



Madison High School

2025-2026

Course Description Guide

*Developing individual excellence through rigor,
innovation, and personal attention*

Madison School District

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Counseling Information

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About the Michigan Merit Curriculum

To prepare Michigan's students with the knowledge and skills needed for the jobs in the 21st Century, the State of Michigan has enacted a rigorous set of statewide graduation requirements that will prepare students for future success in college and the workplace.

For MMC courses taught over 3 trimesters, a student must pass all 3 trimesters, or the overall percentage for all 3 trimesters must average to a 60%, to obtain full credit.

Educational Opportunities

Student schedule will vary depending on individual needs.

Please contact the School Counselor for questions regarding schedule planning.

The State of Michigan under Section 21f of the State School Aid Act has launched the choice for parents to request that their student(s), in grades 5-12, be enrolled in no more than two (2) online courses in place of a currently scheduled course. Schedule requests may be made in the High School Counseling Office.

For students who wish to receive G.I. Bill benefits during the school's course of study for graduation, learning must not include online distance learning modalities; rather, online educational activities must be classroom-based with direct teacher face-to-face instructional activities.

Madison School District

Board of Education

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Kristin Thomas, H.S. Principal
Kristin Girbach, H.S. Assistant Principal
Jen Stelzer, H.S. Counselor

District Mission (Purpose) Statement

Madison School District, in cooperation with our community, will equip students to maximize their full potential to be successful in an ever-changing world.

District Vision (Direction) Statement

To develop individual excellence through rigor, innovation, and personal attention.

District Belief Statement

We believe:

- everyone can learn and has the right to learn in a safe, respectful, supportive, and stimulating environment;
- motivation, a positive attitude, and acceptance of responsibility are imperative to success in learning;
- students' learning attendance, and behavior improve when they are actively engaged in rigorous, relevant, and meaningful work;
- the foundation of education is partnership that cultivates communication between family, school, and community - *The Madison Family*

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Graduation Requirements*

Mathematics - 4 credits

Algebra 1, Algebra 2, Geometry, and one Math credit in the final year of high school

English Language Arts - 5 credits

English Language Arts 9, 10, 11, 12

Science - 3 credits

Biology and Chemistry or Human Body Systems and one additional Science credit

Social Studies - 3 credits

1/2 credit Civics

1/2 credit Economics

1 credit World History

1 credit U.S. History

Physical Education and Health - 2 credits

1/2 credits Health

1 1/2 credits Physical Education

Foreign Language - 2 credits

Visual, Performing and Applied Arts - 1 credit**

Junior, Senior Seminar - 1/2 credit

Electives

Online Learning Experience

*Online Learning Lab courses may be delivered through Michigan Virtual or Edgenuity.

Embedded throughout Michigan Merit Curriculum coursework

Grade Classification	Class of 2023 (current juniors)	Class of 2024 (current sophomores)	Class of 2025 (current freshmen)	Class of 2026 (current 8th graders)
Sophomore			6 credits	6 credits
Junior		14 credits	14 credits	14 credits
Senior	20 credits	22 credits	22 credits	22 credits
Credits needed to graduate	29 credits*	31 credits*	31 credits*	31 credits*

**As established by the Michigan Merit Curriculum and Madison Board of Education.*

***Can be substituted for additional credit of English, Math, Science, Tech Center, or Foreign Language*

English Language Arts

English 9

3 trimesters

“There is no frigate like a book to take us lands away...” Emily Dickinson had it right, and in this required, introductory course, students will be reading, writing, and taking journeys of self-discovery. Texts include *A Lesson Before Dying*, *In the Time of the Butterflies*, *The 7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *The Odyssey*, short stories and poetry. Students will write routinely and critically through reflective, persuasive, argumentative, narrative, and research papers.

English 10

3 trimesters

In Harper Lee’s classic novel, *To Kill a Mockingbird*, Atticus wisely informs Scout that “You never really know a man until you stand in his shoes and walk around in them.” In this course, we will walk in the shoes of King Arthur, Queen Guinevere, Julius Caesar, Mark Antony, and the boys from *Lord of the Flies*. In this course, students will read the work of established authors and poets, discuss various elements of craft employed by those authors and poets, and use similar techniques to improve their own writing. Emphasis is placed upon developing organization and enhancing the claim-support-explanation format, especially in regards to writing persuasively. A research paper, over an approved topic of the student’s choice, will be developed following a thorough research process and will serve as the culminating assignment of this course.

Advanced English 10

3 trimesters

This class focuses on your future. With an eye to college, we will write critically and read rigorously. While texts covered include those in English 10, students in Advanced English 10 will be expected to read and write independently. The writing goal is to move towards a more sophisticated style, while the reading goal is to comprehend more challenging texts. Writing includes reflective, persuasive, argumentative, narrative, literary analysis, and research papers. Additional texts include: *A Separate Peace*, *The Once and Future King*, *Macbeth*, *A Thousand Splendid Suns*, *Anthem*, short stories, poetry, and nonfiction selections.

English Language Arts

English 11

3 trimesters

This course is designed to guide students through the study of American Literature and improve writing skills. Students begin their journey with the writers of Early American Literature, and they continue through the Modernism Movement. Texts include, but are not limited to: early American nonfiction, historical documents of the Revolutionary Period, poems and short stories of the Realist and Naturalist movements, as well as literature from the Modern Age, including Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby* and Miller's *The Crucible* and *Death of a Salesman*. While studying this variety of American texts, students are asked to read and write critically, examining how writing has progressed along with the development of our nation.

English 12

2 trimesters

This course is designed to encourage higher-level thinking on critical issues that students will encounter as they leave high school and enter adulthood. There is a strong focus on examining text critically from different literary perspectives, analyzing material, conducting research, and writing to demonstrate proper use of MLA format. Citizenship and humanity are themes that are continually represented through the literature studied, which include: *Fahrenheit 451*, *Siddhartha*, *Their Eyes Were Watching God*, *Night*, *A Raisin in the Sun*, *Tuesdays with Morrie*, *The Pearl*, and a variety of poems, fables, short stories, and personal narratives.

Mathematics

Algebra 1

3 trimesters

Algebra 1 includes the study of algebraic terminology, variables, expressions, equations, inequalities, writing an equation from a graph, factoring, the quadratic formula, simplifying radical expressions, solving systems of equations, solving quadratic equations, introduction to exponential forms, and problem solving using multiple methods.

Algebra 2

3 trimesters

Algebra 2 includes the study of real and complex numbers, factoring, quadratic functions, polynomial functions, operations with polynomial functions, radical functions, exponential functions, rules of exponents, and basic trigonometry.

Advanced Algebra 2

3 trimesters

Algebra 2 includes the study of real and complex numbers, factoring, quadratic functions, polynomial functions, operations with polynomial functions, radical functions, exponential functions, rules of exponents, logarithmic functions, statistics, sequences and series, and trigonometric functions. *Requires teacher recommendation.*

Geometry

3 trimesters

Geometry includes basic terminology and the study of spatial reasoning, inductive and deductive reasoning, parallel and perpendicular lines, properties of triangles, trigonometric functions, properties of polygons, quadrilaterals, and congruent figures, similar figures and scale factor, circles, area, volume, and probability.

Advanced Geometry

3 trimesters

Geometry includes the study of basic terminology, spacial reasoning, inductive and deductive reasoning, parallel and perpendicular lines, properties of triangles, right triangles, trigonometric functions, properties of polygons, properties of quadrilaterals, congruent figures, similar figures and scale factor, circles, area, and volume. *Requires teacher recommendation.*

Mathematics

Pre-Calculus

3 trimesters

Pre-Calculus includes the study of different functions and their graphs, linear and quadratic functions, polynomials and rational functions, exponential and logarithmic functions, trigonometric functions, vectors, matrices, trigonometric applications and a preview of Calculus.

AP Statistics

3 trimesters

AP Statistics is an activity-based course in which students actively construct their own understanding of the concepts and techniques of statistics. It is the equivalent of an introductory college-level statistics course that introduces students to the major concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing, and drawing conclusions from data. Students cultivate their understanding of statistics using technology, investigations, problem-solving, and writing as they explore concepts like variation and distribution: patterns and uncertainty; and data-based predictions, decisions, and conclusions. *Requires teacher recommendation.*

AP Calculus

3 trimesters

Students will be expected to gain a deeper understanding of the major themes within Calculus and how to apply them in problems. These major ideas include: limits, derivatives, definite and indefinite integrals. Students will be studying Calculus concepts using the rule of four (verbal, numerical, graphical, and analytical representations). In addition, they will be challenged to solve complex Calculus problems and be able to justify their mathematical reasoning with clear and concise explanations. *Requires Pre-Calculus and teacher recommendation.*

Personal Finance

1 trimester

This course is designed to increase students' financial literacy with an emphasis on practical application of mathematical skills. Major topics include building your credit and using it wisely, budgeting, planning for major life purchases, repayment of loans, credit cards, an introduction to taxes, and compound investment growth.

Statistics and Probability

1 trimester

This course will focus on measures of central tendency and measures of spread. Students will work with distribution curves and z-scores. Students will learn the fundamental counting principle. These concepts will be used to find the probability of simple events, overlapping events, disjointed events, and independent and dependent events.

Science

Biology

3 trimesters

This course will expose students to the life processes that make living things function. The first trimester focuses on the “big picture,” as students learn the characteristics of living things and how the diversity of life is classified. Then each kingdom of life is explored more in depth; finishing with ecology and evolution. After studying ecological interactions and how the selection pressures of the natural world shape the nature of living things, the “small picture” will be explored. In the second trimester, students will study life processes at the cellular and molecular level, including genetics. Course activities will include laboratory work.

AP Biology

3 trimesters

An in-depth study of the mechanisms of life, this course explores the molecular processes of the body. Students must have an appreciation and passion for the biological sciences and be disciplined in their study habits, as this will be taught as a college-level Biology course. *Prerequisites: Biology, Chemistry, and Algebra 2.*

Chemistry

3 trimesters

This college preparatory class introduces students to the concepts of Chemistry through the use of laboratory investigations, experiments, and problem solving. Topics covered in this course will include the structure of the atom, electron configuration, the periodic table, ions and ionic compounds, chemical reactions, stoichiometry, states of matter and gas laws, and acids and bases. *Students should have a functional background in Algebra.*

Conceptual Chemistry

2 trimesters

This course is designed for those not planning on pursuing a career in sciences, technology or engineering. Students will learn how matter interacts on an atomic level to form new compounds and how matter behaves under different conditions. Many of the same topics covered in the college-prep Chemistry class are covered here, but with more emphasis on the concepts involved and less emphasis on the mathematics.

Science

Physics

2 trimesters

This college preparatory science class focuses on the understanding of physical relationships in our world and universe. This is accomplished through laboratory investigations and experiments, problem solving, and discussions. Topics will include motion in one and two dimensions, projectiles, forces, work, energy, circular motion, and collisions. Topics covering waves, electricity, and light may be covered, time permitting.

Prerequisites: Algebra 2 with a strong background in mathematics.

Science

Principles of Biomedical Science (PLTW) 2 trimesters

This course provides an introduction to the biomedical sciences through exciting hands-on projects and problems. Students investigate concepts of biology and medicine as they explore health conditions including heart disease, diabetes, sickle-cell disease, hypercholesterolemia, and infectious diseases. They will determine the factors that led to the death of a fictional woman as they sequentially piece together evidence found in her medical history and her autopsy report. Students will investigate lifestyle choices and medical treatments that might have prolonged the woman's life and demonstrate how the development of disease is related to changes in human body systems. The activities and projects introduce students to human physiology, basic Biology, medicine, and research processes and allow students to design experiments to solve problems. Key biological concepts, including maintenance of homeostasis in the body, metabolism, inheritance of traits, and defense against disease, are embedded in the curriculum. This course is designed to provide an overview of all the courses in the biomedical sciences program and lay the scientific foundation for subsequent courses.

Human Body Systems (PLTW) 3 trimesters

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 mannequin, work through interesting real-world cases, and often play the role of biomedical professionals to solve mysteries.

Medical Interventions - EKG (PLTW) 4 trimesters

Students investigate a variety of interventions involved in the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of disease as they follow the life of a fictitious family. The course is a "How-To" manual for maintaining overall health and homeostasis in the body. Students explore how to prevent and fight infection; screen and evaluate the code in human DNA; prevent, diagnose, and treat cancer; and prevail when the organs of the body begin to fail. Through these scenarios, students are exposed to a range of interventions related to immunology, surgery, genetics, pharmacology, medical devices, and diagnostics. *Course will be offered as enrollment permits.*

Social Studies

Civics

1 trimester

This required course is intended to provide the student with the information necessary to understand our system of government. It includes an exploration into what our government provides our citizens as well as what is expected of citizens in our country. An additional goal is to create a sense of ownership as a member of this country and encourage students to become active participants in the process of government in order to improve the communities where we live.

Economics

1 trimester

Economics is the study of choices and trade-offs to be made by individuals and societies when they try to use their limited resources (time, money, environment, etc.) to satisfy seemingly unlimited wants and needs. This course includes the investigation of economic systems, supply, demand, markets, GDP, inflation, unemployment, and the Federal Reserve System. Emphasis is placed on connecting these theoretical items to students' lives and current news topics.

Social Studies

U.S. History

2 trimesters

A required class for all sophomores, this course begins with a review of early American History through the Civil War and Reconstruction of the Union. The course continues with a chronological approach to studying the major events in American history up to the present. The information presented will help students to understand how these historical events affect and influence society today.

AP U.S. History

3 trimesters

This course is designed to provide students with the analytical skills and factual knowledge necessary to deal critically with the problems and materials in U.S. history. Students will assess historical materials, their relevance to a given interpretive problem, reliability, and importance, and weigh the evidence and interpretations presented in historical scholarship.

World History

2 trimesters

This class includes Western and Eastern civilization studies as well as Geography. The goal of this course is to acquaint the student with the major ideas, individuals, and events which have shaped the world from ancient times to the rise of a global society.

AP World History

3 trimesters

This course traces the development of world history from the earliest humans through modern times. Students will devote considerable time to the critical evaluation of primary and secondary sources, analysis of historiography, oral presentations, short essays, a major research paper, and the development of a document-based question (DBQ). Students are encouraged to join the instructor in the use of a variety of media and technology to further enhance learning.

World Languages

Spanish 1

2 trimesters

This course is an introduction to the language and culture of Spanish-speaking countries. All four skills involved in learning a second language (listening, speaking, reading, and writing) will be addressed each day in class. Participation in all of these areas is a requirement. The focus of this class is to allow students to use the language in meaningful and purposeful ways.

Spanish 2

2 trimesters

This course is a continuation of the study of the language and culture of Spanish-speaking countries. Participation in all four skills involved in learning a new language is required. The focus of this class is to allow students to use the language in meaningful and purposeful ways.

Spanish 3

2 trimesters

Spanish 3 will expand the students' knowledge of the Spanish language and continue to build on vocabulary and grammar structures learned in Spanish 1 and 2. The goal of Spanish 3 is to provide students with an opportunity acquire a more advanced level of communication in the Spanish language as well as gain a deeper understanding of Spanish-speaking cultures. Spanish 3 students will learn to communicate their own ideas using the present, preterit, imperfect and conditional tenses. Culture and language will be presented through novels, music, movies and authentic legends, stories, and current events. Spanish 3 extends beyond the two year world language requirement but is recommended for students wishing to attend a four year university. *Students wishing to take Spanish 3 should have earned a C or better in Spanish 2.*

Spanish 4

2 trimesters

In Spanish 4, students further develop their writing, speaking, listening, and reading skills while mastering advanced grammar. The course also immerses students in the culture, music, and literature of Spanish-speaking countries. A key feature of Spanish 4 is the opportunity to earn a Seal of Biliteracy, recognizing students' high level of proficiency and commitment to becoming truly bilingual.

World Languages

ASL 1

2 trimesters

Beginning vocabulary, ASL questions, commands, and simple sentence structures, as well as basic personal and descriptive classifiers are introduced to develop rudimentary conversational skills in ASL.

ASL 2

2 trimesters

This two trimester course is designed to continue development of ASL skills. Vocabulary, semantics, classifiers, pluralization and temporal aspects, beginning grammatical non-manual signals are introduced to further develop conversational skills. Elements of the Deaf Community and Deaf Culture will be included. *Prerequisite: ASL 1*

Visual and Performing Arts

Painting 1

1 trimester

This class will be solely 2D assignments and projects. Students will be taught how to paint using acrylic, watercolor, oil & gouache. We will also be touching on color theory & color mixing. Topics will range from still life, portraits & art history. There is no prerequisite for this class.

Painting 2

1 trimester

Painting 2 is designed as an extension for advanced exploration of the concepts covered in Painting 1. Painting 2 students further refine skills in the aesthetic process and creative expression. Levels of expectations and approaches vary depending on the assignment.

Painting 3

1 trimester

Painting 3 is an intermediate course available to students after successful completion of Painting 2. Students advance development of technical and creative skills through deeper application and interpretation of the elements of art and principles of design in the research, production, and criticism of visual art. Students solve complex problems with several different painting mediums, using critical thinking skills and aesthetic perception, which are vital in the decision-making process of each project.

Ceramics 1

1 trimester

The class will begin with hand building and then slowly progress to the wheel for throwing. Topics that will be touched upon beyond form and technique will be how to use the different types of glazes, the firing process and how to repurpose clay. There is no prerequisite for this class.

Ceramics 2

1 trimester

The class will be going through what was learned in Ceramics 1 but will challenge the students more. This being that the projects will be more detail oriented because the students have already learned the basics. The students will also have more projects that will use the pottery wheels. They will also learn how to combine handbuilt and thrown pieces together.

Prerequisite for this class is Ceramics 1.

Ceramics 3

1 trimester

This class will be an advanced class. This being that the students will be expected to have the basic understanding of clay and pushing them to do more. The students will learn how to throw specific objects on the wheel while still creating handbuilt objects. *Prerequisite for this class is Ceramics 1 and Ceramics 2.*

Visual and Performing Arts

Drawing 1

1 trimester

This class will be solely 2D assignments and projects. Students will be taught a wide range of mediums ranging from pencil, oil pastels, chalk pastels, colored pencil, pen & ink on a variety of different textured papers. Students will also be required to keep a sketchbook where weekly drawings will be assigned to sharpen the students' drawing skills and techniques. There will be no pre-requisite for this class.

Drawing 2

1 trimester

This course is *offered to students who have successfully completed Drawing 1*. The course builds upon the basic skills acquired in Drawing 1. A variety of dry & wet drawing media will be used to render more complex subject matter. The Elements of Art and Principles of Design are studied and applied to the creative process of planning and executing various drawing challenges. Personal interpretation and design exploration is strongly encouraged. Students will keep a drawing sketchbook for smaller homework assignments throughout the trimester.

Drawing 3

1 trimester

Drawing 3 is designed to build upon the knowledge students have gained in Drawing 2. It involves a deep dive into the Elements of Art and Principles of Design. Students will work on developing their artistic perspective and style, and building a portfolio that can be used for college and career opportunities post high school. Students will complete original works of art, write artists' statements, and participate in peer critiques. A graded sketchbook for brainstorming and problem solving will be kept throughout the trimester.

Visual and Performing Arts

Marching Band

1 trimester

The Madison Marching Band is the spirit of our stadium in performance based format. Students have opportunities to perform as a wind member, drumline member, or color guard member at the discretion of the director. The band performs at all home football games, parades, marching festivals, exhibitions, and other special events during the marching season. All students enrolled must attend a week long band camp prior to the start of school as well as all after school rehearsals during the season. Students are held to high standards of self-discipline, musicality, and marching technique. All rehearsals and performances are mandatory for all members.

Concert Band

2 trimesters

The MHS Band is an award-winning performance-based organization. High standards of musical excellence are set for the members and all are expected to practice their individual instruments. The concert band performs outside of school hours at several concerts. Band members attend MSBOA Band and Orchestra Festival for a judged performance and have the option to participate in solo & ensemble events. Students enrolled will also be required to attend a certain number of basketball games in a pep band format set by the director in January and February.

String Orchestra

3 trimesters

The high school orchestra will learn and perform music at a higher level of musicality and technical difficulty. Students will continue to build upon their fundamental skills in tone quality, bow techniques, recognizing and performing different styles of music, increasing technical and rhythmic skills, and developing as individual and ensemble musicians. The orchestra will have numerous opportunities to perform in concerts, festivals, solo and ensemble, assemblies, and community events. *Previous playing experience is required.*

Choir

3 trimesters

MHS Choir consists of about 50 mixed voices (SATB), and rehearses each day of the week. Students in choir should have a strong interest in singing and a sincere desire to personally develop their vocal talents. All singers will be exposed to basic music theory and work on sight-singing skills. Students must be serious about working hard on their technical singing skills, extending personal vocal range, and should be willing to sing alone for peers and to be evaluated for appropriate tone quality and musical interpretation. Students will have the opportunity to study and perform a wide variety of music, and to develop small performing ensembles. Attendance is required at all scheduled performances.

Physical Education

Athletic Performance

1, 2, or 3 trimesters

The Athletic Performance class focuses on developing physical strength, power, and speed for athletes. Students will learn proper techniques for various strength and conditioning exercises, including weightlifting, plyometrics, and agility drills. The course will also cover principles of biomechanics and injury prevention to optimize athletic performance. Through a combination of instruction and practical training, students will enhance their overall athletic abilities, promoting improved performance in their respective sports.

Prerequisite: Must be participating in a sport at Madison High School OR receive prior approval from the Physical Conditioning Coach or a Physical Education Instructor.

Lifetime Physical Fitness

1, 2, or 3 trimesters

The Lifetime Physical Fitness class emphasizes the importance of maintaining a healthy and active lifestyle throughout one's lifetime. Students will engage in a variety of physical activities, including cardiovascular exercises, strength training, flexibility exercises, and recreational sports. The course will also cover topics such as stress management, and the benefits of regular physical activity for overall well-being. Through this course, students will develop the knowledge and skills necessary to adopt and maintain a physically active lifestyle, promoting long-term health and wellness.

Team Games

1, 2, or 3 trimesters

The Team Games class is designed to provide students with a comprehensive understanding of various team-based sports and games. The course will focus on developing skills related to teamwork, communication, strategy, and sportsmanship. Students will also learn about the rules and regulations of different team games, as well as the importance of physical fitness and conditioning for optimal performance. Through active participation and teamwork, students will enhance their coordination, leadership, and problem-solving abilities within a group setting.

Physical Education

Recreational Games

1, 2, or 3 trimesters

The Recreational Games class provides students with an opportunity to engage in a variety of enjoyable and inclusive recreational activities. Students will participate in games such as capture the flag, ultimate frisbee, kickball, and other recreational pursuits. The course will focus on promoting teamwork, sportsmanship, and physical activity in a fun and social setting. Students will also learn the rules and strategies of different recreational games, as well as the importance of fair play and cooperation. Through participation in these activities, students will develop their social skills, physical fitness, and appreciation for the value of recreational play.

Health Education

Health

1 trimester

Topics covered in this class are: nutrition and physical activity, alcohol, tobacco and other drugs, safety, social and emotional health, personal health and wellness, STD protection, and sexuality education.

Technology

Digital Media

1 trimester

Digital Media: Intro to Graphic Design is a foundation course that develops a student's ability to analyze design, using basic principles and theory applicable to all forms of art. The course is based on the application of the fundamental elements of art. The student is introduced to tools and techniques used in today's communication industry through Adobe Photoshop and Adobe Illustrator. The student will learn how to render digital pieces of two-dimensional art (2-D) with emphasis on the visual communication design process. Topics include basic terminology and graphic design principles, introduction to the fundamentals of design that lead to the discovery and comprehension of the visual language. Form, balance, structure, rhythm, and harmony are studied in black & white and in color. Students will gain experience in creative problem solving and the practical implementation of those solutions across multiple areas of graphic communications. This course lays the ground work for more advanced design courses.

Seminars

Junior Seminar

1 trimester

This course offers an opportunity for students to acquire skills to improve performance on the SAT and other college entrance exams. Students will be exposed to content-specific vocabulary across the three academic components (Reading, Writing, and Math) of the SAT. Instruction is based on the SAT College Readiness Standards and complemented by suggested learning experiences for students wishing to further develop their knowledge and skills.

Senior Seminar

1 trimester

This class contains a variety of components that are designed to prepare students for independent living, career development, and life as an independent adult. In addition to thorough career research, students study personal finance, active citizenship, technology applications, and public speaking.

Elective Courses

The Art of Argumentation/Debate (10th-12th) 1 trimester

Trimester 1 is for students wishing to compete in the LISD tournament schedule

In this class you will develop and write case plans and rebuttal arguments on each year's national high school policy debate topic. High school policy debate is a very structured format for presenting and arguing for and against the national policy topic. In addition to in-class practice, you will be required to participate in the LISD countywide debate scrimmages and tournament. If you enjoy lively discussion of interesting topics, then this is the class for you. Because the national policy topic changes each year, you can take this class more than once.

Prerequisite: B or better in HS English classes.

Creative Writing/Poetry (10th-12th) 1 trimester

Creative Writing provides the opportunity for students to develop their writing abilities through exercises in fiction and nonfiction, such as journals, short stories, and essays. Students will emphasize a balance between creativity and communication in addition to expanding writer's voice and style. Publication will be encouraged.

History v Hollywood (10th-12th) 1 trimester

This course was developed to provide the student an opportunity to explore and analyze various aspects of history through the use of the medium of movies. The students will improve their research skills by examining the topics covered in a variety of movies through analyzing the films as well as corresponding historical information and develop a written comparison of the accuracy and perspective portrayed through the movies with accepted historical accounts of the events. Additional focus will include further analysis of the implications of these events on future historical eras.

Elective Courses

AP Psychology (11th – 12th)

3 trimesters

Explore the ideas, theories, and methods of the scientific study of behavior and mental processes. You will examine the concepts of psychology through reading and discussion and you will analyze data from psychological research studies. Students will learn to connect psychological concepts and theories to real-life scenarios, understand and interpret data and analyze research studies in psychology.

Pathways to Scholarships (12th)

1 trimester

Pathways to Scholarships is a course that teaches students the scholarship process that guides them to organize the materials and portfolio needed to successfully apply for scholarships. Students enrolled in Pathways to Scholarship must have a serious interest in researching, completing, and applying for scholarships. Students will be given class time to develop and complete their scholarship essays and applications with guidance and feedback from the classroom teacher.

This course is currently open to seniors only.

Environmental Science

1 trimester

Topics: Ecology, Biodiversity, Human Populations, Pollution, Climate Change, Energy. Environmental Science is an interdisciplinary experience. It integrates all the sciences together as well as geography and math. It will explore how humans have impacted the environment and the relationships between earth, air, water, and life. Environmental science is a science course that students can relate to and will find relevant. Many of the topics discussed appear in the news daily. Most of the topics are interesting, easy to understand, and fun to discuss!

Ancient World History

1 trimester

This course is a survey of the time period 8000 B.C.E. to the downfall of the Western Roman Empire in 476 C.E. The course will study the Ancient Civilizations in China, Africa, Greece, the Mediterranean Area and the Indus Area and will look at the people who made this area into the great civilizations of Antiquity. We will use primary sources as well as modern depictions through film to study these areas.

Elective Courses

Military History (9th-12th)

1 trimester

This course is a survey of military history and the interaction between society and military institutions, technology and techniques, from 1763 to the present. We will look at world military thought (strategy and tactics) from a number of sources including Sun Tzu, Julius Caesar, Carl von Clausewitz, Antoine-Henri Baron de Jomini, Napoleon and others as a precursor to American Military thought. The course will study the interrelationships of warfare, technology and society in American history. The course will focus on such questions as how changing "styles" of warfare, the composition of the military establishment (militias, citizen armies, paid professionals, mercenaries), and the transformations in military technology have impacted upon state and society. Conversely, it will also investigate how political and societal changes have influenced the nature of warfare in American history.

Current Events (9th-12th)

1 trimester

This course will look at the events affecting our world right now. Special emphasis will be put on topics that the students deem are the most relevant at the time. This will be a discussion oriented class with mini debates built in.

Literature in Film (10th-12th)

1 trimester

Ever wonder why there are Academy Awards for Music? Costumes? Makeup? Setting? or Directing? In this class, we will delve into the minds of the creators of film, and use that knowledge to make our own directorial, musical, costume, and setting choices (at least on paper). This class will maximize your creative and analytical thinking skills while having some fun in the process!

LISD TECH Center

The [LISD TECH Center](#) is a county-wide collaborative facility that provides career and technical education programs for Lenawee Country Students. In their junior and senior years, students may take LISD TECH Center courses free of charge as a part of their regular high school schedule. [Courses available](#) at the LISD TECH Center* include:

Accounting

Agri-Tech

Automotive Collision Repair & Refinish

Automotive Services Technology

Biochemical Technology

Building Trades

Certified Nurse Aide (C.N.A.) (seniors only)

Computer Information Services

Computer Programming

Culinary Arts

Dental Assisting

Digital Media

Education Careers

Emergency Medical Technician (E.M.T.)

Engineering, Design & CAD

Engineering, Robotics, & Mechatronics

Exercise Science & Sports Medicine

Graphic Design

Health Care Careers

Horticulture

Hospitality

Law Enforcement & Corrections

Machining & Computer Aided Manufacturing (C.A.M.)

Marketing & Entrepreneurship

Natural Resources

Nursing Preparation (seniors only)

Residential Construction (seniors only)

Welding Technology

Work Support Services

Sample Schedules

Freshman Year

English 9

Biology

Algebra 1 or Algebra 1/Geometry

Freshmen Seminar / Health / Economics

Spanish 1 / Computers

Electives

Sophomore Year

English 10 or Advanced English 10

Algebra 2/Trig or Algebra 2

Science Credit (Chemistry, Conceptual Chemistry or HBS)

US History or AP US History

Spanish 2 / Computers

Electives

Junior Year

English 11 or AP English Language

Algebra 2 or Pre-Calculus / Junior Seminar

World History or AP World History

Science or Electives

LISD Tech Center or Electives

LISD Tech Center or Electives

Senior Year

English 12 or AP English Literature

Geometry or AP Calculus or Statistics / Personal Finance

Senior Seminar / Civics

Science or Electives

LISD Tech Center or Electives

LISD Tech Center or Electives