



KANSAS



**2025-26**  
**High School Course Planning Guide**

**A USD 497 Lawrence Public School District School**



This book describes courses of study and enrollment procedures for students in grades 9-12. The purpose is to assist students and their parents/guardians in planning a high school program and choosing specific courses.

Please use this book as a resource for enrollment and keep it for future reference. The administrative personnel are happy to assist in interpreting the provisions set forth and in suggesting how individual needs and interests can be accommodated. If assistance is needed, please contact school counselors Lisa Lyke, Mickey Overton, or the school office.

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## Contact Information

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### Disclaimer

The Lawrence Public Schools Course Planning Guide serves as a helpful resource for students but is not a binding contract. Course availability may change due to enrollment, budget constraints, staffing, or policy changes, and not all courses may be offered at every school building.

# INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the Lawrence Public Schools District's Course Planning Guide, which provides a comprehensive listing and descriptions of the various courses available in the district's high schools. It's important for students to approach their high school program planning with care, as not all courses are available at every high school or offered annually, depending on student interest and staff availability. To aid in academic planning, the guide also includes information on post-secondary requirements and options.

The purpose of this booklet is to assist in two areas:

1. Provide the information necessary to plan a high school course of study. This plan of study should consider all of the things that **MUST** be done to balance one's wants and needs to connect to future career goals.
2. Provide current information regarding course options available during the coming school year. With a plan, these courses should help achieve desired outcomes from high school.

The course selections made at this time play a significant role in shaping students' postsecondary plans, so it is crucial for both students and guardians to thoroughly review the information in this guide. Should there be any uncertainties or questions, students are encouraged to seek assistance from school counselors or teachers for clarification and guidance.

## Things to Consider

Before making course selections, be sure to read all of the sections that apply.

- Remember that it is the student's responsibility to ensure that all requirements are met according to district guidelines.
- If anticipating attending college and/or playing college sports, be sure to read the sections pertaining to the Kansas Qualified Admissions Requirements and NCAA Eligibility.

Students are encouraged to use the information obtained from the various assessments taken while in the Lawrence Public Schools.

## Drop/Withdrawal Procedures

Selecting high school courses is crucial as the master schedule is created based on these choices, determining class availability. While students can request changes during fall and spring semesters using a change request form, modifications after set deadlines require teacher or counselor initiation and administrative approval.

# HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION

## Course Requirements

### Requirements for the Classes of 2026 & 2027

1. The minimum requirement for a Lawrence high school diploma is 23 credits.
  - Definition: Depending on the course and nature of course delivery, units of credit will be awarded in increments of one full (1.0) or one-half (0.5) credit.
  - Twenty-three (23.0) credits required for graduation include:
    1. Four (4) credits in English Language Arts
    2. Three (3) credits in Mathematics
    3. Three (3) credits in Science
      - a. Required credits are:
      - b. Biology (1.0 credit - grade 9)
      - c. Science elective (2.0 credit - grades 10-12)
    4. Three (3) credits in History and Government
      - a. Required credits are:
      - b. World History (1.0 credit - grade 10)
      - c. US History (1.0 credit - grade 11)
      - d. US Government or AP US Government (0.5 credit - grade 12)
      - e. Social Studies elective (0.5 credit - all grades)
    5. One (1) credit in Physical Education/Health
    6. One (1) credit in Fine Arts
    7. Eight (8) elective credits

### Requirements for the Classes of 2028 and beyond

1. The minimum requirement for a Lawrence high school diploma is 24 credits.
  - Definition: Depending on the course and nature of course delivery, units of credit will be awarded in increments of one full (1.0) or one-half (0.5) credit.
  - Twenty-four (24.0) credits required for graduation include:
    1. Three and one-half (3.5) credits in English Language Arts
    2. One-half (0.5) credits in Communications
    3. Three (3) credits in Mathematics
    4. Three (3) credits in Science
      - Required credits are:
        - Biology (1.0 credit - grade 9)
        - Science elective (2.0 credit - grades 10-12)
    5. One (1.0) credit in STEM
    6. Three (3) credits in History and Government
      - Required credits are:
        - World History (1.0 credit - grade 10)
        - US History (1.0 credit - grade 11)
        - US Government or AP US Government (0.5 credit - grade 12)
        - Social Studies elective (0.5 credit - all grades)
    7. One (1) credit in Fine Arts
    8. One-half (0.5) credit in Physical Education **and** One-half (0.5) credit in Health
    9. One-half (0.5) credit in Financial Literacy
    10. Seven and one-half (7.5) elective/IPS (Individual Plans of Study) credits
2. The weighted grading system outlined on page 6 will be used to determine all Lawrence honors and distinctions.

# KANSAS QUALIFIED ADMISSIONS

## What are Qualified Admissions?

Qualified Admissions (QA) are a set of standards used by the six state universities to review applicants for undergraduate admission. These standards are set by the Kansas Board of Regents, the governing body for the state universities. It is important to note that our Lawrence Graduation Requirements must be met to graduate from Lawrence Public Schools. Please consult your student's school counselor with any questions.

## What are the Qualified Admissions standards?



## Qualified Admissions

The six state universities in Kansas--Emporia State University, Fort Hays State University, Kansas State University, Pittsburg State University, The University of Kansas, and Wichita State University--use the standards below, set by the Kansas Board of Regents, to review applicants for undergraduate admission.

### ACCREDITED HIGH SCHOOL

Freshman applicants, under the age of 21, who graduate from an accredited high school, will be guaranteed admission to six state universities by meeting the Qualified Admissions requirements designated by each university, as follows:

#### ESU, PSU, FHSU, & WSU:

- Cumulative High School GPA 2.25+ or ACT 21+ (SAT 1060)\*

#### K-State:

- Cumulative High School GPA 3.25+ or ACT 21+ (SAT 1060)\*

#### KU:

- Cumulative High School GPA 3.25+  
**OR** Cumulative GPA 2.0+ and ACT 21+ (SAT 1060)\*

#### ALL Institutions Require:

- Cumulative GPA 2.0+ for College Credits earned in High School

**KANSAS SCHOLARS CURRICULUM IS RECOMMENDED BUT NOT REQUIRED:** To best prepare for the rigor of college-level courses, the Kansas Scholars curriculum is recommended.

One unit is equivalent to one year, or two semesters:



**English**  
4 units



**Math**  
4 units  
1 unit of each:  
Algebra 1, Geometry,  
Algebra II  
1 unit: Advanced Math  
See [KS Scholars page](#)  
For Math course list



**Social Science**  
3 units  
1 unit U.S. History  
.5 unit U.S. Gov  
.5 unit World History  
1 unit: Social Science course  
See [KS Scholars Page](#) for  
Social Science course list



**Science**  
3 units  
1 unit of each:  
Biology, Chemistry, &  
Physics



**Foreign Language**  
2 units of the same  
language

**KANSAS SCHOLARS Program:** More information about the Kansas Scholars Scholarship & Curriculum can be found [here](#) (pdf).

### HOMESCHOOL & UNACCREDITED HIGH SCHOOL

Freshman applicants, under the age of 21, who are homeschooled or graduate from an unaccredited high school will be guaranteed admission to the six state universities by achieving an ACT score equivalent to those outlined above, per each university. If you enroll in college courses while in high school, it is also required that you achieve a 2.0 GPA or higher in those courses.

*\*If you do not meet the qualified admission requirements, you are still encouraged to apply. Your application will be reviewed individually. Contact the university admissions office for more information.*

*This document provides a summary overview of admission requirements at state universities and is not a substitute for or to be used in lieu of the actual detailed admissions requirements, which can be found at: [www.kansasregents.org/qualified\\_admissions\\_rules\\_regulations](http://www.kansasregents.org/qualified_admissions_rules_regulations).*

December 2022

For more information about Qualified Admissions, visit Kansas Board of Regents  
<https://kansasregents.org/students/admissions>





# KANSAS BOARD OF REGENTS

## Kansas Scholars Curriculum & State Scholar Quick Facts

Completion of the Kansas Scholars Curriculum is one of the requirements Kansas residents must meet in order to receive State Scholar designation. This occurs during the senior year of high school.

### **What are the other requirements to become a State Scholar? •**

- Students must have taken the ACT between April of the sophomore year and December of the senior year.
- Students must be a Kansas resident.
- Students must have their curriculum and 7th semester GPA certified on the official roster by the high school counselor, registrar, or similar official.

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## **KANSAS SCHOLARS CURRICULUM**

### **English - 4 years**

One unit to be taken each year. Must include substantial recurrent practice in writing extensive and structured papers, extensive reading of significant literature, and significant experience in speaking and listening.

### **Mathematics - 4 years**

Algebra I, Algebra II, Geometry, and one unit of advanced mathematics-- suggested courses include: Analytic Geometry, Trigonometry, Advanced Algebra, Probability and Statistics, Functions or Calculus. Completion of Algebra I in 8th grade is acceptable; the student would then only need three years of math in high school.

### **Science - 3 years**

One year each in Biology, Chemistry, and Physics, each of which include an average of one laboratory period a week. Applied/technical courses may not substitute for a unit of natural science credit.

**Social Studies - 3 years** One unit of U.S. History; minimum of one-half unit of U.S. Government and minimum of one-half unit selected from: World History, World Geography or International Relations; and one unit selected from: Psychology, Economics, U.S. Government, U.S. History, Current Social Issues, Sociology, Anthropology, and Race and Ethnic Group Relations. Half unit courses may be combined to make this a whole unit.

### **World Language - 2 years**

Two years of one language. Latin and Sign Language are accepted.

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### **What is the benefit of completing the Kansas Scholars Curriculum?**

Students that complete this curriculum and meet the other requirements, may be designated as State Scholars, which makes one eligible to receive the Kansas State Scholarship as provided by the Kansas Legislature. The academic profile of recent scholars include an average ACT of 29 and an average GPA of 3.92. State Scholars may receive up to \$1,000 annually for up to four undergraduate years (five, if enrolled in a designated five-year program), based on financial need and the availability of State funds. Financial need is measured by federal methodology using data submitted on the FAFSA.

For more information, contact us at (785) 430-4300 or at [scholars@ksbor.org](mailto:scholars@ksbor.org).

[kansasregents.org](http://kansasregents.org)

### **Admissions Information:**

Contact the Office of Admissions at any Regents university for additional admissions information.

Emporia State University  
<http://www.emporia.edu>

Pittsburg State University  
<http://www.pittstate.edu>

Fort Hays State University  
<http://www.fhsu.edu>

University of Kansas  
<http://www.ku.edu>

Kansas State University  
<http://www.k-state.edu>

Wichita State University  
<http://www.wichita.edu>

## STEM Course

The following is a list of courses that may be applied toward the STEM graduation requirement for the class of 2028 and beyond.

### Science (after 3rd Science Credit)

- Anatomy & Physiology
- BI151 - Molecular & Cellular Biology with Lab
- Chemistry
- Ecology & Environmental Science
- Physics
- AP Physics
- \*Certified Medication Aide (CMA)
- \*Certified Nurse Aide (CNA)
- \*Medical Terminology 1 & 2
- \*EMS - First Responder
- Forensic Science 1 & 2

### Elective Options

- AP Computer Science A 1 & 2
- \*Automotive Services 1
- \*Auto Services 2 (AUTO 125)
- \*Automotive Services 3
- \*Automotive Services 4 (AUTO 129, AUTO 131 or AUTO 156)
- Baking and Pastry 1 & 2
- Computer Programming 1 (Found. of Programming)
- Culinary 1 & 2
- Foundations of Info Tech 1 (Digital Info Tech)
- Photography 2
- \*Welding 1 & 2

### Math (after 3rd Math Credit)

- Algebra 2
- Pre-Calc/Trig
- AP Calculus AB
- Math 101 College Algebra

\*Offered at the Lawrence College and Career Center

## Communication Course

The following is a list of courses that may be applied toward the Communication graduation requirement for the class of 2028 and beyond.

Public Speaking/Speech  
Junior/Senior Composition and Communication  
Theater Production

CO115 Introduction to Communication Studies

## Postsecondary Assets

The following is a list of state board-approved postsecondary assets students can choose from to fulfill graduation requirements:

ACT composite (Score of 21 or higher)  
9+ college hours  
Senior project/senior exit interviews  
SAT score (1060 or higher)  
International Baccalaureate Exam (4+)  
95% attendance in high school  
40 or more community service hours  
Workplace learning directly related to IPS  
Seal of Biliteracy  
Eagle Scout or Gold Scout  
Two or more high school athletics/activities  
JROTC  
State level Career and Technical Student Organization (CTSO) Officer

WorkKeys level (Silver or higher)  
State Assessment scores of 3 or 4 in math, ELA, science  
ASVAB per requirements of military branch selected  
Completing Board of Regents curriculum  
Advanced Placement Exam (3+)  
Youth Apprenticeships  
Client-centered projects  
Industry recognized certifications  
CTE Scholar



# Advanced Placement (AP) Information:

Advanced Placement (AP) is an internationally recognized standard of academic excellence that provides the following benefits to students:

- AP can enhance a student's opportunity for scholarships and career possibilities.
- AP can enhance a student's opportunity to receive admission into recognized universities and post-secondary programs.
- AP can reduce college costs and the time required to obtain a degree by providing post-secondary credit for courses and examinations completed successfully in high school. AP exams are given in May and scored by the Educational Testing Service. Students are encouraged to take AP exams to demonstrate successful AP course completion.

Note: It's important for students to understand that advanced coursework, including AP courses, is designed to promote success on AP exams, and while taking these exams is highly encouraged, acceptance of specific AP scores is contingent upon the policies of individual colleges and universities. Therefore, students should research the AP credit policies of schools they are interested in to ensure their efforts align with their college admission and credit goals.

# Grading Guidelines

## Grade Point Average

<b>A</b>	= 4 Pts
<b>B</b>	= 3 Pts
<b>C</b>	= 2 Pts
<b>D</b>	= 1 Pts
<b>F</b>	= 0 Pts

Lawrence Public Schools will award credit to all grades of A, B, C, and D. A grade of F will not be awarded credit. Grades are assigned with numerical values.

Those numerical values are used to determine a student's unweighted grade point average. A letter grade with a + or a - symbol will receive the same numerical value as a grade without a symbol.

A student's unweighted GPA is figured by assigning a numerical value to each semester grade (quarter grades are not used to determine a student's GPA) and dividing that number by the number of classes taken.

## Weighted Grades

Weighted courses represent the most rigorous learning standards and content requiring the highest level of student performance and time commitment. A weighted grade formula is figured by using the standard grade point average and adding weighted value. The weighted value is an added .5.



### Available Weighted Courses

AP Calculus AB  
AP Computer Science A 1&2  
AP English Language & Composition  
AP Government & Politics  
AP Physics 1

BI151 - Molecular and Cellular Biology & Lab  
COMS 130 Speaker-Audience Communication  
EN105 - Language & Composition: Composition I  
EN106 - Research & Composition: Composition II  
HI127 - US History to 1877  
HI128 - US History since 1877  
MA145 - College Algebra  
PY111 - General Psychology

# NCAA Eligibility Standards

## Know the Rules

- **NCAA Division I requires 16 core courses.** This rule applies to any student first entering any Division I college or university. See the chart below for the breakdown of this 16 core-course requirement.
- **NCAA Division II requires 16 core courses.** See the breakdown of core-course requirements below.

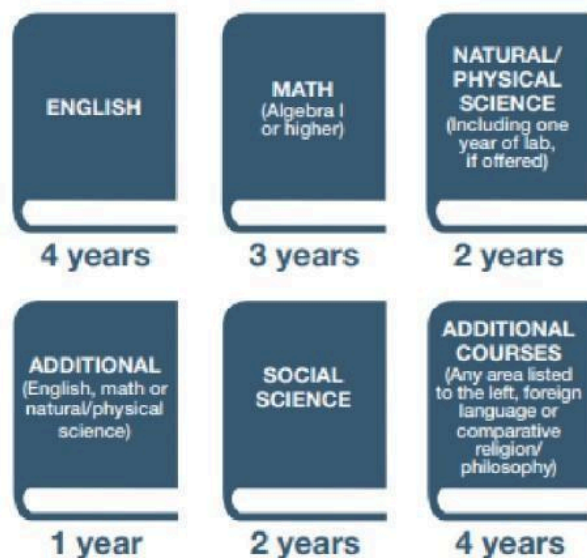
### Test Scores

- In January 2023, NCAA Divisions I and II adopted legislation to remove standardized test scores from initial-eligibility requirements. Students are encouraged to check with the NCAA school they plan to attend regarding whether standardized test scores are necessary for admission or scholarship requirements.

### Grade-Point Average

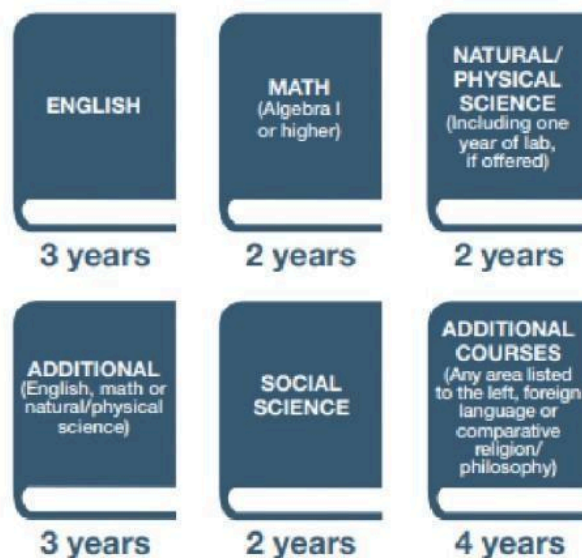
- Only core courses are used in the calculation of the grade-point average.
- **Be sure** to look at your high school's list of NCAA-approved core courses on the Eligibility Center's Website to make certain that the courses being taken have been approved as core courses. The Website is: <https://web3.ncaa.org/hsportal/exec/hsAction?hsActionSubmit=searchHighSchool> .

### DIVISION I



Complete 10 NCAA core courses, including seven in English, math or natural/physical science, before your seventh semester.

### DIVISION II



Further information about NCAA rules, eligibility, registration and four-year student athlete plans is available at [www.ncaa.org](http://www.ncaa.org) .

# Assessment Information

Standardized tests are designed to give a common measure of student performance. These assessments help compare an individual's performance with the performance of a group of students from a given class, school, or school system. Since large numbers of students throughout the country take the same test, "standards" can be developed to show whether school programs are succeeding and how students are performing. Standardized achievement tests measure how much students have already learned about school subjects such as reading, language skills, spelling, or science. On the other hand, standardized aptitude tests measure your student's ability to learn in school. They measure verbal ability, mechanical ability, creativity, clerical ability, or abstract reasoning.



## **ACT: American College Testing Program**

ACT is used by most colleges for admission purposes. The ACT consists of four objective areas: English, Mathematics, Reading, and Science Reasoning. Registration and test date information can be found online at [www.act.org](http://www.act.org).

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

Advanced placement exams are administered by the College Board. Students generally prepare for AP exams by taking a specially-designed Advanced Placement course high school, although some students prepare through independent study or by taking several courses in their school's regular curriculum. Many colleges offer credit and/or advanced placement based on scores.



## **ASVAB: Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery**

The Department of Defense sends military representatives once a year to each High School to administer the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery to interested high school students. Any student interested in taking the ASVAB this year should sign up in the Student Services Office.

## **Pre-ACT: American College Testing Program**

All freshmen will have an opportunity to take a Pre-ACT test. This test will give students a score that can be used as an indicator of college and career readiness.



## **PSAT/NMSQT: Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test**

The Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT) is usually taken for scholarship purposes. PSAT/NMSQT can be a good predictor and practice for the SAT. Although the scholarship competitions can only be entered by juniors, sophomore students may want to take the test to practice.

Students can register for this test in the Student Services Office. Fee waivers are available for juniors meeting income guidelines. See your counselor regarding this.

## **SAT Reasoning Test: Scholastic Aptitude Test**

The SAT is used by many colleges for admission purposes. Two verbal sections assess vocabulary, verbal reasoning, and verbal comprehension. Two math sections test ability to solve problems using arithmetic, algebra, and geometry. The SAT includes a mandatory writing section.

**SAT Subject Tests: Scholastic Aptitude Test**

Subject Tests are one-hour examinations in 17 subject areas: English Literature, American History, ESL Proficiency Test, World History, Mathematics Level I and Level II, French, German, Modern Hebrew, Latin, Italian, Spanish, Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Biology, Chemistry, and Physics. A student may take up to 3 exams on a test date.

**The SAT Reasoning Test and SAT Subject Tests cannot be taken on the same test date.**

**Registration and test date information can be found online at [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com).**

**Technical Skills Attainment (TSA)/Industry Recognized Credentials (IRC)**

Technical Skills Attainment (TSA) measures a student's competency level on a skill assessment aligned with industry-recognized standards (IRC). It is a requirement under The Perkins Act of 2006. Industry recognized credentialing tests are assessments that are subject specific nationally recognized certificates and/or licensure tests.

**Work Keys**

ACT WorkKeys assessments are research-based measures of foundation work skills required for success across industries and occupations.

# Student Support Services



Students' social, emotional, and educational success will be supported through their Student Support Team. Each student will be assigned to a team comprised of their assistant principal, counselor, social worker, WRAP specialist, school psychologist, and school nurse. Additional school support staff will be enlisted as needed.

General Education Intervention (GEI) meetings are held on a regular basis to address parent, staff, and student concerns. Students may seek support from members of their team at any time and are encouraged to visit with each member of their team to implement a comprehensive plan for success.

Individual Plans of Study (IPS) are an important part of planning for academic growth while in high school and the future. The Individual Plans of Study are developed through a team approach including parents, students, counselors, teachers, and Student Support Team members.

## Native American Student Services

Since 1972, the Native American Student Services (NASS) program has provided educational opportunities and support for American Indian/Alaska Native children in the Lawrence Public Schools. The goal of NASS is to enhance and provide support to the student's overall growth and development through cultural and academic programs for students and families.

Presently, the American Indian/Alaska Native student population makes up around 5% of the Lawrence school district's total enrollment. We serve more than 530 students who represent more than 100 tribal affiliations. Our program operates under the umbrella of Inclusion, Engagement, & Belonging. We aim to work collaboratively within the Lawrence community and Lawrence Public Schools to meet strategic goals by being a student-centered environment that ensures all students learn academic and life skills to reach their maximum potential.



## College & Career Center/College & Career Academy

The Lawrence College and Career Center prepares students for their future through hands-on learning experiences in an innovative, engaging environment. With direct engagement with business and industry leaders, students will have access to technology and curriculum that is relevant and useful. Students can earn college credit while still in high school, with an opportunity for free tuition, giving students a head start on their future. All courses at the Lawrence College and Career Center prepare students for post-secondary enrollment and a high wage, high demand career. Available for students in grades 10-12.



Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Career Interest(s): \_\_\_\_\_



Career Pathway(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Graduation Requirements  Class of 2028 & beyond	9th Grade		10th Grade		11th Grade		12th Grade		Year 13		Year 14	
English (3.5 credits)		1		1		1		1				
Math (3 credits)		1		1		1	Students are encouraged to take a 4th year of math					
Science (3 credits)	Biology	1	Chemistry	1	Physics	1	Students are encouraged to take a 4th year of science					
Social Studies (3 credits)	Option to fulfill .5 required SS elective	.5	World History	1	US History	1	US Government or AP Government	.5				
Communications (0.5 credits)								<p>After high school graduation, your path will indeed vary based on your choices, such as pursuing a college degree, entering the military, obtaining vocational training, or starting a career. Each option has its own set of opportunities and challenges, and setting clear plans and goals will be essential for navigating your journey effectively, helping you maintain focus and motivation as you work towards your aspirations, regardless of the path you choose.</p> <p>Every path you choose contributes uniquely to the fabric of our community, and striving to do your best can create ripples of positive change. Embrace each day as a new</p>				
Financial Literacy (0.5 credits)												
Fine Arts (1 credit)												
Health (0.5 credits)	Health	.5										
Physical Education (0.5 credits)	Physical Education	.5										
STEM (1 credit)												
Individual Focus (7.5 credits)												

Total required credits for graduation = 24	7 credits earned in a typical school year	7 credits earned in a typical school year	7 credits earned in a typical school year	7 credits earned in a typical school year	opportunity to learn, grow, and impact those around you positively, whether through kindness, leadership, or pursuing your passions. Your efforts, no matter how small, can inspire others and lead to meaningful contributions to society.
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**English 9 (1 credit):** English 9 continues to build on the sequential development and integration of communication skills in four major areas: reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Students will strengthen their skills in reading comprehension, interpretation, analysis, and evaluation through the application of deep reading strategies. Students will read fiction and non-fiction texts including, but not limited to, poetry, short stories, novels, and non-fiction prose. Students' study of fiction and non-fiction texts will focus on a wide variety of literary devices, structural elements, syntax, and word choice. Writing will focus on the effective use of the entire writing process and the use of the editing and revising process to further students' understanding and effective application of varied sentence structures, grammar, mechanics, and strategic use of word choice appropriate to intended tone, audience, and purpose. Students will develop speaking and listening skills through presentations, projects, and discussion boards. **NCAA**

**English 10 (1 credit):** In this course, students build on existing literature and composition skills and move to higher levels of sophistication. Literature: Students read short stories, poetry, drama, and novels, sharpening their reading comprehension skills and analyzing important themes. In composition lessons, students analyze model essays from readers' and writers' perspectives, focusing on ideas and content, structure and organization, style, word choice, and tone. All students receive feedback during the writing process to help them work toward a polished final draft. In addition to writing formal essays, students write and deliver a persuasive speech. Students expand their knowledge of grammar, usage, and mechanics through sentence analysis and structure, syntax, agreement, and conventions. Students strengthen their vocabularies through thematic units focused on word roots, suffixes and prefixes, context clues, and other important vocabulary-building strategies. **NCAA**

**American Literature (1 credit):** American Literature is a course designed to acquaint the student with America's literary periods from Colonial to contemporary times including poetry, short stories, novels and non-fiction. These literary works provide opportunities for critical writing, creative projects, and on-line discussions. Students gain an appreciation of American literature and the ways it reflects the times in which it was written. They discover how people thought and lived and wrote about their experiences. Students are also asked to observe, investigate, and report on stories of today. The goal is for students to be thorough, accurate, and compelling in their writing. **Grade 11. Students are required to take at least one semester of American Lit. NCAA**



### **Junior/Senior Composition and Communication (1 credit):**

The purpose of this course is to emphasize writing and communication for college and career ready students; they will write, explore, research, create, and present about topics and interests beyond high school. Students will engage in reading, writing, research, and discussion regularly as they prepare for life transitions after high school: financial literacy and independence, college enrollment and career development, storytelling, rhetoric, and media literacy, community partnerships, and community activism and problem-solving. **Grades 11-12. NCAA**

**21st Century Literature (.5 credit):** Through inquiry and discussion, this course will attempt to ground students in an understanding of societal conditions and structures while developing background information illuminating the reasons we have arrived at our current state. Students will examine societal values and how these contribute to power and powerlessness and how a character's morality contributes to the necessary resolution of conflict. The course will also explore how systemic and structural power determine which virtues will be prioritized in a society or community. Through reading, discussion, writing, and projects, students will investigate the role of emotion, imagination, and creativity in the expression of story-telling through multiple voices (poetry and fiction, but which could also include the oral tradition, art, and/or music) and seek to understand the stories of marginalized peoples and cultural traditions in preserving community and self. **Grades 11-12. Offered 1st semester only. NCAA**

**Science Fiction & Fantasy (.5 credit):** Students will explore the cyclical impact that literature and reality have on one another, analyzing the beliefs and morals that the authors of science fiction and fantasy address and how they contribute to their creative processing. Students will engage with both science fiction and fantasy short stories and novels while researching the author's purpose through non-fiction, informational resources. Students will explore how science fiction and fantasy relate to the real world and how literature can challenge the status quo of society. Scientific and technological advancements are examined to see the ways in which they can both benefit and harm humanity, how they challenge the status quo, while questioning whether they may have ethical or moral implications. Reading, writing, and research focus on the technological, social, philosophical, and historical developments which affect the condition of humanity and the future of the world. **Grades 11-12. Offered 2nd semester only. NCAA**



**Creative Writing (elective—.5 credit):** Through creative writing, we can come to understand ourselves and our world a little bit better. This course provides students with a solid grounding in the writing process, from finding inspiration to building a basic story to using complicated literary techniques and creating strange hybrid forms of poetic prose and prose poetry. By the end of this course, students will learn how to discover their creative thoughts and turn those ideas into fully realized pieces of creative writing. **Grades 10-12. Note to Sophomores: You may select Creative Writing; however, it will count as an elective credit, not an English credit. It cannot override the required grade-level English course. Note to Juniors: You must take at least ONE semester of American Lit. Offered 1st semester only. NCAA**

**Public Speaking (.5 credit):** Do you strive to gain more confidence when speaking in front of people? Listen and learn from famous speakers through history, and then bring your own speeches to life by learning about body language, vocal, and other techniques. Learn about logic and reason while gaining confidence to help create and deliver great presentations and speeches. You will also critically examine your speeches and presentations and those of others to improve upon your in-person and virtual presentation skills. **Grades 10-12. Offered 2nd semester only. NCAA**

**AP English Language and Composition (1 credit):** Students learn to understand and analyze complex works by a variety of authors. They explore the richness of language, including syntax, imitation, word choice, and tone. They also learn about their own composition style and process, starting with exploration, planning, and writing, and continuing through editing, peer review, rewriting, polishing, and applying what they learn to academic, personal, and professional contexts. In this equivalent of an introductory college-level survey class, students prepare for the AP Exam and for further study in communications, creative writing, journalism, literature, and composition. **NCAA**

**English - Individual Goals (1 credit):** The objectives of this course are to teach skills in vocabulary, spelling, reading, writing, and speaking. Students will learn to apply reading, writing and speaking skills successfully while participating in selected classes, employment, family living and social situations. Classroom instruction focuses on learning strategies and application of skills to "real-life" situations. **Prerequisite: Recommendation required; Alternative program (requires IEP)**





### **EN105 Language and Composition: English Comp. I (.5 credit -**

**Baker University course - fee based, \$350+):** This 3-credit hour course provides an introduction to college-level writing and covers the basics of composition including (1) types of essays, (2) how to analyze essay writing, and (3) how to pre-write and edit essays. The course also includes a description and understanding of rhetoric, argumentation, persuasion, and rhetorical situation as it applies to past and current writing. **Prerequisite: 3.00+ GPA. Grade 11-12. Offered both semesters. This is an asynchronous course.**

### **EN106 Research and Composition: English Comp. II (.5 credit -**

**Baker University course - fee based, \$350+)** Research and Composition, a 3-credit hour course, is the second in a series of two courses designed for a first-year college-level English writing program. Its purpose is to further develop students' abilities to read and think critically by analyzing texts and evaluating sources, to research and evaluate evidence competently, to develop logical reasoning and persuasive argument skills, and to communicate ideas in appropriate written media and styles. It introduces students to academic writing, basic research, and the art of argumentation, as well as reinforcing concepts introduced in previous composition courses. **Prerequisite: 3.00+ GPA. Grade 11-12. Offered both semesters. This is an asynchronous course.**

### **CO115 Introduction to Communication Studies (.5 credit - Baker**

**University course - fee based, \$350+):** This 3-credit hour course is a study of basic communication theory and history. It focuses specifically on the relevance of communication study today and how different situations and technologies demand the evaluation and application of appropriate communication techniques. Students in the course will apply communication studies to developing applications of communication including business presentations, public speaking, organizational communication, and small group communication. Students will be required to record themselves giving speeches. Some speeches require the student to present in front of no fewer than seven people, either in person or virtually. Failure to complete these assignments will result in an automatic failure of the course. if needed, contact support for assistance in completing this requirement. **Prerequisite: 3.00+ GPA. Grades 11-12. Note to Juniors: You must take at least ONE semester of American Lit. Offered both semesters. This is an asynchronous course.**



**Pre-Algebra (1 credit):** Students in Pre-Algebra will further their ability to write, solve, and apply multi-step algebraic equations and inequalities to solve problems. They will work with rational numbers, variables, positive and negative exponents within the equations. This course will guide them to prepare them for the Algebra I course. **Grade 9.**

**Algebra I (1 credit):** Students develop algebraic fluency by learning the skills needed to manipulate and solve equations and inequalities involving variables, rational and irrational numbers. Specific topics include writing expressions and equations, linear functions, exponential functions, quadratic functions, polynomials, factoring, statistics, solving systems of linear equations and inequalities. **Grades 9-10. NCAA**

**Geometry (1 credit):** Geometry builds on the geometry covered in middle school to explore more complex geometric situations and deepen students' ability to explain geometric relationships, moving toward formal mathematical arguments. Specific topics include constructions, proofs, transformations, similarity and congruence, coordinate geometry, circles, right triangle trigonometry, three-dimensional figures, and geometric modeling. **Grades 9-11. NCAA**

**Algebra II (1 credit):** This course builds upon algebraic concepts covered in Algebra I and prepares students for advanced-level courses. Students extend their knowledge and understanding by solving open-ended problems and thinking critically. **Grades 10-12. NCAA**

**Pre-Calculus/Trigonometry (1 credit):** Students, as mathematical analysts, investigate how advanced mathematics concepts are used to solve problems encountered in operating national parks. As students venture from algebra to trigonometry, they analyze and articulate the real-world application of these concepts. The purpose of this course is to study functions and develop skills necessary for the study of calculus. This course includes algebra, analytical geometry, and trigonometry. **Grades 11-12. Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra II with a letter grade of C or higher. NCAA**





**AP Calculus (1 credit)** Walk in the footsteps of Newton and Leibnitz! An interactive text and graphing software combine with the exciting on-line course delivery to make Calculus an adventure. This course includes a study of limits, continuity, differentiation, and integration of algebraic, trigonometric and transcendental functions, and the applications of derivatives and integrals. **Grades 11-12. NCAA**

**MA145 College Algebra (.5 credit - Baker University course - fee based, \$350+):** This 3-credit hour course provides a comprehensive introduction to the foundations of mathematics typically taught in a traditional college algebra course. This core course develops problem-solving strategies and establishes a firm foundation for higher levels of mathematics. Students will gain practical knowledge by solving and applying equations to real-life situations. They will explore a variety of functions and understand how they are used to model complex phenomena (e.g. polynomial, quadratic, rational, exponential, and logarithmic). Data and trends will be summarized and visualized by creating and implementing graphs. Finally, students will feel empowered with the skills to succeed in math, science, business, and programming. **Prerequisite: 3.00+ GPA. Grades 11-12. Offered both semesters. This is an asynchronous course.**

**Consumer Math (1 credit):** In Consumer Math, students study and review arithmetic skills they can apply in their personal lives and in their future careers. Students will learn about earning, saving and spending money. Specific topics include taxes, insurance, income, credit, credit cards, banking, unit rates, area and volume formulas to determine costs of materials, renting an apartment, buying a car, mortgage payments, shopping, travel and budgeting. **Grades 11-12.**

**Math - Individual Goals (1 credit):** The purpose of this course is to teach students basic mathematics, as well as the skills for applying what is learned to everyday life situations. Students will learn to use a calculator to perform basic computations, count money, tell time, and use mathematics processes in a functional way. Classroom instruction focuses on learning strategies and application of skills to "real-life" situations. **Prerequisite: Recommendation required; Alternative program (requires IEP)**



**Physical Science (1 credit):** This course is an interactive, 21st century course focusing on basic physics and chemistry. Topics include forces and motion, energy through waves, electricity and magnetism, the matter around us, chemical bonding and reactions. It teaches the foundational concepts of physics and chemistry. Using scientific inquiry, interactive experiences, higher order thinking, collaborative projects, and real world application, students will demonstrate an understanding of the physical and chemical properties around them, enabling them to apply these properties to their everyday lives. **Grades 9-11. NCAA**

**Biology (1 credit):** This course guides students through the study of living and non-living systems and how they interact with one another. Students explore the world they live in by posing questions and seeking answers through scientific inquiry. Discovery takes place through observation and data collection. Students will be introduced to the structure, function, diversity, and evolution of living matter. This is a course with real relevance. It encourages curiosity and provides opportunity for students to work on hands on lab activities and develop relationships through collaboratively learning. Engaging in the study of biological science broadens the picture of the world around us. **Grades 9-11. NCAA**

**Chemistry (1 credit):** The high school chemistry course is a two-segment study of the foundations of chemistry, building on the concepts and scientific thinking laid in middle school science. Students use scientific inquiry and higher-order problem solving as they explore the composition, properties, and changes of matter and their applications through interactive simulations, engineering solutions, and virtual and hands-on experiences. Scientific inquiry, research, experimental procedures, data collection and analysis, and making inferences are an integral part of the learning experience. In addition, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM concepts are integrated throughout the course. Through phenomenon-based learning, students will be able to demonstrate a vast understanding of the importance of chemistry in the world, enabling them to apply these principles to their everyday lives and our global society. **Grades 10-12. Prerequisite: Completion of Algebra I with a letter grade of C or higher. NCAA**

**Physics (1 credit):** This physics course is tailored to the student who wishes to learn more about motion, mechanics, sound, light, heat, electricity and other topics in physics. Mathematics will be used; however, a greater emphasis will be placed on a conceptual understanding of the topics and phenomena studied. The student's introduction to physics will involve a mixture of readings, lectures, demonstrations and hands-on experience in the form of lab work and projects. **Grades 11-12. Prerequisite: Completion of or concurrent enrollment in Algebra 2. NCAA**



**AP Physics (1 credit):** This advanced course is an algebra-based, introductory college-level physics course that covers topics like kinematics, dynamics, circular motion, energy, momentum, simple harmonic motion, torque, and rotational motion, with a significant emphasis on inquiry-based laboratory investigations, aligning closely with the College Board's AP Physics 1 curriculum and exam expectations. **Prerequisites:** Completion of or concurrently enrolled in Algebra 2. Grades 11-12. NCAA

**Earth Space Science (1 credit):** Be captivated by the wonders and beauty of the third planet from our Sun, Earth. Be amazed by what awaits your discovery within our solar system and beyond. Explore the universe. Earth/ Space Science is a laboratory course focusing on the study of space, geologic structures and forces, the waters on our planet, and atmospheric conditions. Through experimentation and investigation, students explore the earth cycles including the geosphere, hydrosphere, cryosphere, atmosphere, and the carbon cycle. This course offers interactive experiences, higher-order thinking and real-world application along with a variety of assessments. Upon completion of the course, students have a clear understanding of the dynamic forces at work in the world around them, becoming better caretakers of our planet, Earth. Grades 10-12. NCAA

**Environmental Science (1credit):** This course discusses the environmental challenges that impact our future, such as land use, pollution, climate change, and loss of biodiversity. This course is centered around achieving global sustainability to meet the needs of a growing human population, while also maintaining natural resources and protecting Earth's various systems. The short- and long-term consequences of our actions to human health and the environment are also a course focus. With the collaboration of the Guy Harvey Foundation and additional professional partners, this course highlights the research and field experiences of professors, scientists, conservationists, lawyers, and more, while sharing practical and sensible strategies for preserving the delicate balance between land, ocean, air, and life. In addition, this course creates a call to action for students by teaching them how to protect the world's biodiversity and resources by adjusting the way they live, work, play, and govern in the future. Grades 10-12. NCAA





**Forensic Science I (science elective —.5 credit):** Fingerprints. Blood spatter. DNA analysis. The world of law enforcement is increasingly making use of the techniques and knowledge from the sciences to better understand the crimes that are committed and to catch those individuals responsible for the crimes. Forensic science applies scientific knowledge to the criminal justice system. This course focuses on some of the techniques and practices used by forensic scientists during a crime scene investigation (CSI). Starting with how clues and data are recorded and preserved, the student will follow evidence trails until the CSI goes to trial, examining how various elements of the crime scene are analyzed and processed. **Grades 10-12. Offered 1st semester only. NCAA**

**Forensic Science II (science elective—.5 credit):** Although the crime scene represents the first step in solving crimes through forensic science, the crime laboratory plays a critical role in the analysis of evidence. This course focuses on the analysis of evidence and testing within this setting. Students examine some basic scientific principles and knowledge that guides forensic laboratory processes, such as testing DNA, toxicology, and material analysis. Techniques such as microscopy, chromatography, ontology, entomology, mineralogy, and spectroscopy will be examined. **Grades 10-12. Offered 2nd semester only. NCAA**

**BI151 Molecular & Cellular Biology and Lab (.5 credit - Baker University course - fee based, \$470+):** This 4-credit hour course provides a comprehensive introduction to major concepts of biological sciences and the characteristics of life. Students will engage in understanding the major processes of cells including cell structure, growth, and reproduction, as well as an in-depth understanding of genetics and heredity and the roles they play in the function and growth of a population. The lab component of the course provides a comprehensive introduction to the laboratory study of life. Students will learn about lab safety and explore topics like the metric system using the microscope and the scientific method. Students will learn how cells grow and divide, obtain and use energy, and pass genetic information to the next generation. Finally, students will learn the importance of biodiversity in ensuring the survival of a species. Students will complete 10 mastery assignment with lab activities, including formal lab reports. **Prerequisite: 3.00+ GPA. Grades 11-12. Offered both semesters. This is an asynchronous course.**

**Science - Individual Goals (1 credit):** The purpose of this course is to provide science instruction tailored to students' needs. Instruction will be designed in accordance with each student's learning method, rate, level and style. Through an independent study format, students will learn to relate science concepts to daily living. Classroom instruction focuses on learning strategies and application of skills to "real-life" situations. **Prerequisite: Recommendation required; Alternative program (requires IEP)**





LAWRENCE VIRTUAL SCHOOL

**World History (1 credit):** In this two-semester course students explore the past and make connections with the present. During the first semester students will learn how the Roman Empire developed in two very distinct directions. Next, students will discover the great intellectual and cultural contributions of Islamic Empires. Journey through the Middle Ages of Europe and Japan to learn how knights and samurais lived. Students will also investigate the rise and fall of some of the great kingdoms of the Americas and Africa and then travel back to the Europe of the Renaissance and Reformation era. Second semester begins with a bang as students will learn about advancements in science and thought during the Age of Enlightenment and the social and political revolutions that followed as a result. As students meander through the 19th century, they will learn about the transformation from an agricultural to an industrial world and the many changes that resulted from that shift. Students will then learn about the interconnectedness of nationalism and colonialism and the two massive world wars were the end result. As students approach the finish line, they will learn about development in our modern world and the implications that historical events have on us today. **Grade 10. NCAA**

**US History (1 credit):** The United States began as an experiment in freedom and democracy. Since its establishment, the country and its people have endured social, political and economic revolutions. In this course, students will investigate the people, events and ideas that have shaped the United States from the end of the Civil War through today. Students are asked to analyze and evaluate decisions made by political, business and military leaders. Emphasis is placed on connections between events of the past and present. This course also gives students the opportunity to conduct research and apply their learning to current, real-world problems. **Grades 11-12. NCAA**

**HI127 US History to 1877 (.5 credit - Baker University course - fee based, \$350+):** This is a concurrent 3-credit hour course for students wishing to earn college credit while attending high school. U.S. History to 1877 covers history through 1877, taking students from pre-Columbian events through the Civil War and Reconstruction. The course introduces students to the major themes that have defined the United States as a nation and culture while showing students how these times remain relevant in their everyday lives. **Prerequisite: 3.00+ GPA. Grades 11-12. Offered 1st semester only. This is an asynchronous course.**



**HI128 US History since 1877 (.5 credit - Baker University course - fee based, \$350+):** This 3-credit hour course provides a comprehensive presentation of the significant social, political, and economic developments from 1877 to the present. The course is designed to engage students in understanding how shifts in culture, private initiative, public policy, and technology have shaped American history. Critical reading, analysis, and writing will be emphasized as core elements of enhancing lesson understanding. **Prerequisite: 3.00+ GPA. Grades 11-12. Offered 2nd semester only. This is an asynchronous course.**

**History of the Holocaust (elective—.5 credit):** “Never shall I forget that night, the first night in camp, which has turned my life into one long night, seven times cursed and seven times sealed.” Elie Wiesel, a Holocaust survivor, wrote these words about his experiences in a Nazi concentration camp. History of the Holocaust will take you through the harrowing details of anti-Semitism, the power of the Nazi party, the persecution of European Jews and other groups, and the tremendous aftermath for everyone involved in World War II. You’ll explore the causes of the Holocaust, the experiences of Jews and other individuals during this time, and what has been done to combat genocide since WWII. “For the dead and the living, we must bear witness.” **Grades 10-12. Offered 1st semester only.**

**Human Geography (elective—.5 credit):** Modern humans have been roaming the earth for about 200,000 years. How do the places we live influence the way we live? How do geography, weather, and location relate to our customs and lifestyles? In Human Geography: Our Global Identity, you will explore the diverse ways that different people have physically influenced the world around them and how they, in turn, are changed by their surroundings. Discover how beliefs and ideas spread through time, shaping and changing the cultures they encounter. In this course, you’ll gain tremendous insight into human geography and begin to better understand the important relationship between humans and their environments. **Grades 9-12. Offered 2nd semester only. NCAA**



LAWRENCE VIRTUAL SCHOOL

**Native American History (elective—.5 credit):** This one-semester course provides an overview of indigenous American history, culture, tribal law, government, and sovereignty. The course will focus on both traditional and contemporary cultures with an emphasis on current issues and court cases. **Grades 10-12. Offered 1st semester only.**

**Women's Studies (elective—.5 credit):** Maybe you've wondered what Women's Studies is and where and why it started. Maybe you've wondered why there are stereotypes about women being bad drivers or ignorant about sports. Maybe you want to know about feminism and the women's movement. Introduction to Women's Studies can help you answer these questions and more. Though it focuses on the experience of women, it's appropriate for anyone who wants to learn about the history of the women's movement and how gender, race, and social class influence us. Women have earned their right to stand up and be recognized as equal partners and reap the benefits of their hard work. As the anonymous quote goes, "History is Herstory, too." **Grades 11-12. Offered 2nd semester only.**

**PY111 General Psychology (elective— .5 credit, Baker University course - fee based, \$350+):** This 3-credit hour course is designed to serve as an introductory course to the basic concepts in psychology that analyze human behavior. Students will first delve into the fundamentals including history, science, approaches, and research in psychology. Next, students will get an introduction to biology as it relates to human psychology, including genetics, the nervous system, sensation and perception, and developmental psychology. This course is also designed to give students an understanding of the psychology behind cognition, memory, learning, and motivation, as well as social psychology. Students will examine the psychological effects that impact everyday life, such as consciousness and sleep, stress and health, personality, psychological disorders, and therapy and treatment. **Prerequisite: 3.00+ GPA. Grades 11-12. Offered both semesters. This is an asynchronous course.**



**U.S. Government and Politics (.5 credit):** Responsible citizenship, including civil and political participation is essential to maintain a representative government that truly represents the people of the United States. In this course, students learn about the structure of government and how it shares power at the local, state and federal levels. This course also explores founding principles that inspired the Constitution and Bill of Rights, preserving the freedoms that students experience daily. Students will examine the processes of each branch of government, the election process, and how citizens can impact public policy. The media, interest groups and influential citizens provide examples of how the government can be effected by informed and active participants. Students will examine the U.S. Court system, and become a part of the process by participating in the judicial decision making process. They will also discover ways the United States interacts with countries around the world, through domestic policy, foreign policy and human rights policy. Students will also participate in a community service project of their choice and will share their experiences with their peers. Completion of this course will allow students to act as informed citizens who are ready to participate in the American democracy. **Grade 12. Students only need one semester of this course, but it is being offered both semesters. NCAA**

**AP U.S. Government and Politics (.5 credit):** Students must take the Advanced Placement Exam in order to receive Advanced Placement credit. Students who do not take the AP® Exam will be awarded Honors level credit. "Lights, Camera, Action." Prepare to study the intricacies of the American Political Culture. The script is written and the actors participate daily in the drama of American politics. Students will be "on location" to delve into primary source documents. They will go behind the scenes with stars such as the President, Congress men and women, and Supreme Court Justices. Students will research the roles of the media, political parties, interest groups, states, candidates, bureaucracy, and the public in the governmental process. Finally, students will witness the large- scale production of policy building in the areas of economic/social policy, foreign policy and public administration. **Prerequisite: 11th or 12th grade. Offered 2nd semester only.**

**Social Studies - Individual Goals (1 credit):** The purpose of this course is to provide social studies instruction tailored to students' individual needs. Instruction will be designed in accordance with each student's learning method, rate, level, and style. Through an independent study format, students will learn to relate social studies concepts to daily living. Classroom instruction focuses on learning strategies and application of skills to "real-life" situations. **Prerequisite: Recommendation required; Alternative program (requires IEP)**



**Integrated Health and PE (HOPE –1 credit):** With a focus on health and fitness, this course guides student to be active and healthy now and for a lifetime. Effective strategies and techniques are a foundation of the course so that students can continually make improvements in all areas of wellness. Students, with the guidance of a training instructor, set personal goals in four areas of wellness: physical, emotional, social, and academic. Fitness assessments enable students to establish baseline levels of fitness and work toward improvement in specific areas. At the end of each module, students submit a wellness plan documenting their daily physical activity, progress toward goals, changes in fitness assessment results, and reflections on personal progress. By following individualized training principles, students can achieve personal success and gain confidence, while they develop healthy lifetime habits. The course uses videos, graphics, and interactive learning opportunities to encourage students to eat well, get up, and be active.



**Art in World Culture: Pre-historical to Middle Ages (.5 credit):** In this course, you will learn about some of the greatest artists while also creating art of your own. We will explore the basic principles and elements of art, learn how to critique art, and examine Prehistoric Art and Ancient Egyptian, Assyrian, Greek and Roman Art and Architecture in addition to the development of Western art up through the Middle Ages. (Early Roman, Early Christian, Viking, Celtic, and Gothic Art and Architecture) **Offered 1st semester only.**

**Art in World Culture: Renaissance to Modern (.5 credit):** In this course, you will learn about some of the greatest artists while also creating art of your own. We will explore the basic principles and elements of art, learn how to critique art, and examine some of the traditional art of the Americas, Africa, and Oceania in addition to the development of Western art from the Renaissance to Modern times. **Offered 2nd semester only.**

**Digital Photography 1: Creating Images with Impact (.5 credit):** Have you ever wondered how photographers take such great pictures? Have you tried to take photographs and wondered why they didn't seem to capture that moment that you saw with your eyes? The Digital Photography I course focuses on the basics of photography, including building an understanding of aperture, shutter speed, lighting, and composition. Students will be introduced to the history of photography and basic camera functions. Students will use the basic techniques of composition and camera functions to build a portfolio of images, capturing people, landscapes, close-up, and action photographs. **Offered 1st semester only.**

**Digital Photography II: Discovering Your Creative Potential (.5 credit):** In today's world, we are surrounded by images. We are continually seeing photographs as they appear in advertisements, on websites, in magazines, and on billboards; they even adorn our walls at home. While many of these images have been created by professional photographers, it is possible for your photos to take on a more professional look after you discover how to increase your creative potential. In Digital Photography II, you will examine various aspects of the field including specialty areas, ethics, and famous photographers throughout history. You will also learn how to effectively critique photographs so you can better understand composition and go on to create more eye-catching photographs on your own. **Prerequisite: Successful completion Digital Photo I. Offered 2nd semester only.**





**Drawing 1 (.5 credit):** In this course, we will learn the foundations of two-dimensional art. Through drawing, we will explore the art elements of line, value, form, composition, color and more. On the technical side, we'll cover various drawing techniques including contour, shading and linear perspective. Each student will bring their own interests and unique vision to their drawings, culminating in a final project of their choosing. Along the way, we'll examine art works by both old masters and contemporary artists. Get your creativity and pencil ready to make some magic! **Offered 2nd semester only.**

**Music Appreciation: The Enjoyment of Listening (.5 credit):** Have you ever heard a piece of music that made you want to get up and dance? Cry your heart out? Sing at the top of your lungs? Whether pop, classical, or anything in between, music provides a powerful way for people to celebrate their humanity and connect with something larger than themselves. Music Appreciation: The Enjoyment of Listening not only will provide a historical perspective on music from the Middle Ages to the 21st century, but it will also teach you the essentials of how to listen and really hear (with a knowledgeable ear) the different music that's all around you. Learning how to truly appreciate sound and melody is the best way to ensure a continued love of this delightful art form. No previous music experience is needed to take this course. **Offered 1st semester only.**

**Intro to Theater (.5 credit):** Lights, camera, action! Step into the world of performance productions, exploring the elements of theatre and cinema. You'll compare how different elements in theatre and film, including historical and cultural influences, serve the story and articulate themes. You'll get a detailed view of the creative, performance, and technical operations behind theatre and film and gain experience and insights into various aspects of production. From viewing, writing, planning, designing, directing, and producing, you'll have a deeper understanding and appreciation for the art of performance, whether on stage or screen. **Offered 2nd semester only.**

**Fashion and Design (.5 credit):** Do you have a flair for fashion? Are you constantly redecorating your room? If so, the design industry might just be for you! In this course, you'll explore what it is like to work in the industry by exploring career possibilities and the background that you need to pursue them. Get ready to try your hand at designing as you learn the basics of color and design then test your skills through hands-on projects. In addition, you'll develop the essential communication skills that build success in any business. By the end of the course, you'll be on your way to developing the portfolio you need to get your stylishly clad foot in the door of this exciting field. No sewing machine is required for this course. **Offered 2nd semester only.**



**Culinary Arts I: Introduction (.5 credit):** Food is all around us—we are dependent on it and we enjoy it. This course will give you the basic fundamentals to start working in the kitchen and gaining experience as you explore and establish your talents for cooking and preparing food in a creative and safe way. You will learn safety measures as well as enhance your knowledge of various types of foods and spices. If you enjoy hands-on learning and want to deepen your knowledge about culinary arts, this is a great course to start. *Students will be cooking throughout the semester but will be student choice to fit their individual needs.* Offered 1st semester only.

**Culinary Art II: Baking Pastry and More (.5 credit):** Whether you aspire to be a world-class chef or just want to learn the skills needed to create your own dishes, Culinary Arts 2 will help you build a strong foundation and grow your knowledge of this exciting industry. In this course, you will explore baking and desserts, learn how to prepare proteins, and study nutrition and safety in the kitchen. You will also enhance your understanding of sustainability in the food industry, learn to prepare meals from a global perspective, and dissect the business of cooking, from managing a kitchen to successfully running a catering company. Discover the delights that await you on this delicious culinary adventure! *Students will be cooking throughout the semester but will be student choice to fit their individual needs.* Prerequisite: Culinary Arts I. Offered 2nd semester only.

**Hospitality and Tourism: Traveling the Globe (.5 credit):** Think about the best travel location you've ever heard about. Now imagine working there. In the 21st century, travel is more exciting than ever, with people traversing the globe in growing numbers. Hospitality and Tourism will introduce you to a thriving industry that caters to the needs of travelers through managing hotels, restaurants, cruise ships, resorts, theme parks, and any other kind of hospitality you can imagine. Operating busy tourist locations, creating marketing around the world of leisure and travel, spotting trends, and planning tasteful events are just a few of the key aspects you will explore in this course as you locate your own career niche in this exciting field. Offered 1st semester only.



**Nutrition and Wellness (.5 credit):** Have you ever heard the phrase “your body is your temple” and wondered what it means? Keeping our physical body healthy and happy is just one of the many challenges we face, and yet, many of us don’t know how to best achieve it. Positive decisions around diet and food preparation are key to this process, and you will find the essential skills needed to pursue a healthy, informed lifestyle in this class. Making sure you know how to locate, buy, and prepare fresh delicious food will make you, and your body, feel amazing. Impressing your friends and family as you nourish them with your knowledge? That feels even better! *Students will be cooking throughout the semester but will be student choice to fit their individual needs.* **Offered 2nd semester only.**

**Early Childhood Education (.5 credit):** As children, we see the world differently than we do as teenagers and adults. It is a world full of magical creatures and strange, exciting things. But what makes childhood such a wondrous time of learning and exploration? What can caregivers do to encourage this? In Early Childhood Education, you will learn more about understanding the childhood experience. Learn how to create interesting lessons and stimulating learning environments that provide a safe and encouraging experience for children. Discover how to get children excited about learning and, just as importantly, to feel confident about their abilities. Early childhood teachers have the unique opportunity to help build a strong base for their young students’ life-long education. **Offered 1st semester only.**

**Real World Parenting (.5 credit):** What is the best way to care for children and teach them self-confidence and a sense of responsibility? Parenting involves more than having a child and providing food and shelter. Learn what to prepare for, what to expect, and what vital steps parents can take to create the best environment for their children. Parenting roles and responsibilities, nurturing and protective environments for children, positive parenting strategies, and effective communication in parent/child relationships are some of the topics covered in this course. **Offered 2nd semester only.**



**Personal and Family Finance (.5 credit):** We all know money is important in life. But how important? In fact, the financial decisions you make today may have a lasting effect on your future. Rather than feeling anxious about money feel empowered by learning how to make smart decisions! Personal and Family Finance will begin the conversation around how to spend and save your money wisely, investing in safe opportunities and the days ahead. Learning key financial concepts around taxes, credit, and money management will provide both understanding and confidence as you begin to navigate your own route to future security. Discover how education, career choices, and financial planning can lead you in the right direction to making your life simpler, steadier, and more enjoyable. **Offered 1st semester only.**

**Entrepreneurship 1: Starting Your Business (.5 credit):** What does it really take to own your own business? Does the sound of being your own boss make you feel excited or anxious? Either way, this class will get you started in the right direction. It will explain the ins and outs of such an enterprise, giving you the confidence needed to be your very own boss. You will discover what is needed to operate a personal business from creating a plan, generating financing, and pricing products to marketing services and managing employees. If you've ever dreamed of being a true entrepreneur but feel daunted by the prospect, this is your chance to learn all you need to know. **Offered 2nd semester only.**

# Media and Technology Electives



**Digital Information Technology (.5 credit):** This introductory course takes a look at topics related to getting a job in the real world. This includes Digital IT Survival Kit, Office on-line basics including Word, Excel and PowerPoint, and ethics in the work place. We will take a look at emerging technologies and project protocols in working with others. We will explore how the Internet works including a dab into HTML and doing research as well as how to go about applying for your first job. Students will gain insight into soft skills needed for the workplace and the importance of these skills. **Offered 1st semester only.**



## **Grade-level Advisory (.5 credit. REQUIRED FOR ALL GRADE LEVELS)**

This year-long required course engages students in a variety of grade level tasks to prepare students for their future. The skills and knowledge gained will help students determine career pathways through exploration of Xello and other real-time experiences. Students will also learn about "employability" skills, or soft skills, that are critical to success in the workplace.

**(This is a PASS/NO CREDIT course. In order for students to earn .25 per semester, they must complete and pass ALL assignments in each module.)**

## **Critical Thinking and Study Skills (.5 credit)**

Critical Thinking and Study Skills teaches students how to get better grades and higher test scores, and increase their success in high school. Students who already perform well in school will learn new study skills and testing skills that will help them get even better. Students who struggle in school will learn about Success Mindsets, study skills, and testing skills to help them perform at new levels. This course teaches the ACE test-taking method to increase scores on key tests such as the ACT, SAT, and tests for graduation. **Offered 1st semester only.**

## **Career and Life Planning (.5 credit REQUIRED FOR ALL FRESHMEN)**

In this course, students delve into topics relating to identifying their own interests and goals, career possibilities, pre-employment skills, workplace skills, and educational implications. Students in this class are introduced to the Career Pathways Programs in the Lawrence Public Schools.

**Offered 2nd semester only.**

**Leadership Skills Development (.5 credit)** Do you ever wonder what you will do after high school? This course will show you the educational and career opportunities available to you. You will learn how to get accepted to and pay for college, how to find a job, and how to plan for a successful future. Throughout the course, you will be coached by Mawi Asgedom, a Harvard graduate who was the first in his family to attend college, and is now a student leadership expert who has trained over 1,000,000 students. **Offered 2nd semester only.**



**Spanish I (1 credit):** Immerse yourself in the beauty of the Spanish language and the richness of its diverse cultures. In the Spanish I course, you will learn basic grammar and vocabulary skills to help build your fluency and language proficiency. You will explore the culture of Spanish-speaking countries through engaging interactive games, videos, and audio recordings and apply what you learn through written practice, listening, and speaking exercises. **No mid-semester or mid-year enrollment allowed. NCAA**

**Spanish II (1 credit):** Get ready to embark on the next leg of your journey to Spanish fluency. In the Spanish 2 course, you will continue building your listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills as well as increasing your cultural awareness of Spanish-speaking countries through audio recordings, engaging images, interactive games, readings, and videos. Apply what you learn through written practices and listening and speaking exercises. Take your Spanish language skills to the next level! **Prerequisite: Spanish I, C average or higher. No mid-semester or mid-year enrollment allowed. NCAA**