** Psychology is a study of behavior and mental processes. This course furnishes insight and a better understanding of our own behavior. Topics to be examined include motivation, development, emotions, perception, personality theory, human interaction, abnormal behavior, applied psychology, and therapy. Topics to be examined include; conditioning, memory, problem solving, motivation & emotion, body & behavior, sensation & perception, development, personality theory, stress, disorders & therapy, and social psychology.

**Grade:** 11-12

**No. of Credits:** 2

**Notes:**

### **Honors World History**

**Course Number:** 25020 A/B

**Length:** Year (2 Semesters)

**Type of Credit:** Social Studies (World History)

**Prerequisite:** This class is open to 10th graders only who have successfully completed 9th grade social studies and English courses

**Description:** Like the traditional World History course, Honors World History is a survey of world history from prehistory through the postmodern era. This course, however, requires the development of advanced historical inquiry skills for deeper understanding and preparation toward AP American History. Upon completion of this course, the student will be expected to demonstrate proficiency in historical inquiry skills to include research skills specific to analysis, synthesis, and evaluation of primary and secondary sources. In order to master these skills, the student will be expected to contract for significant outside reading; to include one novel per semester and original research, which demonstrates advanced writing skills.

**Grade:** 10

**No. of Credits:** 2

**Notes:** **W\***

## **Sociology**

**Course Number:** 25040

**Length:** Semester

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Prerequisite:** Students must have completed all sophomore credit requirements

**Description:** This course is a study of human relationships, their causes, and consequences. Topics examined are sociology as a science, society and culture, socialization process and organization, social group, social institutions, social interactions, social change, and application.

**Grade:** 11-12

**No. of Credits:** 1

**Notes:**

## **Social Studies 9**

**Course Number:** 25007

**Length:** Year (1 Semester)

**Type of Credit:** Social Studies (Survey/Geography)

**Prerequisite:** None

**Description:** This course is an offering designed to introduce students to a variety of social science topics. This course will include the study of the environmental systems of climate, vegetation, soils, and landforms and the cultural aspects of world geography. Through a regional or thematic studies approach, human-land interaction and spatial order are examined to explain the conditions that shape people's lives and affect people's futures. Geographic vocabulary and map skills are stressed.

**Grade:** 11-12

**No. of Credits:** 1

**Notes:** Graduation Requirement

## **United States History**

**Course Number:** 25027 A/B

**Length:** Year (2 Semesters)

**Type of Credit:** Social Studies (US History)

**Prerequisite:** None

**Description:** This course is a survey of the development of the United States from pre-Columbian to the Twentieth Century emphasizing social, political, and economic development of the history of the United States. Topics include - A New World, Struggle for Independence, Launching a Republic, Through a Democracy, Division and Reunion, Modern America, Imperialism, Progressivism, and Twentieth Century Conflicts.

**Grade:** 11

**No. of Credits:** 2

**Notes:** Graduation Requirement

## **World History**

**Course Number:** 25015 A/B

**Length:** Year (2 Semesters)

**Type of Credit:** Social Studies (World History)

**Prerequisite:** None

**Description:** This course is a survey of world history from prehistory to present. Topics include Ancient Civilizations, Classical Civilizations, Medieval Europe, Renaissance, Reformation, Enlightenment, Industrialization, World Wars, and an ongoing analysis of the connection between events of the past and the modern world.

**Grade:** 10

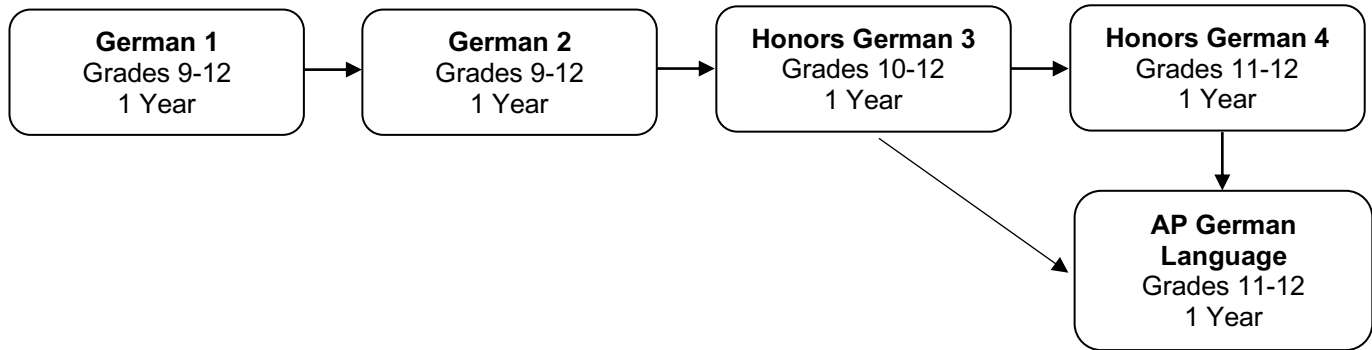
**No. of Credits:** 2

**Notes:** Graduation Requirement

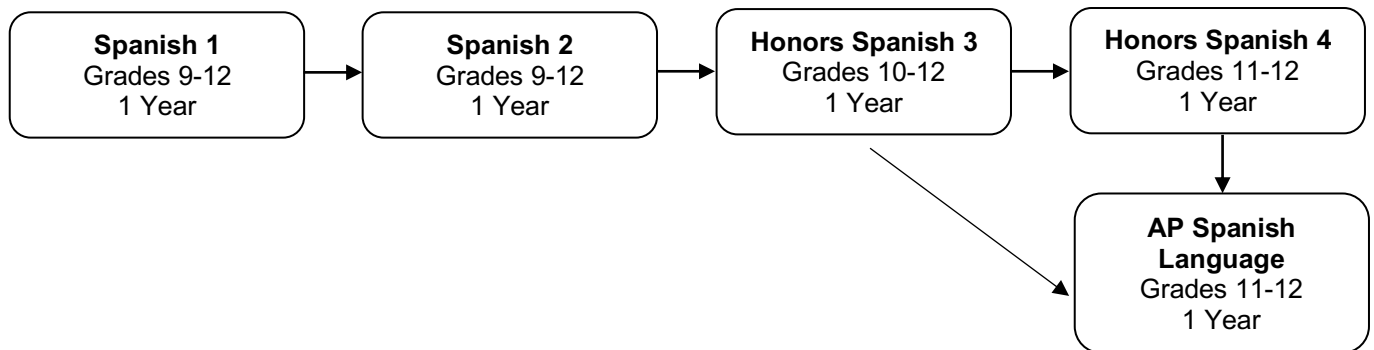


**WORLD LANGUAGE COURSE OVERVIEW**

**German**



**Spanish**



## GERMAN COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

### **German I**

**Course Number:** 19030 A/B  
**Length:** Year (2 Semesters)  
**Type of Credit:** World Language  
**Prerequisite:** None

**Grade:** 9-12  
**No. of Credits:** 2  
**Notes:**

**Description:** German I will focus on Novice-Mid communicative competence. Students completing the course will develop each of the three modes of communication: Interpersonal, Interpretive, and Presentational. Connections and comparisons to Germanic cultures will also be explored. Students will be able to talk about their lives, their family and friends, discuss and inquire about weather and free time activities, order food at a restaurant and talk about where people live.

### **German II**

**Course Number:** 19035 A/B  
**Length:** Year (2 Semesters)  
**Type of Credit:** World Language  
**Prerequisite:** German I or equivalent

**Grade:** 9-12  
**No. of Credits:** 2  
**Notes:**

**Description:** German II will continue building communicative competence to reach the Novice-High level. Students completing the course will develop each of the three modes of communication: Interpersonal, Interpretive, and Presentational. Connections and comparisons to Germanic cultures will be deepened and more reading will be required. Second year study enables students to expand vocabulary and explore the target language using more complicated structures and systems such as past tenses and reflexive verbs. As students increase their ability to understand, they will be speaking with more confidence and complexity. In addition, they will read short selections and stories at more advanced levels. They will be able to ask for and give simple directions as well as talk about life after school, clothing, and vacations.

### **Honors German III**

**Course Number:** 19041 A/B  
**Length:** Year (2 Semesters)  
**Type of Credit:** World Language  
**Prerequisite:** German II or equivalent

**Grade:** 10-12  
**No. of Credits:** 2  
**Notes:** W\*

**Description:** German III will continue building communicative competence in Novice-High and reaching into Intermediate-Low performance levels. Students completing the course will develop each of the three modes of communication: Interpersonal, Interpretive, and Presentational. Connections and comparisons to Germanic cultures will be deepened and more authentic resources will be used for reading.

The third year of language is the year when all the pieces of language come together. Students will read authentic pieces of literature, watch and comprehend foreign films, learn sophisticated vocabulary, grammar, syntax and speak and learn primarily in the target language. Third year language study offers students the opportunity to go far beyond the basics and attain a high level of fluency and competency in all language skills in the classroom all while earning three- college credits. Grammar includes compound tenses, the subjunctive, object pronouns and the comparative and superlative. Activities may include creative, self-directed projects, prepared discussions and presentations. Students will be encouraged to communicate predominantly in the language. When completed, the students will be ready for Honors German IV and/or AP. **Note: There will be summer reading. Some universities require 3 years of a world language for admission.**



## Honors German IV

**Course Number:** 19045 A/B

**Length:** Year (2 Semesters)

**Type of Credit:** World Language

**Prerequisite:** German III or equivalent

**Description:** German IV will focus on Intermediate-Low communicative competence. Students completing the course will develop each of the three modes of communication: Interpersonal, Interpretive, and Presentational. Connections and comparisons to Germanic cultures will be deepened and more authentic resources will be used for reading. Fourth-year courses enable students to attain a high degree of proficiency in speaking, reading, writing and understanding the language. Practice in listening, conversation skills and reading novels in the target language is emphasized along with deeper understanding of history and traditions. Students learn advanced grammar and syntax and classes are conducted primarily in the target language. **Note: There may be summer reading and writing activities required for completion by the start of the course.**

**Grade:** 10-12

**No. of Credits:** 2

**Notes:** W\*

## AP German Language and Culture

**Course Number:** 19042 A/B

**Length:** Year (2 Semesters)

**Type of Credit:** World Language

**Prerequisite:** German III/IV or equivalent and teacher recommendation

**Description:** AP German Language and Culture develops listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills for proficient communication in all three modes (interpersonal, interpretive, and presentational) while constantly examining the cultural foundations of the German language inherent in its products, practices, and perspectives. The six themes of Global Challenges, Science and Technology, Contemporary Life, Personal and Public Identities, Families and Communities, and Beauty and Aesthetics interlace throughout the course. The AP German Language course should help prepare students to demonstrate their level of German proficiency across three communicative modes (interpersonal [interactive communication], interpretive [receptive communication], and presentational [productive communication]), and the five goal areas as outlined in the Standards for Foreign Language Learning in the 21st Century (Communication, Cultures, Connections, Comparisons, and Communities). The course is meant to be comparable to fifth and sixth semester (or the equivalent) college and university courses that focus on speaking and writing in the target language at an advanced level. **Note: There may be summer reading and writing activities required for completion by the start of the course. Successful completion of this course will qualify you to take the AP exam.**

**Grade:** 10-12

**No. of Credits:** 2

**Notes:** W\*\*

## SPANISH COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

### **Spanish I**

**Course Number:** 19055 A/B  
**Length:** Year (2 Semesters)  
**Type of Credit:** World Language  
**Prerequisite:** None

**Grade:** 9-12  
**No. of Credits:** 2  
**Notes:**

**Description:** Spanish I will focus on Novice-Mid communicative competence. Students completing the course will develop each of the three modes of communication: Interpersonal, Interpretive, and Presentational. Connections and comparisons to Hispanophone cultures will also be explored. Students will be able to talk about their lives, their family and friends, discuss and inquire about weather and pastimes, order food at a restaurant and talk about where people live.

### **Spanish II**

**Course Number:** 19060 A/B  
**Length:** Year (2 Semesters)  
**Type of Credit:** World Language  
**Prerequisite:** Spanish I or equivalent

**Grade:** 9-12  
**No. of Credits:** 2  
**Notes:**

**Description:** Spanish II will continue building communicative competence to reach the Novice-High level. Students completing the course will develop each of the three modes of communication: Interpersonal, Interpretive, and Presentational. Connections and comparisons to Hispanophone cultures will be deepened and more reading will be required. Second year study enables students to expand vocabulary and explore the target language using more complicated structures and systems such as past tenses and reflexive verbs. As students increase their ability to understand, they will be speaking with more confidence and complexity. In addition, they will read short selections and stories at more advanced levels. They will be able to ask for and give simple directions as well as talk about life after school, clothing, and vacations.

### **Honors Spanish III**

**Course Number:** 19066 A/B  
**Length:** Year (2 Semesters)  
**Type of Credit:** World Language  
**Prerequisite:** Spanish II or equivalent

**Grade:** 10-12  
**No. of Credits:** 2  
**Notes:** W\*

**Description:** Spanish III will continue building communicative competence in Novice-High and reaching into Intermediate-Low performance levels. Students completing the course will develop each of the three modes of communication: Interpersonal, Interpretive, and Presentational. Connections and comparisons to Hispanophone cultures will be deepened and resources that are more authentic will be used for reading. The third year of language is the year when all the pieces of language come together. Students will read authentic pieces of literature, watch and comprehend foreign films, learn sophisticated vocabulary, grammar, syntax and speak and learn primarily in the target language. Third year language study offers students the opportunity to go far beyond the basics and attain a high level of fluency and competency in all language skills in the classroom all while earning three college credits. Grammar includes compound tenses, the subjunctive, object pronouns and the comparative and superlative. Activities may include creative, self-directed projects, prepared discussions and presentations. Students will be encouraged to communicate predominantly in the language. When completed, the students will be ready for Honors Spanish IV and/or AP.

Note: There will be summer reading. Some universities require three years of a world language for admission.

### **Honors Spanish IV**

**Course Number:** 19070 A/B  
**Length:** Year (2 Semesters)  
**Type of Credit:** World Language  
**Prerequisite:** Spanish III or equivalent

**Grade:** 10-12  
**No. of Credits:** 2  
**Notes:** W\*

**Description:** Spanish IV will focus on Intermediate-Low communicative competence. Students completing the course will develop each of the three modes of communication: Interpersonal, Interpretive, and Presentational. Connections and comparisons to Hispanophone cultures will be deepened and resources that are more authentic will be used for reading. Fourth-year courses enable students to attain a high degree of proficiency in speaking, reading, writing and understanding the language. Practice in listening, conversation skills and reading novels in the target language is emphasized along with deeper understanding of history and traditions. Students learn advanced grammar, syntax, and classes are conducted

primarily in the target language. Note: There will be summer reading and writing activities required for completion by the start of the course in August.

### **AP Spanish Language and Culture**

**Course Number:** 19067 A/B

**Length:** Year (2 Semesters)

**Type of Credit:** World Language

**Prerequisite:** Spanish III or equivalent

**Description:** AP Spanish Language and Culture develops listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills for proficient communication in all three modes while constantly examining the cultural foundations of the Spanish language inherent in its products, practices, and perspectives. The six themes of Global Challenges, Science and Technology, Contemporary Life, Personal and Public Identities, Families and Communities, and Beauty and Aesthetics interlace throughout the course. The AP Spanish Language course should help prepare students to demonstrate their level of Spanish proficiency across three communicative modes (interpersonal [interactive communication], interpretive [receptive communication], and presentational [productive communication]), and the five goal areas as outlined in the Standards for Foreign Language Learning in the 21st Century (Communication, Cultures, Connections, Comparisons, and Communities). The course is meant to be comparable to fifth and sixth semester (or the equivalent) college and university courses that focus on speaking and writing in the target language at an advanced level.

**Grade:** 10-12

**No. of Credits:** 2

**Notes:** W\*\*

Note: There will be summer reading and writing activities required for completion by the start of the course. Successful completion of this course will qualify you to take the AP exam in Spanish Language & Culture and should be successful in any university placement test.

### **AP Spanish Literature and Culture**

**Course Number:** 19068 A/B

**Length:** Year (2 Semesters)

**Type of Credit:** World Language

**Prerequisite:** Spanish III or equivalent

**Description:** AP Spanish Literature and Culture is designed to introduce students to the formal study of Peninsular Spanish, Latin American, and U.S. Hispanic literature from the middle ages to the present day. The course aims to develop students' critical reading and analytical writing skills in Spanish to perform successfully on the AP exam in Spanish Literature, as well as develop students' ability to make interdisciplinary connections and explore linguistic and cultural comparisons. This class is taught entirely in Spanish, and students will be expected to communicate in Spanish appropriate to this level. The course covers the entire AP Spanish Literature and Culture required reading list. Students will be required to write essays to continue improving analytical writing, as well as participate in active discussions to analyze the different works of poetry, prose, and drama. Students will discuss literary texts and their varied historical, socio-cultural, and political contexts in a variety of activities and assignments. Finally, students will analyze themes and works of varied artistic representations, as well as audiovisual and audio resources, in relation to the course content. The AP Spanish Literature and Culture course should help prepare students to demonstrate their level of Spanish proficiency across three communicative modes interpersonal, interpretive, and presentational, and the five Standards for Foreign Language Learning in the 21st Century (Communication, Cultures, Connections, Comparisons, and Communities). The course is comparable to fifth and sixth semester college and university courses that focus on speaking and writing in the target language at an advanced level.

**Grade:** 10-12

**No. of Credits:** 2

**Notes:** W\*\*

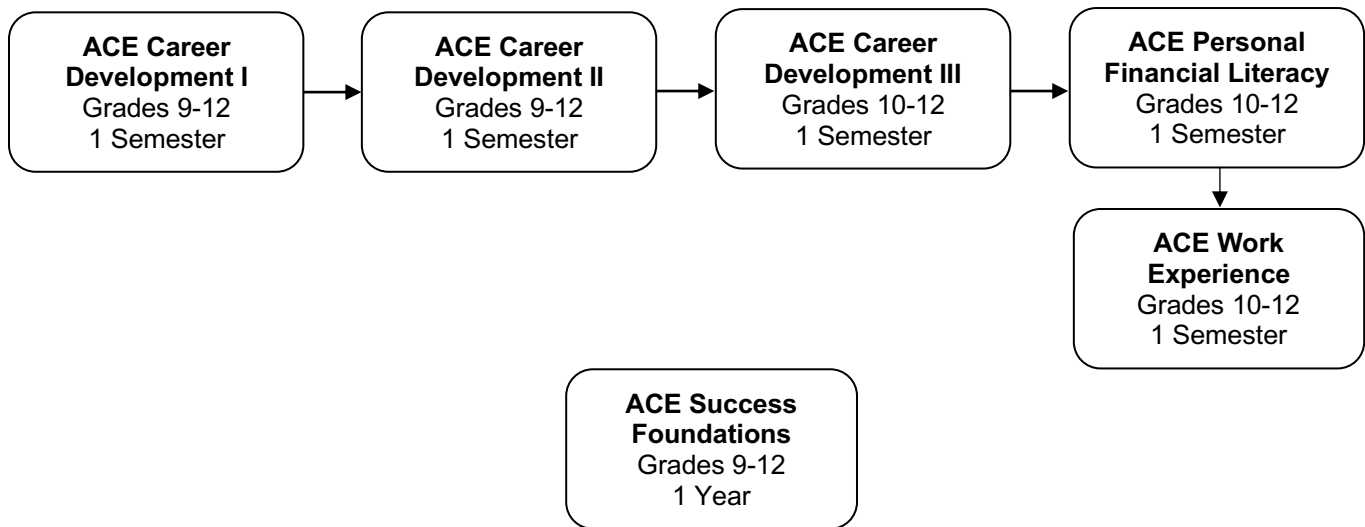
Note: There will be summer reading required for completion by the start of the course. Students will have the opportunity to take the AP exam in Spanish Literature & Culture and should be successful in any university placement test.

\*Spanish AP courses are offered on alternating years.

# ELECTIVE PROGRAMS COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

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## ACE PROGRAM COURSE OVERVIEW



## ACE PROGRAM COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

**Please note:** To meet **Alternate Graduation Competencies**, students must successfully complete a series of ACE coursework. ACE - Career Development I, ACE - Career Development II, and ACE - Personal Financial Literacy, and ACE - Work Experience. Each course is one semester. Throughout each course, students will compile a portfolio to display their postsecondary workforce readiness skills. Upon successful completion of the three ACE courses and the portfolio, students will earn “meets expectations” for both Math and English competencies.

### ACE Career Development I

**Course Number:** 28311

**Length:** 1 semester

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Prerequisite:** None

**Grade:** 9-12

**No. of Credits:** 1

**Notes:** GC/P (partial)

**Description:** As developmentally appropriate, this course (*or series of courses*) is designed for students to create an individual, initial career plan that outlines steps to reach their career goal. Students will identify a career goal based upon results of various assessments, i.e. interest survey, aptitude evaluation, academic skills, learning styles, work preferences, etc. Students will also investigate the training and educational requirements (academic planning & postsecondary options) for their chosen career field. Students should be able to articulate short-term action necessary to achieve the goal(s) in their career plan; including intentional academic planning, high school choices based on self-awareness, career exploration and postsecondary aspirations.

### ACE Career Development II

**Course Number:** 28312

**Length:** 1 semester

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Prerequisite:** ACE Career Development I

**Grade:** 9-12

**No. of Credits:** 1

**Notes:** GC/P (partial)

**Description:** As developmentally appropriate, this course (*or series of courses*) is designed to teach skills needed for entry into the workforce. Students will demonstrate successful job search strategies. Students will demonstrate employability skill ability to accurately complete job applications, write a resume, and ask for letters of recommendation. Students will examine model interviews and then participate in their own interview simulations. Students will be able to advocate for accommodations or adaptations necessary to be successful on the job. Students will be knowledgeable of the environmental expectations of the workplace. Additionally, students will be introduced to personal financial literacy skills

including: financial planning, budgeting, saving, credit, paycheck calculation, and taxes. Students practice appropriate communication, teamwork, problem solving while working in a group environment.

### **ACE Career Development III**

**Course Number:** 28313

**Length:** 1 semester

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Prerequisite:** ACE Career Development I, ACE Career Development II

**Description:** As developmentally appropriate, this course (or series of courses) is designed for students to learn about various employability skills necessary to meet and exceed employer expectations on the job by developing workplace skills such as interpersonal communication, teamwork, leadership, critical thinking and ethical decision making in the workplace. Students will evaluate employee benefit plans (medical, dental, vision, worker's compensation, unemployment, retirement plan, employee discounts, educational incentives, etc.). Additionally, students will recognize opportunities for advancement on the job. Students will become familiar with workplace laws and policies, including Child Labor Laws, Fair Labor Act, Equal Employment Opportunity, and Workplace Safety (OSHA), Americans with Disability Act (disability disclosure as appropriate), Sexual Harassment (definition, scenarios, appropriate behavior, policies and procedures).

**Grade:** 10-12

**No. of Credits:** 1

**Notes:**

### **ACE Personal Financial Literacy**

**Course Number:** 28328

**Length:** Year

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Prerequisite:** NONE

**Description:** This course is designed for students to learn and practice financial literacy, decision-making, and management skills for their personal and professional lives. Students will create and modify budgets according to new circumstances. Students will be practicing basic banking activities such as check writing, debit card use, deposits and keeping track of a spending register as well as explore online banking and banking apps to compare and contrast several types of financial institutions. Students will examine the benefit and detriment of managing credit. Students will apply practical application of fiscal management topics such as renting vs owning, mortgage calculators, new car vs used car purchase, how to get a car loan, financial calculator use, understanding payroll deductions and benefits, income tax and filing taxes, and comparing and contrasting insurance possibilities. Students will demonstrate knowledge of FAFSA, loans, grants scholarships and other postsecondary financial supports. They will examine the many ways to invest money and participate in simulations involving investing.

**Grade:** 9-12

**No. of Credits:** 1

**Notes:** GC/P

### **ACE Success Foundations**

**Course Number:** 28324

**Length:** Year

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Prerequisite:** NONE

**Description:** This course focuses on personal/self-awareness. This class provides students opportunities to explore and develop personal and academic skills that are foundational to successful transition into the working world. Teachers will facilitate students learning and implementing academic discipline skills, mindsets, and behaviors for successful academic course completion, help them to identify methods for setting goals for personal improvement and continuous growth in an academic area, and explain the purpose of fundamental tools used to pursue a career path.

**Grade:** 9-12

**No. of Credits:** 2

**Notes:** GC/P (partial)

Students will apply critical thinking skills to make informed, ethical, and socially responsible choices. They will also work on implementing essential routines for physical and mental health maintenance and personal safety, including emotion regulation, positive communication skills, decision-making, goal setting, time management, advocacy, problem solving, conflict resolution, self-awareness, personal responsibility, work ethic, stress management, and appropriate personal/social and conflict resolution skills. Students will investigate how all of these factors influence successful career habits.

## **ACE Work Experience**

**Course Number:** 28323

**Length:** Semester

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Prerequisite:** NONE

**Grade:** 10-12

**No. of Credits:** 1

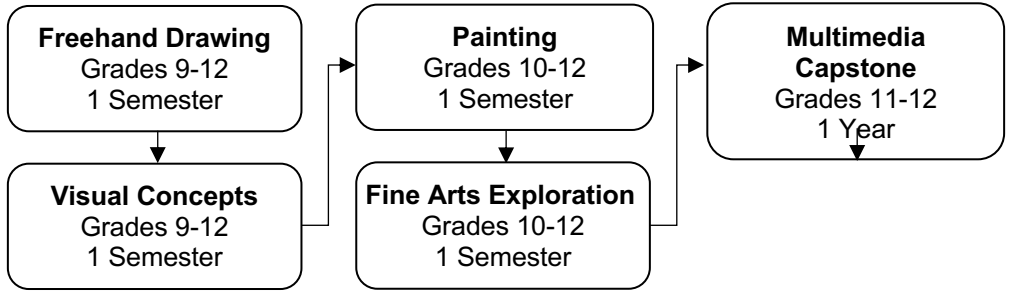
**Notes:** **GC/P (partial)**

**Description:** ACE Work Experience is an elective class that is designed for students to develop basic employability skills. Students will develop ethical work habits, self-awareness, self-confidence, and job skills, which can be used to locate, secure and retain employment, and enhance postsecondary career development plans.

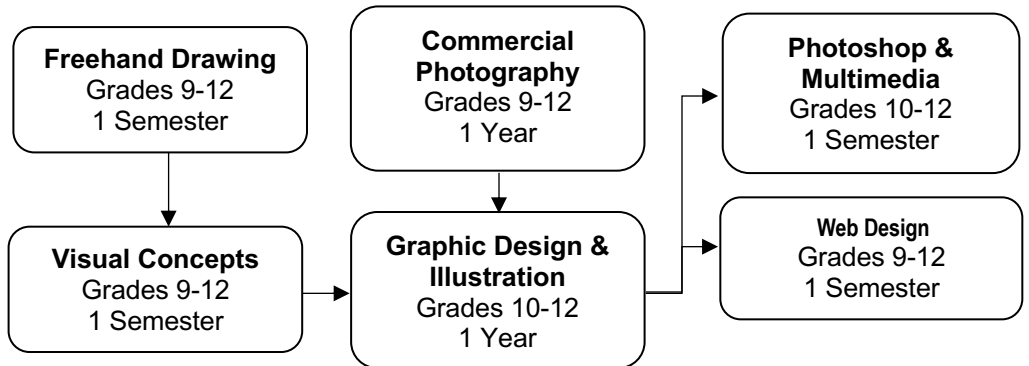
**ART DEPARTMENT COURSE OVERVIEW**

**Foundations of Art & Design**  
Grades 9-12  
1 Semester

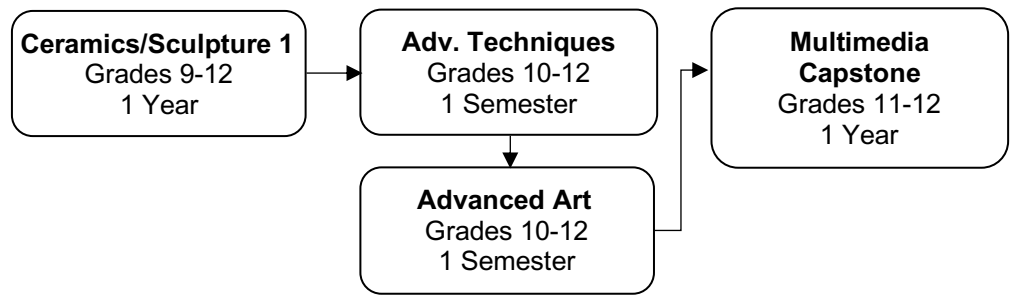
**2-D Art**



**Graphic Design & Multimedia**



**3-D Art**



Please note that the Art courses must be taken in order. Ceramics & Sculpture I & II and Art Portfolio Prep I & II must be taken in the same school year.

Students with little or no art experience can take Foundations of Art & Design before taking any of the pathways or if a only a semester of art is needed, but this is not a required pre-requisite for any of the pathways.



## ART DEPARTMENT COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

### **Foundations of Art & Design**

**Course Number:** 15009

**Length:** Semester

**Type of Credit:** Personal Development (Fine Arts)

**Prerequisite:** NONE

**Grade:** 9-12

**No. of Credits:** 1

**Notes:**

**Description:** This course is an introductory class that looks at multiple media and techniques. This course is a survey class where students will learn the elements and principles of design that are the building blocks essential to any design or marketing career. While studying these building blocks you will get technical experience in color theory, 3D work, and techniques on further developing right versus left-brain. You also get extensive experience in learning how to go through the creative process using critical and problem solving skills. This class will enhance students 21st Century Skills needed in any workplace. (Formerly Art I)

## 2-D COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

### **Fine Arts Exploration**

**Course Number:** 15040

**Length:** Semester

**Type of Credit:** Personal Development (Fine Arts)

**Prerequisite:** Painting, and/or art teacher recommendation

**Grade:** 10-12

**No. of Credits:** 1

**Notes:**

**Description:** This course provides students the opportunity to work in a variety of fine art materials for painting with alternative materials: Fibers, Metals, Glass, Photography, and working with mixed media materials. Before taking this class, student must have an understanding of basic art principals, which can be met through any beginning art class.

### **Freehand Drawing**

**Course Number:** 15010

**Length:** Semester, S1 Only

**Type of Credit:** Personal Development (Fine Arts)

**Prerequisite:** NONE

**Grade:** 9-12

**No. of Credits:** 1

**Notes:**

**Description:** This class will teach students how to draw what they see, how to create the illusion of light and shadow, how to analyze visual elements such as linear perspective, texture and understand principles of composition, (i.e. movement, scale and how to render accurate proportions). A wide variety of techniques and media are explored including graphite pencils, charcoal, pastels, pen and ink, and colored pencils. Students will learn how to apply critical and creative thinking skills, problem-solving skills, analyzing skills into their work. Students will also be required to create a portfolio as well as to participate in an end of the course exhibition with the community.

### **Visual Concepts 2D** (This is the second semester course of Freehand Drawing)

**Course Number:** 15054

**Length:** Semester, S2 Only

**Type of Credit:** Personal Development (Fine Arts)

**Prerequisite:** Freehand Drawing, and/or art teacher recommendation

**Grade:** 9-12

**No. of Credits:** 1

**Notes:**

**Description:** Students will demonstrate the basic visual elements of art (line, shape, color, form, texture, space and value) as well as the principles of design (Balance, Scale, Proportion, Movement, Dominance, Unity and Variety, Harmony, Rhythm and repetition) through projects as they relate to two-dimensional media in design, visual perception, artistic form and composition. This will include work with the following: pencil, charcoal, pastels, oil pastels, colored pencils, watercolor paints, printmaking, acrylic paints, ink and mixed media (mixing visual art with non-visual elements), Illustrator and Animate. Projects are designed around a career focus to include book illustrations, logos, storybooks, comic books and character design, fashion design, animation.

## Painting

**Course Number:** 15016

**Length:** Semester

**Type of Credit:** Personal Development (Fine Arts)

**Prerequisite:** Freehand Drawing & Visual Concepts, and/or art teacher recommendation

**Description:** In this course, students will explore various painting techniques, elements of composition, and color concepts. Materials used for painting representational, expressive, or abstracted images include but are not limited to watercolor and acrylics. Fundamentals of composition, color theory, and developmental skills will be emphasized. Art history is incorporated into the course through varied instructional media and resources.

**Grade:** 10-12

**No. of Credits:** 1

**Notes:**

## 3-D COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

### Advanced Art I

**Course Number:** 15025

**Length:** Semester

**Type of Credit:** Personal Development (Fine Arts)

**Prerequisite:** Advance Techniques and/or teacher recommendation, Lab Fee

**Description:** This course provides an opportunity for the student to prepare a more complex body of work (portfolio), develop a personal artistic statement, and exploring a career in art or art related fields. The curriculum includes advanced 3D techniques and a wide variety of art material use such as 3D printing, casting, textile manipulation, etc. The opportunity for a more independent approach to projects is available to the more advanced art students. (Adv. Art I is the second semester of Adv. Techniques)

**Grade:** 10-12

**No. of Credits:** 1

**Notes:**

### Advanced Techniques & Application

**Course Number:** 15045

**Length:** Semester

**Type of Credit:** Personal Development (Fine Arts)

**Prerequisite:** Ceramics & Sculpture I and/or art teacher recommendation

**Description:** This course focuses on advance techniques taught in the previous classes in this pathway. It exposes students to new techniques that they can apply their knowledge from either the painting or 3D modeling pathways into these new methods. Methods and media included but not limited to are: cold connections in jewelry smithing, fused glass for jewelry and small works, textile manipulation/creation techniques, and marbling. In this course, students will also learn how to photograph works of art on a professional level in an effort to prepare them for submitting portfolios to colleges and universities or galleries.

**Grade:** 10-12

**No. of Credits:** 1

**Notes:**

### Ceramics & Sculpture I

**Course Number:** 15020 A/B

**Length:** Year (2 semesters)

**Type of Credit:** Personal Development (Fine Arts)

**Prerequisite:** NONE

**Description:** This semester course is designed to introduce students to the realm of 3D form by using traditional methods of drawing, painting, and sculpting to learn basic and advanced artistic principles. Students will demonstrate the fundamentals of 3D such as modeling, casting, carving, and the processes of assemblage. Students will learn how to utilize industry design software, such as Photoshop and other adobe products, to create art virtually in both 2-D and 3-D, create 2-D and 3-D prototypes of their virtual art using scanners, large format printing, and color printing. This class will introduce the necessary interdisciplinary skills to work in careers and feed into other pathways, such as computer science, engineering, CAD, business, Construction, Manufacturing and more. In the 2nd semester of the course, students will continue to build on the knowledge gained from Ceramics & Sculpture first semester. Students will continue to demonstrate more advanced skills 3D modeling, casting, carving, and the processes of assemblage and applies them into current work industries such as: costume design and mask creation, set design and clay animation/stop motion films, Installation Art, 3-D Printing industry, and even Reclaimed/Green Art. Students will learn more advanced skills in 3-D printing, laser engraving, CNC output devices and possibly CNC milling. This exposes students to real life application and career opportunities in the realm of 3D art.

**Grade:** 9-12

**No. of Credits:** 2

**Notes:**

## Multimedia Capstone

**Course Number:** 15026 & 15027

**Length:** Year (2 Semesters)

**Type of Credit:** Personal Development (Fine Arts)

**Prerequisite:** All previous classes in a pathway completed, and/or teacher recommendation

**Description:** This course allows for individualized, advanced, and/or cumulative work in a program of study. This work is individualized to the student within a specific program of study to allow for specialized study. It may include problem-/project-based learning or preparation for industry certification. The specific content and course design is determined by the instructor, in collaboration with the individual student.

**Grade:** 11-12

**No. of Credits:** 2

**Notes:**

## GRAPHIC DESIGN & MULTIMEDIA COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

### Commercial Photography I

**Course Number:** 15053 A/B

**Length:** Year (2 Semesters)

**Type of Credit:** Personal Development (Fine Arts)

**Prerequisite:** NONE

**Description:** This photography course focuses on studio-based photography. Students will learn basic DSLR camera operations, framing and the art of styling and lighting for professional photo shoots. Projects will include various print advertisements and studio work. Students will learn about careers in related to commercial photography and the postsecondary programs and requirements within Colorado. Some examples of jobs in this area are photographer, graphic designer and stylist. Students will complete a number of projects and design pieces to be added to personal portfolios.

**Grade:** 9-12

**No. of Credits:** 2

**Notes:**

### Graphic Design & Illustration I

**Course Number:** 15056 A/B

**Length:** Year (2 Semesters)

**Type of Credit:** Personal Development (Fine Arts)

**Prerequisite:** NONE

**Description:** These courses are for training in the visual communication portion of all media businesses. Students learn about a career in the many kinds of media and graphic design and illustration jobs. Digital photography and working towards the intermediate level use of image editing and drawing programs are strongly focused upon in this class. This is helpful for any future photographer, videographer, animator or advertiser. Students will begin developing a high quality portfolio for college or design school.

**Grade:** 10-12

**No. of Credits:** 2

**Notes:**

### Photoshop & Multimedia I & II

**Course Number:** 15055 A/B

**Length:** Year (2 semesters)

**Type of Credit:** Personal Development (Fine Arts)

**Prerequisite:** Fundamentals of Photography, Photography & Applications, and/or art teacher recommendation

**Description:** Students will further demonstrate advanced techniques and will develop a portfolio to submit for career opportunities in commercial arts and to collaborate on real world problems/situations. At this point, students will focus on a career field in such areas as, photography, illustration, animation, or Multimedia design using skills they have learned in previous classes (i.e. Printmaking, Illustrator, Animate, Photoshop, etc.). They will relate these skills to industry by researching career opportunities and perfecting their portfolio to that specific field. The elements and principles of design (line value, texture, form, patterns scale, spatial awareness, unity balance, color and proportion) will be a guiding force as the process and work is critiqued along the way. Teacher and student will collaborate to illustrate a variety of skills and techniques as well as proving the worth of focusing on a chosen concentration.

**Grade:** 10-12

**No. of Credits:** 2

**Notes:**

## Web Design I

**Course Number:** 16028

**Length:** Semester

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Prerequisite:** NONE

**Grade:** 9-12

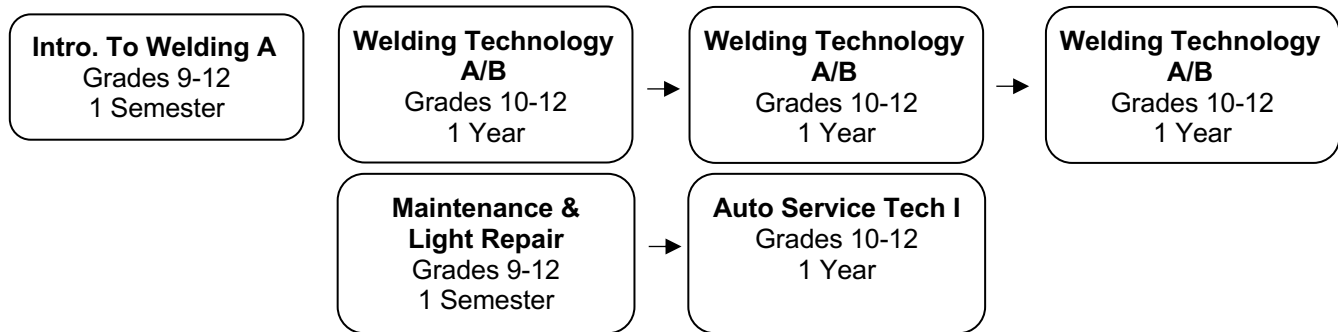
**No. of Credits:** 1

**Notes:**

**Description:** Students will learn the basic skills needed to design websites. Students will be guided through and demonstrate an understanding of web site production, structure, working with clients, interactivity, navigation, color schemes, user interface criteria, animations, accessibility, and hosting of websites. Students will create their own web sites using state of the art software. Passing this course with a “B” or better grade will waive Web Design I (MGD 141) at Pikes Peak Community College and transfer to other community colleges in Colorado.

# Automotive Service

## AUTOMOTIVE PROGRAM COURSE OVERVIEW



## AUTOMOTIVE PROGRAM COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

### Automotive Service Technology I A/B

**Course Number:** 27031

**Length:** Year (2 semesters)

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Prerequisite:** Maintenance and Light Repair

**Grade:** 10-12

**No. of Credits:** 2

**Notes:**

**Description:** Automotive Service Technology (AST) prepares individuals to apply technical knowledge and skills to repair, service, and maintain all types of automobiles at an INTERMEDIATE level. This course builds on concepts learned in Auto Basic, MLR, and/ or Compact Engines. Students receive instruction on basic automobile maintenance requirements, specific tool uses and safety procedures. Inspection and repair of automotive systems is stressed in the areas of brakes, electrical, suspension, fuel, emissions and tune up procedures. The skills and experiences gained in this course will prepare the student to earn an entry-level student certification with the National Institute of Automotive Excellence (ASE). Students that rapidly excel and are highly motivated will earn the opportunity to take the ASE G1, A4, A5, and A6 exams to obtain ASE Student Certifications.

### Intro to Welding Technology

**Course Number:** 27016

**Length:** Semester

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Prerequisite:** NONE

**Grade:** 9-12

**No. of Credits:** 1

**Notes:**

**Description:** The Introduction to Welding is a one semester-long, one-period class offered at Mesa Ridge High School. This course begins with safety training and measurement review and then introduce welding areas of operation such as oxy-acetylene, arc (stick), and wire feed (MIG), along with forming, grinding, cutting, and polishing of mild steel. Students utilize multiple metalworking, and welding processes learned in the course to create an assigned final project that they customize.

### Maintenance and Light Repair A

**Course Number:** 27006

**Length:** Semester

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Prerequisite:** NONE

**Grade:** 9-12

**No. of Credits:** 1

**Notes:**

**Description:** Automotive Maintenance and Light Repair (MLR) explores automotive industry standards and terminology, career opportunities and classifications, shop operations and safety, tool identification and usage, diagnostic equipment identification and usage, automotive systems, tires and wheels, hydraulic braking systems, cooling systems, lubrication systems, and preventative maintenance. Students will also discover how disc and drum brake systems operate, how to determine the cause of failure in both systems, and how to correct and repair disc, drum, and hydraulic brake system

failures. Students will also receive instruction on how vehicle suspension systems are designed and how they operate. Students will analyze suspension/steering system failure symptoms to determine the appropriate repair plan to return the vehicle to the road. Finally, students will be introduced to the basics of automotive electronics. Students will study how the battery, charging system, starting system, and how different electrical circuits operate. Students will gain valuable experience using various electrical diagnostic tools while tracing wiring problems in the shop lab. The skills and experiences gained in this course will prepare the student to earn an entry-level student certification with the National Institute of Automotive Excellence (ASE). Students that rapidly excel and are highly motivated will earn the opportunity to take the ASE G1, A4, A5, and A6 exams to obtain ASE Student Certifications.

### **Welding Technology A/B**

**Course Number:** 27009 A/B

**Length:** Year (2 semesters)

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Prerequisite:** NONE

**Grade:** 10-12

**No. of Credits:** 2 (each semester)

**Notes:** MiLL (transportation provided)

**Description:** Welding I is a one-year course with no prerequisites. This course begins with safety training, and introduces welding areas of operation such as arc (stick), and wire feed (MIG), along with the forming, grinding, cutting, and polishing of mild steel. Students will also learn how to properly use the oxyacetylene torch and manual handheld plasma cutter. Students will work through labs to prepare them for industry standards in welding. Students will also receive training on reading weld plans, symbols, and procedures. Students utilize multiple metal working and welding processes to create a customized final project.

### **Welding Technology II**

**Course Number:** 27008 A/B

**Length:** Year (2 semesters)

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Prerequisite:** Welding Technology I A/B

**Grade:** 10-12

**No. of Credits:** 2 (each semester)

**Notes:**

**Description:** Welding Technology II students will be exposed to more advanced welding process such as MIG/GMAW, as well as an introduction to TIG welding. In addition, they will have the opportunity to refine what they learned from Level I to a higher standard. Students will identify welding symbols on drawings, read detail drawings, identify physical characteristics and mechanical properties of metal, explain pre and post heating of metals, identify equipment and filler metals utilized in GMAW, as well as prepare welding test plates. Through the course of the year, students will have the opportunity to create more advanced welding projects for the community as well as private individuals.

### **Welding Technology III**

**Course Number:** 27007 A/B

**Length:** Year (2 semesters)

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Prerequisite:** Welding Technology II A/B

**Grade:** 10-12

**No. of Credits:** 2 (each semester)

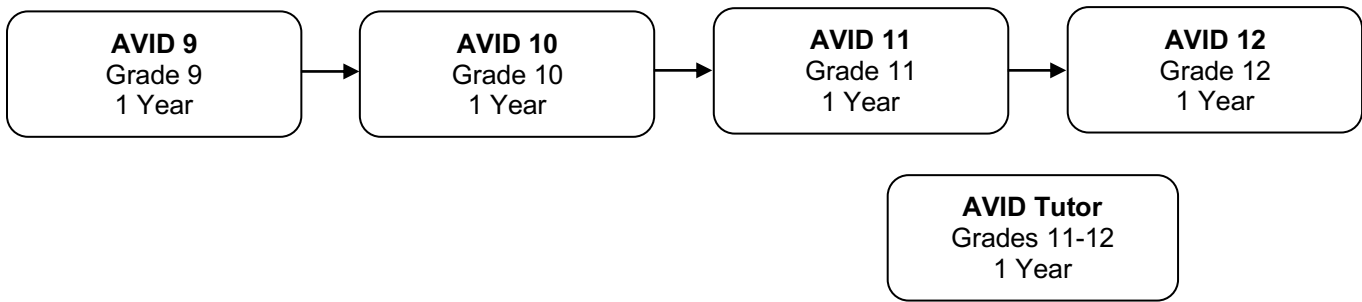
**Notes:**

**Description:** Welding III builds upon the previous welding sections and begins to develop students to pass industry certifications in different welding positions/techniques. Students will choose the technique(s) they wish to pursue certifications in and practice those positions for a certification exam later in the year that is recognized within industry and will be administered/approved by a Certified Welding Inspector (CWI). The second semester of Welding III will focus on Quality Control. The students will receive hands-on and classroom instruction in Non-Destructive Testing (NDT) disciplines of Magnetic Particle, Liquid Penetrant, and Ultrasound Testing. Students will receive Level I/IIA classroom qualifications in Ultrasound Testing, and Level II classroom qualifications in Liquid Penetrant and Magnetic Particle.

# ***AVID-Advancement Via Individual Determination***

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## AVID COURSE OVERVIEW



## AVID PROGRAM COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

### **Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID)**

**Course Number:** 26080 (9<sup>th</sup>), 26085 (10<sup>th</sup>), 26090 (11<sup>th</sup>), 26095 (12<sup>th</sup>)

**Length:** Year (2 semesters)

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Prerequisite:** Application process required

**Description:** AVID (Advancement via Individual Determination) is offered as an elective course that prepares students for entrance into four-year colleges. There is an emphasis on analytical writing, preparation for college entrance and placement exams, study skills and test taking, note taking, and research. Students receive instruction in college entry skills, tutor-led study groups, motivational activities and academic survival skills. In AVID, students participate in activities that incorporate strategies focused on writing, inquiry, collaboration, and reading to support their academic growth.

**Grade:** 9-12

**No. of Credits:** 2

**Notes:**

### **AVID Tutor**

**Course Number:** 26018 A/B

**Length:** Year (2 semesters)

**Type of Credit:** Application process required

**Prerequisite:** Teacher recommendation

Students in this class will implement goals and objectives of the AVID program by using AVID strategies such as WICOR and tutorials. They will coach and debrief with AVID elective students on the tutorial process. They will also monitor the tutorial work and work collaboratively with groups of AVID students. Tutors will then be included in out of school events such as field trips and after school opportunities. Students must be recommended, apply, and be accepted.

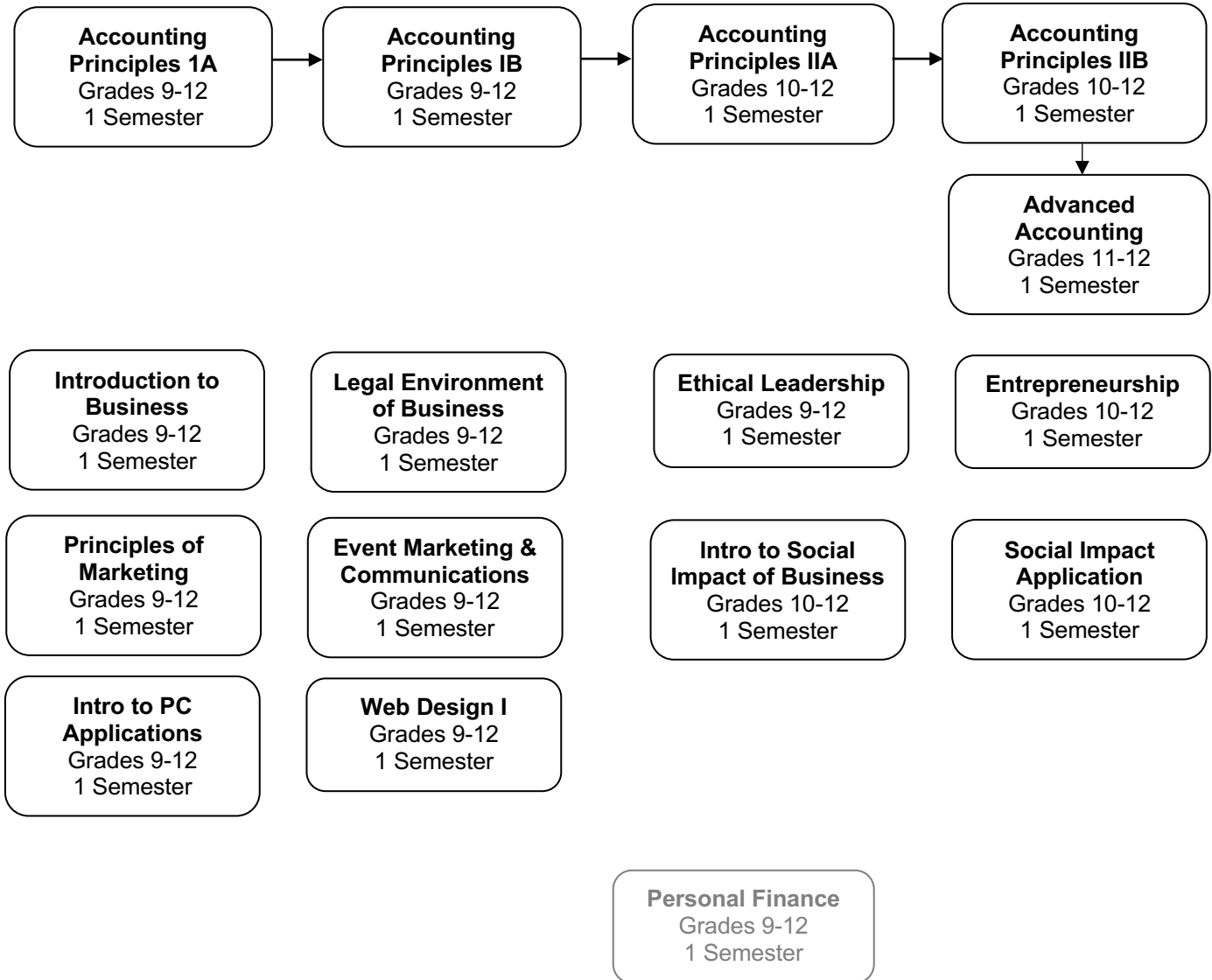
**Grade:** 11-12

**No. of Credits:** 2

**Notes:** Pass/Fail Grading

# Business, Management, & Marketing

## BUSINESS PROGRAM COURSE OVERVIEW





## BUSINESS PROGRAM COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

### **Accounting Principles IA**

**Course Number:** 16031

**Length:** Semester, S1 Only

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Prerequisite:** NONE

**Grade:** 9-12

**No. of Credits:** 1

**Notes:**

**Description:** This course introduces accounting principles for understanding the theory and logic that underlie procedures and practices for business organizations. Major topics include the accounting cycle for service and merchandising companies, internal control principles and practices, notes and interest, inventory systems and costing, and plant and intangible asset accounting.

### **Accounting Principles IB**

**Course Number:** 16036

**Length:** Semester, S2 Only

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Prerequisite:** Accounting Principles IA

**Grade:** 9-12

**No. of Credits:** 1

**Notes:**

**Description:** This course builds on previous accounting principles for understanding the theory and logic that underlie procedures and practices for business organizations. Major topics include the accounting cycle for service and merchandising companies, internal control principles and practices, notes and interest, inventory systems and costing, and plant and intangible asset accounting. (Previously Accounting II)

### **Accounting Principles IIA**

**Course Number:** 16042

**Length:** Semester, S1 Only

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Prerequisite:** Accounting Principles IA & IB

**Grade:** 10-12

**No. of Credits:** 1

**Notes:**

**Description:** This course continues the application of accounting principles to business organizations. Major topics include corporate equity and debt financing, investments, cash flow statements, financial analysis, budgeting, cost and managerial accounting. (Previously Accounting III).

### **Accounting Principles IIB**

**Course Number:** 16046

**Length:** Semester, S2 Only

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Prerequisite:** Accounting Principles IIA

**Grade:** 10-12

**No. of Credits:** 1

**Notes:**

**Description:** This course continues the application of accounting principles to business organizations. Major topics include corporate equity and debt financing, investments, cash flow statements, financial analysis, budgeting, cost and managerial accounting. (Previously Accounting IV).

### **Advanced Accounting**

**Course Number:** 16051

**Length:** Semester

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Prerequisite:** Accounting Principles IIA & IIB

**Grade:** 11-12

**No. of Credits:** 1

**Notes:**

**Description:** This course continues the application of accounting principles to business organizations. Major topics include corporate equity and debt financing, investments, cash flow statements, financial analysis, budgeting, cost and managerial accounting. (Previously Accounting V).

## Desktop Publishing

**Course Number:** 16026

**Length:** Semester

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Prerequisite:** PC Applications and Word Processing

**Description:** This course is designed for the student who would like to learn advanced editing and formatting functions in word processing. Students will learn to manipulate text and graphics to produce flyers, brochures, and other professional documents. Emphasis will be placed on designing quality publications that may be used in business. Passing this course with a “B” or better grade will waive Desktop Publishing (CIS 137) at Pikes Peak Community College and transfer to other community colleges in Colorado.

**Grade:** 9-12

**No. of Credits:** 1

**Notes:**

## Ethical Leadership

**Course Number:** 16101

**Length:** Semester, S1 Only

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Prerequisite:** NONE

**Description:** Ethical Leadership is a principles-based ethics course introducing students to key leadership and ethical knowledge and skills, including integrity, trust, accountability, transparency, fairness, respect, rule of law, and viability. Throughout the course, students apply ethical principles to contemporary, real-world situations that teens and young adults often encounter in school, at home, with friends, and in entry-level job positions. They examine the concept of ethical leadership and strengthen their leadership and ethical decision-making skills through the planning, implementation, and evaluation of a class service-learning project.

**Grade:** 9-12

**No. of Credits:** 1

**Notes:**

## Entrepreneurship

**Course Number:** 16095

**Length:** Semester, S2 Only

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Prerequisite:** NONE

**Description:** Teaches entrepreneurs planning skills from the development of a conceptual business to an actual comprehensive business plan. This practical approach includes one-on-one counseling with the instructor and professional volunteer counselors. Guest speakers are an integral part of the course. Additional topics include marketing strategies and tactics, liability protection, growth management, financial management and projections, networking, and funding options.

**Grade:** 10-12

**No. of Credits:** 1

**Notes:**

## Event Marketing/Communications

**Course Number:** 16076

**Length:** Semester

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Prerequisite:** NONE

**Description:** Defines the importance and role of marketing, media and public relations in the event planning industry. Identify marketing and communication tools such as social media, promotional events, networking and blogs. Design a marketing plan to include target market research, communication tools, objectives, strategies, and implementation.

**Grade:** 9-12

**No. of Credits:** 1

**Notes:**

## Intro. to Business

**Course Number:** 16220

**Length:** Semester

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Prerequisite:** NONE

**Description:** Introduces the application of fundamental business principles to local, national, and international forums. This course examines the relationship of economic systems, governance, regulations, and law upon business operations. It surveys the concepts of career development, business ownership, finance and accounting, economics, marketing, management, operations, human resources, regulations, and business ethics.

**Grade:** 9-12

**No. of Credits:** 1

**Notes:**

## **Intro. to PC Applications**

**Course Number:** 16056

**Length:** Semester

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Prerequisite:** NONE

**Description:** This course introduces basic computer terminology, file management, and PC system components. Provides an overview of office application software including word processing, spreadsheets, databases, and presentation graphics. Includes the use of a web browser to access the Internet.

**Grade:** 9-12

**No. of Credits:** 1

**Notes:**

## **Intro to Social Impact of Business**

**Course Number:** 16221

**Length:** Semester, S1 Only

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Prerequisite:** NONE

**Description:** This class will combine business strategies with purpose-based thinking. As more and more businesses and nonprofits move to this model, students will learn how to apply these concepts in the community. Students will explore concepts such as: Business Ownership, Intro to Social Impact; Ethics; Capitalism and Free Enterprise Evolution; History of Nonprofits and will learn how to create a sustainable business while doing well for communities.

**Grade:** 10-12

**No. of Credits:** 1

**Notes:**

## **Legal Environment of Business**

**Course Number:** 16061

**Length:** Semester

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Prerequisite:** NONE

**Description:** Emphasizes public law, regulation of business, ethical considerations, and various relationships existing within society, government, and business. Specific attention is given to economic regulation, social regulation, labor-management issues, environmental issues, and contract fundamentals. This course analyzes the role of law in social, political, and economic change business environments.

**Grade:** 9-12

**No. of Credits:** 1

**Notes:**

## **Personal Finance**

**Course Number:** 16086

**Length:** Semester

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Prerequisite:** NONE

**Description:** Surveys the basic personal finance needs of most individuals and introduces the personal finance tools useful in planning and instituting a successful personal financial philosophy. The course emphasizes the basics of budgeting, buying, saving, borrowing, career planning, investing, retirement planning, estate planning, insurance, and income taxes.

**Grade:** 9-12

**No. of Credits:** 1

**Notes:**

## **Principles of Marketing**

**Course Number:** 16071

**Length:** Semester

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Prerequisite:** NONE

**Description:** This course presents the analysis of theoretical marketing processes and the strategies of product development, pricing, promotion and distribution, and their applications to businesses and the individual consumer.

**Grade:** 9-12

**No. of Credits:** 1

**Notes:**

## **Social Impact Application**

**Course Number:** 16222

**Length:** Semester, S2 Only

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Prerequisite:** Intro to Social Impact for Business

**Description:** In this course, students will explore more practical applications of Social Impact. This course is designed to be project based and focuses on integrating work based learning to include site visit field trips, job shadowing, informational interviews with Social Entrepreneurs in our community, and a final project. The focus will be on seeing how Social Impact businesses function in our community and learn firsthand about the issues they are trying to solve through social impact business strategies.

**Grade:** 10-12

**No. of Credits:** 1

**Notes:**

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Key: **W\*/W\*\***=Weighted Credit; **IC**=Industry Certification Available; **GC/P**=Meets Graduation Competencies with Portfolio

## Web Design I

**Course Number:** 16028

**Length:** Semester

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Prerequisite:** NONE

**Grade:** 9-12

**No. of Credits:** 1

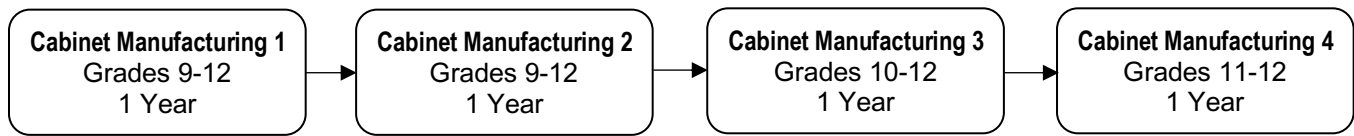
**Notes:**

**Description:** Students will learn the basic skills needed to design websites. Students will be guided through and demonstrate an understanding of web site production, structure, working with clients, interactivity, navigation, color schemes, user interface criteria, animations, accessibility, and hosting of websites. Students will create their own web sites using state of the art software. Passing this course with a “B” or better grade will waive Web Design I (MGD 141) at Pikes Peak Community College and transfer to other community colleges in Colorado.

# Cabinet Manufacturing Pathway

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## CABINET MANUFACTURING COURSE OVERVIEW



## CABINET MANUFACTURING COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

### Cabinet Manufacturing 1

**Course Number:** 27011 A/B

**Length:** Year (2 Semesters)

**Type of Credit:** Elective/CTE Math

**Prerequisite:** NONE

**Grade:** 9-12

**No. of Credits:** 2

**Location:** MiLL (transportation provided)

**Description:** In Cabinet Manufacturing 1, students build a basic plywood and hardwood cabinet using Lean Manufacturing principles. Students learn to use a tape measure, produce drawings, create a bill of materials, and how to safely use high quality machinery. The cabinet includes a hardwood face frame, legs, door, drawer and tabletop. Assembly of the cabinet utilizes rabbet and dado joints construction. Students also receive an introduction to CNC automated technology. Students earn 1 Elective credit and 1 CTE Math credit for this course.

### Cabinet Manufacturing 2

**Course Number:** 27012 A/B

**Length:** Year (2 semesters)

**Type of Credit:** Elective/CTE Math

**Prerequisite:** Cabinet Manufacturing 1

**Grade:** 9-12

**No. of Credits:** 2

**Location:** MiLL (transportation provided)

**Description:** In Cabinet Manufacturing 2, students build a small profile table from solid hardwoods using Mortise and Tenon joints. Advanced manufacturing equipment is used to continue student learning of the processes involved in Lean Manufacturing and dimensioning lumber. The table includes a dovetail-jointed drawer, as well as Greene & Greene style accents that include Blacker leg indents, knuckle legs, and cloud lift style aprons. The top is made from solid hardwood. More advanced CNC technologies are learned as students produce some of the Greene & Greene accents on the Legacy CNC router. Students earn 1 Elective credit and 1 CTE Math credit for this course.

### Cabinet Manufacturing 3

**Course Number:** 27013 A/B

**Length:** Year (2 semesters)

**Type of Credit:** Elective/CTE Math

**Prerequisite:** Cabinet Manufacturing 2

**Grade:** 10-12

**No. of Credits:** 2

**Location:** MiLL (transportation provided)

**Description:** In Cabinet Manufacturing 3, students use Lean Manufacturing practices to build a Skills USA table. The cabinet features Mortise & Tenon joinery produced on the 3 axis JDS Multi Router. It has an edge banded plywood carcass, 5 piece door, dovetailed drawer, external 4 piece legs, veneer top, and custom lathe turned handles. Students use software to produce drawings and the bill of materials. Student earn 1 Elective credit and 1 CTE Math II credit for this course.

### Cabinet Manufacturing 4

**Course Number:** 27014 A/B

**Length:** Year (2 semesters)

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Prerequisite:** Cabinet Manufacturing 3

**Grade:** 11-12

**No. of Credits:** 2

**Location:** MiLL (transportation provided)

**Description:** Students will use Lean Manufacturing and will be tasked with taking an existing plan, a tool chest (replicating a customer's idea in the business world), modifying that plan, submitting a bill of materials, a bill of sale and a scale drawing. Students will learn and be expected to bid the project, establish timelines, price out materials, as well as continuing to learn new techniques involved with cabinet construction. Students will then be tasked with programming their tool chest on the CN C technology in the shop, assembling, personalizing, and finishing their tool chest. In addition to building their tool chest, students will be given plans for shop made hand tools to begin to fill their tool chest. As much work as practical and possible will be done on the CNC equipment in the shop. Students earn 2 elective credits for this course.

## Concurrent Enrollment

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### COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

#### Career Start Program at PPSC

**Course Number:** 28060

**Length:** Year

**Type of Credit:** Varies

**Prerequisite:**

- Must be classified as a senior and have a minimum of 38 semester credits prior to the beginning of the school year.
- Must have own transportation and parent permission, good attendance record, a genuine interest in chosen area of study.
- Must apply through the Counseling Center and go through a group interview process during Junior Year enrollment period.
- Must be approved by the Career Start Counselor and Counseling Center Committee.

**Description** The Career Start Program (CSP) is a college program designed to give students the skills and knowledge needed to obtain employment in various occupational/career areas. CSP classes are held at Pikes Peak Community College. Students participating in the Career Start Program attend PPCC half a day and MRHS the other half a day for a full year. Students participating in this program will attend PPCC in the morning - 9:00 am to 11:40 am - then return to the high school for afternoon classes. Students receive high school credit for their CSP classes, and School District No. 3 pays for their tuition. A limited number of students will be permitted to attend Pikes Peak Community College each academic year at no cost to the student if the course is passed. Students will earn one high school credit for every three-college credit hours completed.

**Grade:** 12

**No. of Credits:**

**Location:** PPCC (transportation NOT provided)

#### Concurrent Enrollment (General)

**Course Number:** 26060

**Length:** Semester

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Prerequisite:** Good attendance and discipline records.

Parent/student information for attending classes at Pikes Peak Community College for Concurrent Enrollment:

1. Classes that are not offered at the high school are eligible for Concurrent Enrollment.
2. If student has exhausted or completed classes at the high school, classes at the college are eligible for Concurrent Enrollment.
3. Classes must fit into student's post-secondary plans and be reflected in the Individual Career and Academic Plan.
4. Only Tuition is paid by District 3. Student fees and books are the responsibility of the student/family.
5. Student/Family is responsible for own transportation to and from the college.
6. Students interested must complete the needed steps for enrollment which include meeting with the Concurrent Enrollment Coordinator and completion of the needed paperwork for the program by the specified deadlines.
7. Student works with High School Counselor in coordinating school and College Enrollment Class schedule.

**Grade:** 11-12

**No. of Credits:**

**Location:** PPCC (transportation NOT provided)

#### Cosmetology

**Course Number:** 27085 A/B

**Length:** Year (2 semesters)

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Prerequisite:** Good attendance and discipline records.

**Description:** This program is designed to qualify students to gain employment in the personal care industry and to prepare them to take the state board of certification exams for cosmetology. This program will teach regulations, safety, and best practices for haircutting, chemical treatments, hairstyling, and other salon skills such as scheduling and management. This program is off site at International Salon and Spa Academy. \* The district pays for tuition only. The student is responsible for the cost of the training kit, which is around \$200.

**Grade:** 12

**No. of Credits:** 2

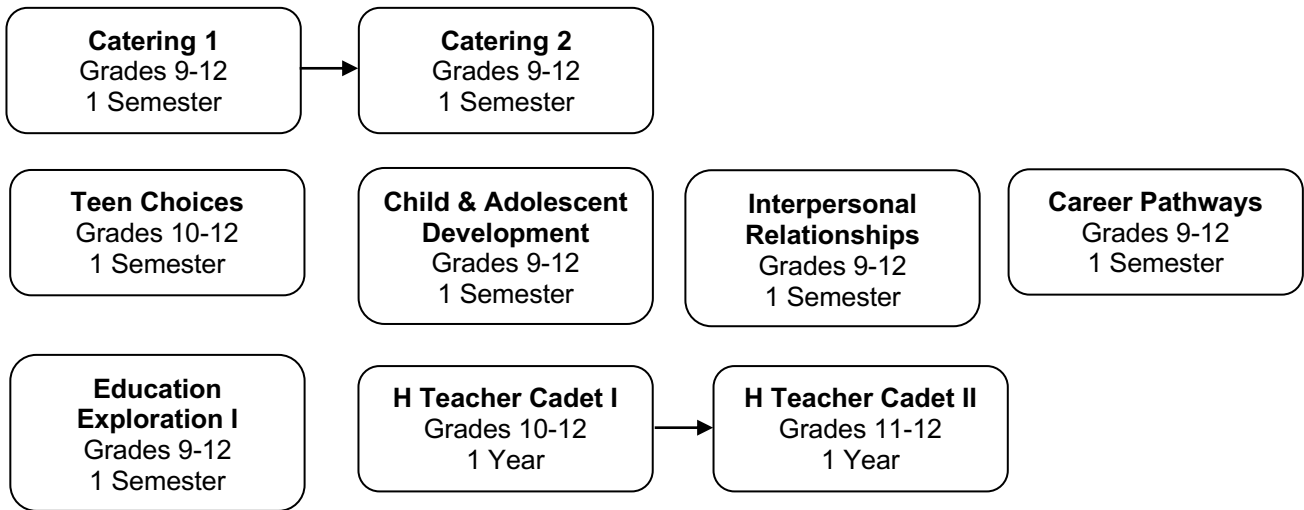
**Location:** ISSA (transportation NOT provided)

**Notes:** Fee\*

# Family and Consumer Sciences

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## FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCES COURSE OVERVIEW



## FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCES COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

### Catering 1

**Course Number:** 17038

**Length:** Semester, S1 Only

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Prerequisite:** NONE

**Description:** This program is designed for students with career interests in the food industry as well as owning their own catering business. The purpose of this course is to develop skills in quantity food preparation, safety and sanitation, planning, customer service, business plans and entrepreneurship.

**Grade:** 9-12

**No. of Credits:** 1

### Catering 2

**Course Number:** 17039

**Length:** Semester, S2 Only

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Prerequisite:** Catering I

**Description:** This program is designed to continue the skills for students with career interests in the food industry as well as owning their own catering business. The purpose of this course is to develop skills in quantity food preparation, safety and sanitation, planning, customer service, business plans and entrepreneurship.

**Grade:** 9-12

**No. of Credits:** 1

### Child and Adolescent Development

**Course Number:** 17022

**Length:** Semester

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Prerequisite:** NONE

**Description:** The purpose of this course is to acquire knowledge and understanding of child and adolescent development necessary for strengthening the well-being of children and families. Content focuses on perspectives of human development, research and theories, understanding and nurturing development, and challenges to development.

**Grade:** 9-12

**No. of Credits:** 1

## Career Pathways

**Course Number:** 16107

**Length:** Semester

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Prerequisite:** NONE

**Grade:** 9-12

**No. of Credits:** 1

**Description:** This course is designed to identify career interest areas based on your goals, individual skills, and aptitudes. Investigate interests, abilities and goal through various projects, and career testing procedures. Students will develop a usable education and career portfolio containing items necessary for post-secondary education and job search. Interact with professionals who work in various career areas through career panels, a job shadow and a mock interview.

## Education Exploration I

**Course Number:** 27091

**Length:** Semester

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Prerequisite:** NONE

**Grade:** 9-12

**No. of Credits:** 1

**Description:** Students will discover their own learning style, how learning styles affects teaching, and how to develop and delivery lessons. Experiences with various education professionals will enhance the understanding of classroom planning, licensure requirements, and career opportunities within schools systems. With exemplary performance and instructor recommendation students may apply for the Teacher Cadet program without meeting the 3.0 G.P.A. requirement.

## Career Choices

**Course Number:** 16105

**Length:** Semester

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Prerequisite:** NONE

**Grade:** 9-12

**No. of Credits:** 1

**Description:** This class is designed to assist all students in setting a transition plan from high school to higher education or the world-of-work. Various occupations, post high school requirements, and on-the-job human relations skills will be emphasized. A research project will be required along with opportunities for shadowing and mentoring. Students will access job and career information. Students may be required to complete an ACT preparatory unit.

## Honors Teacher Cadet I

**Course Number:** 27090 A/B

**Length:** Year (2 semesters)

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Prerequisite:** Teacher approval. Application, including parent & student signatures on Expectations sheet.

**Grade:** 10-12

**No. of Credits:** 2

**Notes:** W\*

**Description:** Interested in teaching as a possible profession? Interested in the role education plays in society? If so, this is the class for you! Students will be involved in a fast paced, innovative, hands-on curriculum where they gain knowledge about teaching and learning. Teacher Cadets will develop and master skills that will be helpful in college and beyond, such as presentation, public speaking, writing, communication and reasoning. This is a yearlong, sequential honors elective course with college credit options. Each student will make a difference with children as they “try out” teaching in a “mini-teaching” experience. Passing this class with a B or better may qualify students for articulated credit at Pikes Peak State College, UNC Greeley, or CSU Pueblo. Please see instructor for details.

## Honors Teacher Cadet II

**Course Number:** 27095 A/B

**Length:** Year (2 semesters)

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Prerequisite:** Honors Teacher Cadet 1; Teacher approval. Application, including parent & student signatures on Expectations sheet.

**Grade:** 11-12

**No. of Credits:** 2

**Notes:** W\*

**Description:** Teacher Cadet II will provide additional field experience for those students who have completed the Honors Teacher Cadet course. For students who know they want to enter the education profession this field experience will enhance their experience and understanding of classroom instruction and the challenges facing education today. The field experience will include a minimum of 55 hours each semester of field contact time working with a mentor teacher plus 10



hours of seminar time at the home high school. Field experience placement will consist of two sites, a different site each semester, to provide a variety of experiences. These will be documented in a culminating portfolio.

### **Interpersonal Relationships**

**Course Number:** 17016

**Grade:** 9-12

**Length:** Semester, S1 Only

**No. of Credits:** 1

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Prerequisite:** NONE

**Description:** The purpose of the course is to acquire academic knowledge and understanding for healthy, respectful, and caring relationships across the life span. Emphasis is placed on family and friendly dynamics, effective communication, and healthy interpersonal relationships.

### **Teen Choices**

**Course Number:** 17011

**Grade:** 10-12

**Length:** Semester, S2 Only

**No. of Credits:** 1

**Type of Credit:** Elective

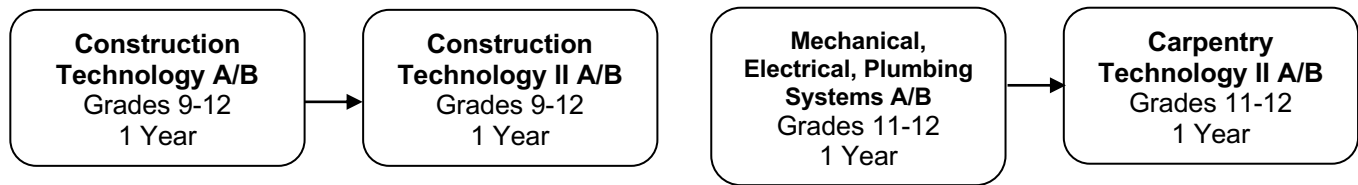
**Prerequisite:** NONE

**Description:** In this course, you will learn how to make healthy decisions throughout your teen years. You will learn skills and practices required by individuals to develop, manage, and strengthen social, psychological, and physical wellness, interpersonal relationships, safe sexual decision-making, anti-substance use practices, and understanding teens and the law.

# General Construction

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## GENERAL CONSTRUCTION COURSE OVERVIEW



## COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

### Construction Technology A

**Course Number:** 27023

**Length:** Semester (2 blocks)

**Type of Credit:** Elective (1) CTE Math (1) per semester

**Prerequisite:** NONE

**Description:** This is the foundation course to basic residential construction. Students will demonstrate competencies that are nationally recognized by the construction industry. Students will learn and practice structural framing of floors, walls, ceilings, and roofs. This course also includes the use of basic construction tools and machinery, applied math, and an introduction to blueprint reading. This course teaches students industry safety including the use of all machines and tools.

**Grade:** 9-12

**No. of Credits:** 2 (each semester)

**Location:** MiLL (transportation provided)

### Construction Technology B

**Course Number:** 27024

**Length:** Semester (2 blocks)

**Type of Credit:** Elective (1) CTE Math (1) per semester

**Prerequisite:** Construction Technology A

**Description:** This is the foundation course to basic residential construction. Students will demonstrate competencies that are nationally recognized by the construction industry. Students will learn and practice structural framing of floors, walls, ceilings, and roofs. This course also includes the use of basic construction tools and machinery, applied math, and an introduction to blueprint reading. This course teaches students industry safety including the use of all machines and tools.

**Grade:** 9-12

**No. of Credits:** 2 (each semester)

**Location:** MiLL (transportation provided)

### Construction Technology IIA

**Course Number:** 27020

**Length:** Semester (2 blocks)

**Type of Credit:** Elective (1) CTE Math (1) per semester

**Prerequisite:** Construction Technology A/B

**Description:** Construction Technology II, students will gain advanced knowledge and skills needed to enter the workforce as carpenters, building maintenance technicians or supervisors, or to prepare for a postsecondary degree in construction management, architecture, or engineering. Students will build on the knowledge base from Construction Technology I and are introduced to exterior and interior finish out skills.

**Grade:** 9-12

**No. of Credits:** 2 (each semester)

**Location:** MiLL (transportation provided)

### Construction Technology IIB

**Course Number:** 27032

**Length:** Semester (2 blocks)

**Type of Credit:** Elective (1) CTE Math (1) per semester

**Prerequisite:** Construction Technology A/B

**Description:** Construction Technology II, students will gain advanced knowledge and skills needed to enter the workforce as carpenters, building maintenance technicians or supervisors, or to prepare for a postsecondary degree in construction management, architecture, or engineering. Students will build on the knowledge base from Construction Technology I and are introduced to exterior and interior finish out skills.

**Grade:** 9-12

**No. of Credits:** 2 (each semester)

**Location:** MiLL (transportation provided)

## Mechanical, Electrical, & Plumbing Systems A

**Course Number:** 27026

**Length:** Semester (2 blocks)

**Type of Credit:** Physical Science (1) CTE Math (1) per semester

**Prerequisite:** Construction Technology A/B

**Description:** Mechanical, Electrical, and Plumbing Systems prepares students for electrical, plumbing, and HVAC careers by introducing students to the physical principles of these systems and the fundamental skills needed to work with them. Upon completion of this course, proficient students will be able to follow safety procedures and use tools to perform basic operations with electrical circuits, as well as demonstrate understanding in fundamental concepts of electricity theory (i.e. Ohm's Law). Students will be able to apply proper tools and procedures to perform basic operations with plastic piping, including measuring, cutting, and joining pipe. Furthermore, students will be able to apply mathematics concepts to solve HVAC, electrical, and plumbing problems. This course is intended to provide an introduction and lay a solid foundation for those students entering the construction or craft skilled areas. The course provides a strong knowledge of construction safety, construction mathematics, and common hand and power tools. This course also provides communication and occupation skills to assist the student in obtaining and maintaining employment.

**Grade:** 10-12

**No. of Credits:** 2 (each semester)

**Location:** MiLL (transportation provided)

## Mechanical, Electrical, & Plumbing Systems B

**Course Number:** 27027

**Length:** Semester (2 blocks)

**Type of Credit:** Physical Science (1) CTE Math (1) per semester

**Prerequisite:** Construction Technology A/B

**Description:** Mechanical, Electrical, and Plumbing Systems prepares students for electrical, plumbing, and HVAC careers by introducing students to the physical principles of these systems and the fundamental skills needed to work with them. Upon completion of this course, proficient students will be able to follow safety procedures and use tools to perform basic operations with electrical circuits, as well as demonstrate understanding in fundamental concepts of electricity theory (i.e. Ohm's Law). Students will be able to apply proper tools and procedures to perform basic operations with plastic piping, including measuring, cutting, and joining pipe. Furthermore, students will be able to apply mathematics concepts to solve HVAC, electrical, and plumbing problems. This course is intended to provide an introduction and lay a solid foundation for those students entering the construction or craft skilled areas. The course provides a strong knowledge of construction safety, construction mathematics, and common hand and power tools. This course also provides communication and occupation skills to assist the student in obtaining and maintaining employment.

**Grade:** 10-12

**No. of Credits:** 2 (each semester)

**Location:** MiLL (transportation provided)

## Carpentry Technology IIA

**Course Number:** 27028

**Length:** Year (2 semesters)

**Type of Credit:** Physical Science (1) CTE Math (1) per semester

**Prerequisite:** Mechanical, Electrical & Plumbing A/B

**Description:** In Construction Technology II, students will gain advanced knowledge and skills needed to enter the workforce as carpenters, building maintenance technicians or supervisors, or to prepare for a postsecondary degree in construction management, architecture, or engineering. Students will build on the knowledge base from Construction Technology I and are introduced to exterior and interior finish out skills.

**Grade:** 11-12

**No. of Credits:** 4 (2 each semester)

**Location:** MiLL (transportation provided)

## Construction Technology IIB

**Course Number:** 27029

**Length:** Year (2 semesters)

**Type of Credit:** Elective (2 per semester)

**Prerequisite:** Carpentry Technology A/B

**Description:** In Construction Technology II, students will gain advanced knowledge and skills needed to enter the workforce as carpenters, building maintenance technicians or supervisors, or to prepare for a postsecondary degree in construction management, architecture, or engineering. Students will build on the knowledge base from Construction Technology I and are introduced to exterior and interior finish out skills.

**Grade:** 11-12

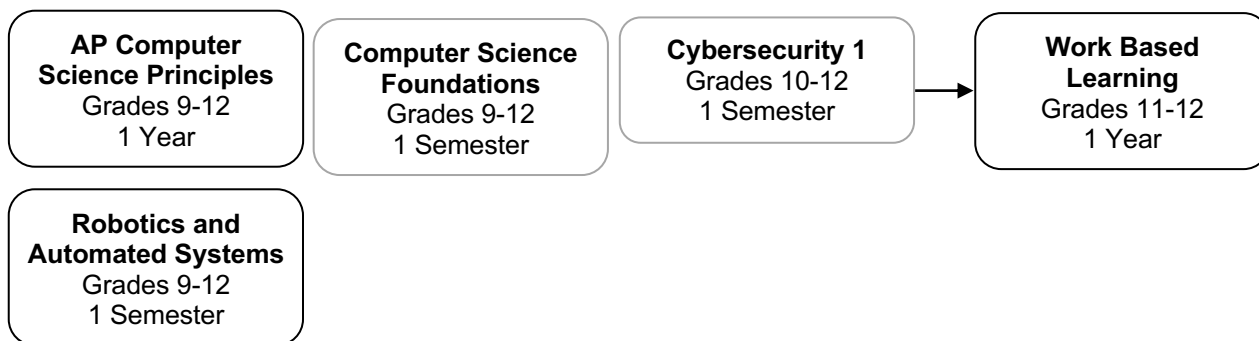
**No. of Credits:** 4 (2 each semester)

**Location:** MiLL (transportation provided)

# Computer & Digital Technologies

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## COMPUTER & DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES



\*\* Students who complete the Computer Science Foundations and AP Computer Science Principles courses are eligible to participate in the Pikes Peak State College Cybersecurity Career Start program or the Computer Information Systems, Computer Networking, and/or Computer Science courses via concurrent enrollment. The Career Start program is a two-year program that culminates in several industry recognized certifications and has been designed to prepare students to enter the workforce or continue working towards a college degree in this field.

## COMPUTER & DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

### AP Computer Science Principles

**Course Number:** 20096 A/B

**Length:** Year (2 semesters)

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Prerequisite:** NONE

**Grade:** 9-12

**No. of Credits:** 1

**Notes:** W\*\*

**Description:** AP Computer Science Principles is an introductory college-level computing course. Students receive an overview of computer science topics in order to prepare them for deeper study. They learn and design their own solutions to computer science problems and then evaluate them for effectiveness. Students also learn the fundamental abstract and concrete concepts of a variety of topics and then explain how computing and innovation work, impact the world at large, and contribute to a "computing culture that is collaborative and ethical". Course content provides students a solid foundation to pursue deeper learning in animation, engineering, music, app development, visual design, robotics, and more. The course also covers all objectives necessary to pass the *Certified Entry-Level Python Programmer (PCEP)* certification exam.

### Computer Science Foundations

**Course Number:** 16178

**Length:** Semester

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Prerequisite:** NONE

**Grade:** 9-12

**No. of Credits:** 1

**Description:** Computer Science Foundations (CSF) is a course intended to provide students with exposure to various information technology occupations and pathways such as Networking Systems, Coding, Web Design, and Cybersecurity. Upon completion of this course, proficient students will be able to describe various information technology (IT) occupations and professional organizations. Moreover, they will be able to demonstrate logical thought processes and discuss the social, legal, and ethical issues encountered in the IT profession. Depending on the focus area, proficient students will also demonstrate an understanding of electronics and basic digital theory; project management and teamwork; client relations; causes and prevention of Internet security breaches; and writing styles appropriate for web publication. Upon completion of the CSF course, students will be prepared to make an informed decision about which Information Technology program of study to pursue.

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Key: W\*/W\*\*=Weighted Credit; IC=Industry Certification Available; GC/P=Meets Graduation Competencies with Portfolio

## **Robotics and Automated Systems**

**Course Number:** 6292

**Length:** Semester

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Prerequisite:** None

**Description:** Robotics & Automated Systems is an applied course for students who wish to explore how robots and automated systems are used in industry. Upon completion of this course, students will understand the historical and current uses of robots and automated systems; programmable circuits, interfacing both inputs and outputs; ethical standards for engineering and technology professions; and testing and maintenance of robots and automated systems.

**Grade:** 9-12

**No. of Credits:** 1

## **Cybersecurity I**

**Course Number:** 29016

**Length:** Semester

**Type of Credit:** Elective

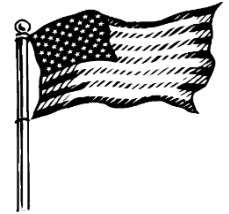
**Prerequisite:** Computer Science Foundations and/or AP Computer Science Principles (or instructor approval)

**Description:** Cybersecurity I is a course intended to teach students the basic concepts of cybersecurity. The course places an emphasis on security integration, application of cybersecurity practices and devices, ethics, and best practices management. The fundamental skills in this course cover both in house and external threats to network security and design, how to enforce network level security policies, and how to safeguard an organization's information. Upon completion of this course, proficient students will demonstrate an understanding of cybersecurity concepts, identify fundamental principles of networking systems, understand network infrastructure and network security, and be able to demonstrate how to implement various aspects of security within a networking system.

**Grade:** 10-12

**No. of Credits:** 1

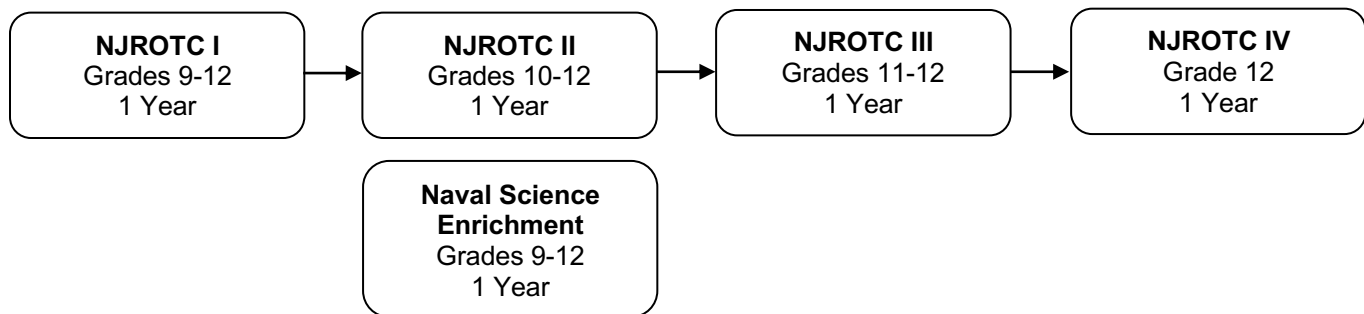
# Naval Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps



## NJROTC PROGRAM OVERVIEW

NJROTC is an interesting and rewarding way to earn elective credit. Practical leadership and personal development opportunities accompany academic work. There is no obligation incurred, either to continue the program at Mesa Ridge High or to be involved in the military in any way after graduation. Opportunities for school and community service, field trips, early leadership positions, personal recognition, and numerous extra-curricular activities are all available. A uniform is provided to each student without cost and is worn once a week. All JROTC courses require attendance and participation in ceremonies, events, and activities each semester outside the instructional day, including some evenings and weekends. Completion of the course may make students eligible for advance rank and pay grade should they choose to enter any military service. Emphasis is given to students interested in fully paid college scholarships or service academy appointments.

## NJROTC COURSE OVERVIEW



## NJROTC COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

### **NJROTC I (Naval Science I)**

**Course Number:** 21005A/B

**Length:** Year (2 semesters)

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Prerequisite:** NONE

**Grade:** 9-12

**No. of Credits:** 2

**Description:** Naval Science I is a beginning program in Naval Junior ROTC containing academic, service education, and military instruction. The academic portion includes basic naval orientation, customs, traditions, courtesies, organization, citizenship, leadership, Naval missions, and U.S. Government. Community service (service education), participation in the cadet corps activities, and field trips are required. Trips include visits to a naval base, local military bases and "high tech" businesses to promote awareness of technology, principles of teamwork, and application of classroom subjects. The military portion includes basic drill, physical fitness, military bearing, and courtesies. The naval uniform must be worn, for the full school day once a week. Uniforms and tests are provided. Basic standards of military grooming are required. Top academic performance and continuing education are the focus of this program.

### **NJROTC II (Naval Science II)**

**Course Number:** 21010 A/B

**Length:** Year (2 semesters)

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Prerequisite:** NJROTC I

**Grade:** 10-12

**No. of Credits:** 2

**Description:** This co-ed course is an expansion of Naval Science I and includes maritime history, maritime geography, oceanography, meteorology, astronomy, and physical science. Community service (service education), unit participation, and field trips are required. Field trips include visits to local military bases and "high tech" businesses to promote awareness of technology, principles of teamwork, and application of classroom subjects. Computers will be used to prepare presentations. Grooming and uniform requirements are the same as Naval Science I. Continuing education is the focus of this program.

### **NROTC III (Naval Science III)**

**Course Number:** 21015 A/B

**Length:** Year (2 semesters)

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Prerequisite:** NJROTC II

**Description:** This course involves instruction in leadership and draws upon the skills mastered in Naval Science I and II. Naval knowledge and skills in a variety of areas, including national security, military law, basic seamanship, navigation, and naval weapons, are also covered. Students in this course are charged with the mid-level leadership and administration of the Cadet Corps and the extracurricular programs. Grooming and uniform requirements are the same as Naval Science I. Continuing education is the focus of the program.

**Grade:** 11-12

**No. of Credits:** 2

### **NJROTC IV (Naval Science IV)**

**Course Number:** 21020 A/B

**Length:** Year (2 semesters)

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Prerequisite:** NJROTC III

**Description:** This course builds on the basic qualities of a good follower and an effective leader provided in Naval Science I, II, and III. The student will take a more in-depth look at leadership principles, traits and practices. Case studies and seminar techniques are used in the classroom. Students will learn how to maximize leadership skills following the leadership curriculum used in college level ROTC and at the Naval Academy. Students are expected to provide leadership to the Naval Science I-III cadets.

**Grade:** 12

**No. of Credits:** 2

### **Naval Science Enrichment**

**Course Number:** 21025 A/B

**Length:** Year (2 semesters)

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Prerequisite:** NJROTC 1 (1 semester) and concurrent enrollment in NJROTC I, II, or III. Naval Science instructor approval.

**Description:** This is an advanced leadership-training program in Naval Junior ROTC focusing on military precision and exhibition drill ceremonies, physical training, and community service. Field trips for community performances and inter-school competition of military drill and academic events are included, as well as experiential visits to military and civilian organizations. Students will form into performing teams to execute precision, exhibition, and armed, unarmed, color guard, and competitive drill. Students will perform at civic, community, and military ceremonies. Students will be eligible for a school letter if criteria for participation and competitive performance are maintained. Military standards of grooming and appearance will be required of the student. Students will participate in school and community service activities. Students will participate in fund raising activities to acquire special uniform items and to defray the cost of field events.

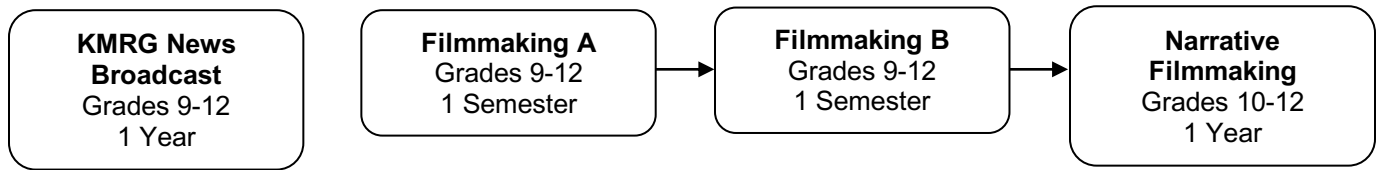
\*(May be entered second semester by freshman Naval Science I students with Naval Science instructor approval)

**Grade:** 9-12

**No. of Credits:** 2

# Audio-Video Production

## AUDIO-VIDEO PRODUCTION COURSE OVERVIEW



## AUDIO-VIDEO PRODUCTION COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

### Filmmaking A (formerly Video Production)

**Course Number:** 26050

**Length:** Semester, S1 Only

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Prerequisite:** NONE

**Description:** Students learn how to use digital video editing software to create, edit, and save movies. Students create movies using digital video clips, digital photos and music. The basics of shooting good video, capturing video from a camera to a computer, creating movies for the web, and creating a finished product will be covered.

**Grade:** 9-12

**No. of Credits:** 1

**Notes:** course may only be repeated for a

### Filmmaking B

**Course Number:** 26051

**Length:** Semester, S2 Only

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Prerequisite:** NONE

**Description:** Students learn how to use digital video editing software to create, edit, and save movies. Students create movies using digital video clips, digital photos and music. The basics of shooting good video, capturing video from a camera to a computer, creating movies for the web, and creating a finished product will be covered.

**Grade:** 9-12

**No. of Credits:** 1

**Notes:** course may only be repeated for a

### Narrative Filmmaking

**Course Number:** 26048 A/B

**Length:** Year (2 semesters)

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Prerequisite:** NONE

**Description:** In this master course, high-achieving students will incorporate film-making skills to complete Narrative (aka Fiction) screen stories. Sections of the course will be devoted to Film Analysis of professional/classical movies. Students will write short to full-length screenplays turning them into produced movies or web-series. At the conclusion of this course, students will have a portfolio of completed movies that will gain acceptance at film-making schools. This course is designed for that student interested in producing movies in the TV or Film Industry.

**Grade:** 10-12

**No. of Credits:** 2

**Notes:** course may only be repeated for a

### News Broadcast (formerly KMRG News)

**Course Number:** 26049 A/B

**Length:** Year (2 semesters)

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Prerequisite:** Instructor approval determined by application and interview; course may be repeated for credit AND Signed agreement to compensate for lost and stolen equipment.

**Description:** KMRG News is a course designed to simulate a multimedia news team. The students produce live-announcement broadcasts each day and prepare news stories, commercials, Public Service Announcements (PSAs), sports, and other highlighted events for scheduled taped newscasts. Regular "feature" projects are produced as coordinated by the instructor. Students must understand that these events sometimes involve time after school and on weekends, and in fairness, all students should participate!

**Grade:** 9-12

**No. of Credits:** 2

**Notes:**



## ***Work Based Learning***

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### COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

The Work Based Learning (WBL) program for credit is a school to career partnership that provides opportunities for WSD3 students to gain work and/or career experience through a wide variety of partnerships with business, industry, and the community. While WBL encompasses a wide variety of choices for students, the WBL program, in conjunction with CTE programs can help students build skills and credentials that meet industry demand and prepare them for high skill, high wage jobs and careers.

#### **Work Based Learning**

**Course Number:** 16117 A/B

**Length:** Semester

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Grade:** 11-12

**No. of Credits:** 1

**Prerequisite:** Students must be concurrently enrolled in a Career and Technical Education (CTE) course(s). Student must show proof of current employment or internship paperwork before starting this course.

**Description:** Students build on prior knowledge and skills in the program of study to further develop and apply employability and technical skills that prepare them for success in future career and postsecondary education. The Work Based Learning (WBL) for credit is a school to career partnership that provides opportunities for WSD3 students to gain work and/or career experience through a wide variety of partnerships with business, industry and the community. While WBL encompasses a wide variety of choices for students, WBL for credit, in conjunction with CTE programs can help students build skills and credentials that meet industry demand and prepare them for high skill, high wage jobs and careers. Students can earn up to two credits per semester if they meet the requirements. . Hour requirements are as follows to receive credit: Paid and volunteer work, 60 hours for 1 credit or 120 hours for 2 credits. (Maximum of 2 credits per semester)

## Project Lead the Way

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### What is “Project Lead the Way (PLTW)”?



PLTW is a national program that has formed partnerships among public schools, institutions of higher education, and industry to increase the quantity and quality of students graduating from engineering and engineering technology institutions. The challenge to high schools and colleges today is to graduate students who are competent in the skills needed in today’s technological climate – math, science and technology, problem solving, communication and teamwork that promote broad-based solutions to the problems and challenges of society. PLTW has developed a four-year set of courses that introduces students to the rigor and discipline of engineering and engineering technology prior to their entering college. PLTW also provides ongoing instructor training and curriculum development to keep them current. PLTW helps facilitate acquisition of state-of-the-art hardware and the latest software for training.

**\*\*Please note that all PLTW courses offered are honors courses and weighted on the 4.5 scale.\*\***

### BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES PATHWAY

Students who complete this program will have a competitive advantage when they apply to college, not only for the preparatory skills gained, but also because of PLTW’s reputation for maintaining high standards.

The rigorous and relevant four-course PLTW Biomedical Science sequence allows students to investigate the roles of biomedical professionals as they study the concepts of human medicine, physiology, genetics, microbiology, and public health. Students engage in activities like investigating the death of a fictional person to learn content in the context of real-world cases. They examine the structures and interactions of human body systems and explore the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of disease; all while working collaboratively to understand and design solutions to the most pressing health challenges of today and the future.

Each course in the Biomedical Science sequence builds on the skills and knowledge students gain in the preceding courses. Schools offer the three PLTW Biomedical Science foundation courses within a period of three academic years from the start of implementation and may offer the capstone course.

Students who complete this program will have a competitive advantage when they apply to college, not only for the preparatory skills gained, but also because of PLTW’s reputation for maintaining high standards.

### ENGINEERING PATHWAY

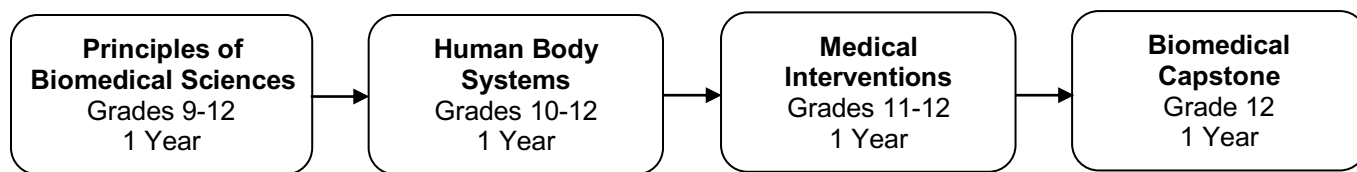
PLTW has developed a four-year set of courses that introduces students to the rigor and discipline of engineering and engineering technology prior to their entering college. PLTW also provides ongoing instructor training and curriculum development to keep them current. PLTW helps facilitate acquisition of state-of-the-art hardware and the latest software for training.

How does Project Lead the Way of courses fit into a student’s schedule?

Students are expected to complete a college preparatory sequence of core Mathematics and Science in addition to courses in PLTW.

- All courses are open to upper classmen but 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grade students have priority in scheduling
- All courses are yearlong

## PLTW-BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES COURSE OVERVIEW



## PLTW-BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES COURSE OVERVIEW

### PLTW - Principles of Biomedical Sciences I (PBS)

**Course Number:** 30001 A/B

**Length:** Year (2 semesters)

**Type of Credit:** Elective, or Life Science

**Prerequisite:** NONE

**Description:** Students investigate various health conditions including heart disease, diabetes, sick-cell disease, hypercholesterolemia, and infectious diseases. They determine the factors that led to the death of a fictional person, and investigate lifestyle choices and medical treatments that might have prolonged the person's life. The activities and projects introduce students to human physiology, medicine, and research processes. This course provides an overview of all the courses in the Biomedical Sciences program and lays the scientific foundation for subsequent courses. This course is for 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grades. This is the foundation course for a series of four biomedical science classes in the pathway. *(This course is the honors course for biology)*

**Grade:** 9-12

**No. of Credits:** 2

**Notes:** W\*

### PLTW - Human Body Systems (HBS)

**Course Number:** 300021 A/B

**Length:** Year (2 semesters)

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Prerequisite:** PBS or Teacher Recommendation

**Description:** Students examine the interactions of body systems as they explore identity, communication, power, movement, protection, and homeostasis. Students design experiments, investigate the structures and functions of the human body, and use data acquisition software to monitor body functions such as muscle movement, reflex and voluntary action, and respiration. Exploring science in action students build organs and tissues on a skeletal manikin, work through interesting real world cases and often play the role of biomedical professionals to solve medical mysteries.

**Grade:** 10-12

**No. of Credits:** 2

**Notes:** W\*

### PLTW - Medical Interventions (MI)

**Course Number:** 30003 A/B

**Length:** Year (2 semesters)

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Prerequisite:** HBS or Teacher Recommendation

**Description:** Students will investigate the variety of interventions involved in the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of disease as they follow the lives of a fictitious family. A "How To" manual for maintaining overall health and homeostasis in the body, the course will explore how to prevent and fight infection, how to screen and evaluate the code in our DNA, how to prevent, diagnose and treat cancer, and how to prevail when the organs of the body begin to fail. Through these scenarios, students will be exposed to the wide range of interventions related to Immunology, Surgery, Genetics, Pharmacology, Medical Devices, and Diagnostic.

**Grade:** 11-12

**No. of Credits:** 2

**Notes:** W\*

### PLTW - Capstone Course—Biomedical Innovation (BI)

**Course Number:** 30004 A/B

**Length:** Year (2 semesters)

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Prerequisite:** MI or Teacher Recommendation

**Description:** Successful completion of at least two of the pathway courses and/or teacher recommendation  
In the final course of the PLTW Biomedical Science sequence, students build on the knowledge and skills gained from previous courses to design innovative solutions for the most pressing health challenges of the 21st century. Students address topics ranging from public health and biomedical engineering to clinical medicine and physiology. They have the opportunity to work on an independent project with a mentor or advisor from a university, medical facility, or research institution based on future career and/or post-secondary interest

**Grade:** 11-12

**No. of Credits:** 2

**Notes:** W\*

Key: W\*/W\*\*=Weighted Credit; IC=Industry Certification Available; GC/P=Meets Graduation Competencies with Portfolio

## BACE Lab Assistant Capstone

Course Number: 30005

Length: Year (2 semesters)

Type of Credit: Elective

Prerequisite: MI/BI and Teacher Recommendation (application required)

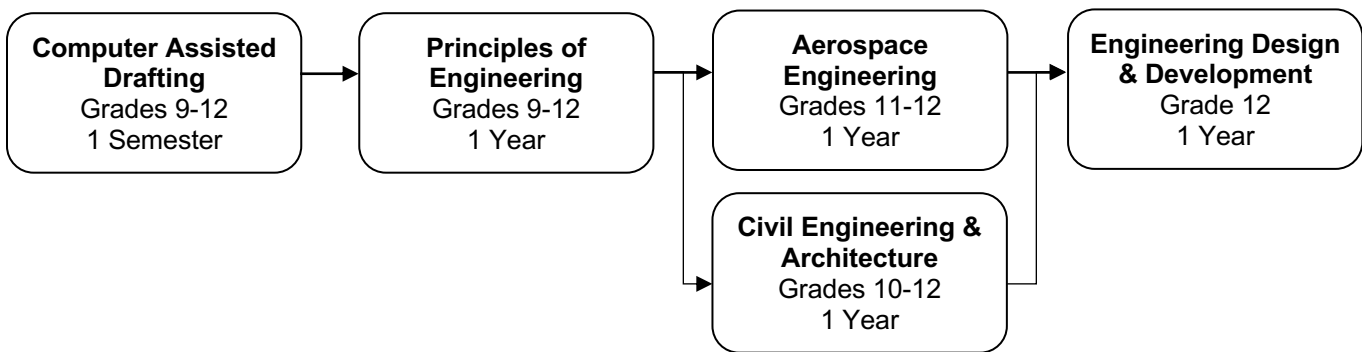
Description: Lab Assistance gives students the opportunity to step into the role of research assistant through the extension of the following learning targets: Lab skills such as measurement, microscoping, bacteria growth and management, and gel electrophoresis; Lab Procedures including execution, scaling, and equipment. Lab Safety including PPE, SDS, and waste disposal. Lab Management including equipment maintenance, lab organization, lab cleanliness, and inventory management. Students will also complete certification in the BACE, biotechnician assistance credentialing exam, and have the extension opportunity to compete in Biotechnology and Clinical Laboratory Science through HOSA.

Grade: 12

No. of Credits: 2

Notes: **W\***

### PLTW-ENGINEERING COURSE OVERVIEW



### PLTW-ENGINEERING COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

#### Computer Assisted Drafting (CAD)

Course Number: 27070 A/B

Length: Semester

Type of Credit: Elective

Prerequisite: None

Description: This course gives students the opportunity to learn mechanical and architectural drawing using AutoCAD while gaining the knowledge of drafting room procedures, tools and equipment. The students will develop CAD skills used to draw working drawings, floor plans, and other objects. Applied mathematics will be incorporated with dimensioning as they apply to specific drawing fields. This class is recommended to students interested in pursuing an engineering field, architecture, computer animation, and structural design and computer graphics. This class is articulated with Pikes Peak Community College for college credit (if taken for a full year). Beginning with the 2020/2021 school year, CAD I will be a math credit for the classes of 2022 and beyond.

Grade: 9-12

No. of Credits: 1

Notes: CAD is not a PLTW/honors course

#### PLTW - Principles of Engineering (POE)

Course Number: 29002 A/B

Length: Year (2 semesters)

Type of Credit: Elective or Physical Science

Prerequisite: None

Description: Through problems that engage and challenge, students explore a broad range of engineering topics, including mechanisms, the strength of structures and materials, and automation. Students develop skills in problem solving, research, and design while learning strategies for design process documentation, collaboration, and presentation.

Grade: 9-12

No. of Credits: 2

Notes: **W\***

#### PLTW - Aerospace Engineering (AE)

Course Number: 29003 A/B

Length: Year (2 semesters)

Type of Credit: Elective

Grade: 10-12

No. of Credits: 2

Notes: **W\***

Key: **W\*/W\*\***=Weighted Credit; **IC**=Industry Certification Available; **GC/P**=Meets Graduation Competencies with Portfolio

**Prerequisite:** PLTW Principals of Engineering (POE) or teacher recommendation

**Description:** This course propels students' learning in the fundamentals of atmospheric and space flight. As students explore the physics of flight, students bring the concepts to life by designing an airfoil, propulsion system, and rockets. They learn basic orbital mechanics using industry-standard software. They also explore robot systems through projects such as remotely operated vehicles.

### **PLTW – Civil Engineering & Architecture**

**Course Number:** 29005 A/B

**Length:** Year (2 semesters)

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Grade:** 10-12

**No. of Credits:** 2

**Notes:** W\*

**Prerequisite:** PLTW Principals of Engineering (POE) or teacher recommendation

**Description:** Students learn important aspects of building and site design and development. They apply math, science, and standard engineering practices to design both residential and commercial projects and document their work using 3D architecture design software.

### **PLTW – Engineering Design and Development (Capstone)**

**Course Number:** 29014 A/B

**Length:** Year (2 semesters)

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Grade:** 11-12

**No. of Credits:** 2

**Notes:** W\*

**Prerequisite:** PLTW - Principles of Engineering and PLTW - Aerospace Engineering (AE) or PLTW - Computer Integrated Manufacturing (CIM) and teacher recommendation

**Description:** The knowledge and skills students acquire throughout PLTW Engineering come together in EDD as they identify an issue and then research, design, and test a solution, ultimately presenting their solution to a panel of engineers. Students apply the professional skills they have developed to document a design process to standards, completing EDD ready to take on any post-secondary program or career. Students learn important aspects of building and site design and development. They apply math, science, and standard engineering practices to design both residential and commercial projects and document their work using 3D architecture design software.

NOTE - All PLTW courses are subject to be offered based on implementation stages and building/district needs. Honors/AP Signature Page required for all PLTW courses.

## Non-Pathway Electives

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### Elementary Assistant

**Course Number:** 26025

**Length:** Semester

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Prerequisite:** 2.0 overall grade point average, no more than 5 absences during the previous semester, and program coordinator's approval

**Description:** This course gives the student a chance to assist an elementary or junior high school teacher. The student will learn to follow directions, work cooperatively with others, and perform tasks without direct supervision. An elementary assistant may be expected to perform such tasks as grading papers, assisting students individually, or working with small groups of students. A student will be allowed three absences; additional absences must be made up.

**Grade:** 11-12

**No. of Credits:** 1

**Notes:**

### Electronics Technology

**Course Number:** 27065

**Length:** Year (2 Semesters)

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Prerequisite:** None

**Description:** This course covers the fundamentals of electronics, from atomic theory through microprocessor (computers) systems. The emphasis in this course is a "hands on" approach in which the student will construct circuits and analyze basic electronic theory, electronic circuitry application and electronic repair techniques. Digital circuitry and microprocessor technology complete the course of study. This course is taught at Mesa Ridge High School. Students will construct a number of electronic projects to complete their laboratory requirements.

**Grade:** 10-12

**No. of Credits:** 2

**Notes:**

### Glimpse into Flight Training

**Course Number:** 15001

**Length:** Semester

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Prerequisite:** None

**Description:** Falcon AeroLab's Glimpse Into Flight Training (GIFT) course is a comprehensive educational program designed to provide aspiring pilots with the fundamental knowledge necessary for safe and successful flight operations. Through a firsthand look at the world of aviation as a potential career. Ground school typically serves as the initial step in a pilot's training journey and covers a wide range of topics related to aviation, such as: fundamentals of flight, aircraft systems, navigation, meteorology, aeronautical regulations, aircraft performance, flight planning, aviation safety, human factors, communication (ATC), emergencies and procedures and safety. This semester-long ground school course will prepare students to take the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) written examination for Private Pilot License. During this course, students will also receive three instructional flights with a Certified Flight Instructor. Throughout their three flight lessons, students can expect exposure to these skills: Safety, preflight inspections and aircraft familiarization, taxiing, takeoff, and landing procedures, straight and level flight, climbs, descents, and turns, and basic flight maneuvers. The flight training portion also serves as reinforcement of the concepts they learned throughout the semester in ground school.

**Grade:** 10-12

**No. of Credits:** 1

**Notes:**

### Digital Media I

**Course Number:** 26023

**Length:** Semester

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Prerequisite:** None

**Description:** In Digital Media, students will analyze and assess current and emerging technologies, while designing and creating multimedia projects that address customer needs and resolve a problem. Students will implement personal and interpersonal skills to prepare for a rapidly evolving workplace environment. The knowledge and skills acquired and practiced will enable students to successfully perform and interact in a technology-driven society. Students will enhance reading, writing, computing, communication, and critical thinking and apply them to the IT environment. This class takes place in the school's media center.

**Grade:** 9-12

**No. of Credits:** 1

**Notes:**

## Digital Medical II

**Course Number:** 26024

**Length:** Semester

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Prerequisite:** Digital Media I

**Description:** In Digital Media, students will analyze and assess current and emerging technologies, while designing and creating multimedia projects that address customer needs and resolve a problem. Students will implement personal and interpersonal skills to prepare for a rapidly evolving workplace environment. The knowledge and skills acquired and practiced will enable students to successfully perform and interact in a technology-driven society. Students will enhance reading, writing, computing, communication, and critical thinking and apply them to the IT environment. In the school's media center, students will continue to further develop the above skills with a deeper focus on career preparation.

**Grade:** 9-12

**No. of Credits:** 1

**Notes:**

## Peer Tutor

**Course Number:** 20016 A/B

**Length:** Semester

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Prerequisite:** None

**Description:** This program provides academic interventions to help students who are struggling with a particular class or classes. Trained student tutors are available very block of the day to assist students with academics, study skills, test taking tips, organization. This program may be accessed by students, parents, or teachers through the Counseling Center.

**Grade:** 10-12

**No. of Credits:** 1

**Notes:**

## Student Assistant

**Course Number:** 26015

**Length:** Semester

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Prerequisite:** A 2.0 overall grade point average and no more than 5 absences during the previous semester, teacher and administrator approval. (Students are limited to 3 credits as an assistant.)

**Description:** Student assistants will be used in the following areas: Attendance Office, Main Office, Counseling Center, Nurse's Office, department offices, and by teachers. Only one assistantship can be scheduled per semester per student and cannot be scheduled concurrently with a study hall. Students must apply and be accepted to serve in this capacity. A maximum of three credits can be accumulated toward graduation.

**Grade:** 10-12

**No. of Credits:** 1

**Notes:** Pass/Fail Grading

## Student Cabinet

**Course Number:** 26010 A/B

**Length:** Year (2 semesters)

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Prerequisite:** Must be elected by student body

**Description:** This course offers students training in leadership, problem solving, and large group decision making. Students will also have opportunities to attend leadership workshops through CHSAA and other civic groups in the community. Students will learn and practice democratic government.

### REQUIREMENTS TO RUN FOR STUDENT CABINET/GOVERNMENT

- A. All candidates must have an overall G.P.A. of 2.5 (Counselor signature required).
- B. All candidates may not have missed more than ten days of school, unless excused by a physician. (Attendance office signature required.)
- C. Students elected to Student Cabinet must enroll in the Student Cabinet class and must also enroll in 6 classes each semester.
- D. Candidates running for a class office must be a member of that class the following year. (i.e. Senior Class President will be a senior next year, Junior Class Treasurer will be a Junior next year).
- E. All candidates for office must obtain a minimum of 75 signatures from their class. Candidates running for Student Cabinet may have signatures from both sophomores and juniors. Signatures from seniors are not allowed and will disqualify a candidate.
- F. All candidates must have one of the administrators at Mesa Ridge High School sign his/her petition.
- G. All candidates are subject to a staff evaluation for final approval to run for any and all offices. Students will be notified of selection by letter.

**Grade:** 9-12

**No. of Credits:** 2

**Notes:**

## **Study Hall**

**Course Number:** 26005

**Length:** Semester

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Prerequisite:** None

**Description:** Study Hall is a non-credit offering during the regular school day to give students extra time to study.

**Grade:** 9-12

**No. of Credits:** 0

**Notes:**

## **Yearbook**

**Course Number:** 26055

**Length:** Semester

**Type of Credit:** Elective

**Prerequisite:** Teacher Recommendation, must apply.

**Description:** This course offers practical experience in the production of MRHS school yearbook.

**Grade:** 10-12

**No. of Credits:** 1

**Notes:**



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