

West Essex Regional School District

Program of Studies
2025-2026



WE Engage - WE Empower - WE Aspire

West Essex Regional School District

65 West Greenbrook Road

North Caldwell, NJ 07006

973-228-1200 | www.westex.org

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Mission

WE engage. WE empower. We aspire.

Statement of Values

As an educational community, we believe that...

1. It is essential that we provide a safe, welcoming, and inclusive environment that fosters learning for ALL.
2. We make decisions based upon the academic, social, and emotional needs of ALL of our students today and tomorrow.
3. A rigorous curriculum must balance relevant life, career, and academic skills that appropriately challenge ALL of our students.
4. High expectations and continuous, data-driven reflection are essential to ensure we meet the needs of our dynamic and diverse school community.
5. Collaborative decision making, including input from all stakeholders, is critical in maintaining a positive learning environment.
6. Effective lines of communication with our community, families, staff, and students are essential.
7. Students and educators should be encouraged to take intellectual risks, pursue their passions, and inspire one another.
8. Students should have a voice in their education.
9. Effective educational leaders are responsive, accountable, transparent, trustworthy, and immersed in the learning process.
10. Finances should be allocated in a fiscally responsible and prudent manner with the goal of creating a safe and equitable learning environment.
11. Our community deserves schools that they can be proud of.

Dear Students:

This educational guide gives you an opportunity to investigate our comprehensive course offerings for the 2025-2026 school year. Review its contents carefully since course selection is one of the most important decisions that you can make concerning your education. While making your choices, consider your goals, interests, aptitudes, future plans, and the graduation requirements for a West Essex School District diploma. Our goal is for you to take the most rigorous set of courses with which you can be successful.

The selection of courses is a major undertaking. We encourage communication among students, parents, teachers, supervisors, and guidance counselors. Guidance counselors are a valuable resource for you and your family. They are available to assist you in course selection, understanding prerequisites, and developing a schedule based upon future goals and interests. Your parents play a vital role in this process as well. They should give final direction and approval to your program.

It is our desire that your educational experiences at West Essex are successful, rewarding, and enriching.

Best wishes,

Mrs. Lisa Hulse

Mrs. Lisa Hulse
Director of Guidance

Dr. Kimberly Westervelt

Dr. Kimberly Westervelt
High School Principal

Dr. Gina Donlevie

Dr. Gina Donlevie
Middle School Principal

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Guidance and Student Personnel Services

Director of Guidance

Mrs. Lisa Hulse

<u>High School Counselors</u>	<u>Middle School Counselors</u>
Mrs. Kimberly Greulich	Mrs. Carly Davis
Ms. Jessica Pratt	Ms. Vanessa Garcia
Ms. Samantha Rhinesmith	Mrs. Michele Lombardozzi
Mr. Jonathan Sibilia	Mrs. Dorota Martinez - Student Assistance Counselor
Mrs. Crystal Tremaroli	Mrs. Lisa Dyer - Guidance Administrative Assistant
Mr. Anthony Emering - Student Assistance Counselor	
Mrs. Jessica Curran - Guidance Administrative Assistant	
Mrs. Patty Smith - Guidance Administrative Assistant	

Guidance

Middle school students are assigned a guidance counselor when they enter the school. Students will remain with their counselor for both 7th and 8th grade.

Students in 9th grade are assigned to their counselor alphabetically according to their last name. Students remain with the same counselor for their entire four years of high school.

School counselors may be consulted on academic, personal, or social concerns, interpretation of test results, and about future planning. Students are able to develop supportive relationships with their counselors so that significant issues can be addressed if and when they emerge. Adolescents face many challenges in our society today; therefore, the role, responsibilities, and contributions of counselors are of vital importance. Students are encouraged to keep in close contact with their guidance counselors.

School Counseling Services

Individual and group sessions are arranged with students to discuss their educational and vocational plans throughout the school year. Arrangements are made for career and college conferences for juniors and seniors to meet with representatives of colleges, business, trade, and technical schools, and branches of the armed services.

Counselors will set up a scheduling meeting each year for academic advisement and course selection.

Counselors will also host many informational events for parents and students to attend.

Senior Parent Night	Junior Parent Night	9th & 10th Grade Parent Night	8th Grade Parent Night
6th Grade Parent Night	Financial Aid Night	The College Fair	College Admissions Panel

West Essex Middle School



Program of Studies Grades 7 - 8 2025-2026

Grade 7 Program

Required Courses

- English 7
- Reading 7 Cycles
- Math 7
- Science 7
- Social Studies 7
- World Language (select one)
 - French 7
 - Italian 7
 - Spanish 7
- Physical Education/Health 7

Electives (select one)

- Band 7
- Chorus 7
- Orchestra 7
- Exploratory Cycles 7

***Note:** Please check Placement Criteria Charts.

ESL and ELL Academic Support and Transition

Grade 7 Required Course Descriptions

English 7

English 7 is a writing-intensive course designed to prepare students for the types of writing expected of them throughout middle school and high school. Students use close reading strategies to drive multidisciplinary content-based writing. Emphasis is placed on supporting claims with evidence, analysis, and reason. Through the study of both fiction and nonfiction, students learn to develop their ideas into multi-paragraph pieces of writing. Teachers use the writing workshop model to conference with students, who are expected to revise and edit their work through multiple drafts. Instruction of vocabulary, grammar, mechanics, and organization is infused throughout the course within the context of the material. Work is submitted in MLA format. *This course includes a summer reading requirement.*

Reading 7 Cycles

Seventh grade students will attend four 9-week cycles of reading courses. Each cycle will focus on reading for a different purpose including reading for pleasure, research, writing, and public speaking and presenting. In addition to class texts and assignments, students will be expected to read independently. Students in seventh grade will cycle through the following courses:

- **Research and Media Literacy 7**
- **Reading for Young Adults 7**
- **Communication and Rhetoric 7**
- **Readers as Writers 7**

Math 7-1*, Math 7

Math 7 students study mathematics through the Big Ideas Math *Modeling Real Life* program, a standards-based approach that emphasizes problem-solving, communication of mathematical ideas, real-world applications, and computational skills. Strategies are carefully designed to engage all students while allowing for differentiation to meet the needs of diverse learners. This course offers an integrated mathematics curriculum tailored for seventh graders, building upon foundational skills introduced in elementary school through projects, discovery-based learning, hands-on activities, and practical applications.

Math 7-1 is specifically designed for students who excel in computational and problem-solving skills. Students enrolled in Math 7-1 are on an accelerated track, preparing to take Algebra I in their 8th-grade year. This course combines 7th and 8th-grade math topics to equip students for success in advanced coursework. A summer assignment is required for students enrolled in both Math 7 and Math 7-1.

**** Students may be invited to take a placement exam based on MAP and/or NJSLA test results.***

Science 7

Science 7 introduces students to the fundamental concepts of primarily earth science and biology with interconnection to the environment and its ecosystems. Students will use conceptual and physical models to explain the transfer of energy and the cycling of matter from the ecosystem. Students will use models, construct evidence-based explanations, and use argumentation from evidence to construct explanations for the interactions in ecosystems. Students will demonstrate an understanding of how Earth's geosystems operate by modeling the flow of energy and the cycling of matter within and among different systems. Instructional strategies include analysis and problem solving, science and engineering practices, laboratory experimentation with an emphasis on safety, technological applications, critical thinking, and reference to the historical/cultural context of scientific discoveries and events.

Social Studies 7

Social Studies 7 actively involves the students in the study of Global Geography. Students learn and analyze topics related to the themes of human geography: location, place, human-environmental interactions, movement, and regions. Students will learn about significant global issues related to the regions of the world. Social Studies 7 emphasizes social studies skill development in alignment with the NJSL. The goal is to develop students' knowledge of Global geographical themes and students' literacy skills through reading and writing and critical analysis of their learning. This study establishes fundamental skills and prepares them for World and American History.

World Language 7 (French, Italian, Spanish)

This full-year course is an introductory language learning experience to develop an appreciation for conversing in a world language. It is designed to introduce the students to speaking and the communication of meaning, rather than emphasizing structural and syntactic accuracy at the entry-level of language learning. The course content will include varied activities which elicit active student participation such as choral and individual repetition of vocabulary, cooperative learning exercises, role-playing, dialogue, simple conversation, etc. Reading and writing are infused to reinforce students' listening and speaking skills. In order to take French at the high school level, students must begin French at the middle school.

Physical Education 7

Physical Education is a progressive, sequential program of activities designed to promote healthy, active lifestyles as well as generate interest in lifelong physical fitness. Activities include individual and team sports cooperative games, and team-building activities. Some of the activities offered are badminton, volleyball, fitness activities, ultimate Frisbee, soccer, and project adventure.

Health 7

All students at West Essex Middle School participate in Health Education for one marking period each year. Health Education in seventh grade focuses on Character Education, Healthy Relationships, Personal Hygiene, Decision Making, Substance Abuse, Stress Management, and Conflict Resolution/Bullying. The program is enhanced by utilizing out-of-district resources for presentations to the students.

Grade 7 Elective Descriptions

Band 7

Band is a course open to all students who currently play, or would like to learn to play woodwind, brass, or percussion instruments. Attention is given to individual and group development. Ear training, rhythm, tone quality, articulation, phrasing, blend and balance, and sight-reading are emphasized to build musical literacy. Students are expected to attend all scheduled activities and performances. Members of the band program must also attend one small group lesson per week during lunch study.

Chorus 7

Chorus is a course open to all students who enjoy singing and desire to improve their vocal skills. This program of study covers literature from various cultures and historical periods. Ear training, rhythm, tone quality, articulation, phrasing, blend and balance, and sight-reading are emphasized to build musical literacy. Students are expected to attend all scheduled activities and performances. Members of the chorus must attend one small group lesson per week during lunch study.

Orchestra 7

Orchestra is a course open to all students who play, or wish to learn, violin, viola, cello, and string bass. Elements of musicianship, including ear training, rhythm, phrasing, ensemble balance, and sight-reading are emphasized to increase musical understanding. Students are expected to attend all scheduled activities and performances. Members of the orchestra must also attend one small group lesson per week during lunch study.

Exploratory Cycles 7 (Four 9-week cycles)

Art 7	Art 7 is a 9-week cycle course that emphasizes the exploration of media, concepts, skills, and techniques, as well as discovery in visual art. Students develop a foundation of learning about visual art and increase appreciation for aesthetics through creative experiences. The course is designed to develop content knowledge and skills in technical processes, personal expression through art production, and recognition of the role and importance of art and artists in society, culture, and history. The seventh-grade art program provides an environment that offers challenges to all students, builds on individual differences, and provides means by which students may express themselves and develop positive self-concepts.
Computer Science 7	Students enter the world of computer science by learning fundamental programming concepts such as variables, loops, conditional statements, and events handling. This 9-week cycle course will show students how to make and import objects, create audio recordings, and use them to develop exciting computer coding projects and interactive games. Students develop their coding skills while learning about lists, defining procedures, using webcam sensing, and debugging problematic code. They will broaden their understanding of variables, operators, and event-driven programming while applying their existing knowledge in new and exciting ways.
Music 7	Music 7 is a 9-week cycle course that offers students the opportunity to expand their understanding of music, its basic elements, concepts, and importance in the world around them. The Music 7 course includes applications of technology to enhance music learning at this level. Students will explore music from many different perspectives, such as enrichment, entertainment, professional opportunities, and cultural enhancement. Throughout this sequence, students will create, perform, and respond to auditory sensory challenges, thus increasing their knowledge and skills related to music literacy.
STEM 7	STEM is an acronym for Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics. In this 9-week cycle course, the major focus of STEM 7 is to expose students to the engineering design process, research and analysis, technical sketching and drawing, tool and machine safety and use, prototyping, and other techniques commonly used by professionals working in the fields of science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics. Students will engage in self-directed, hands-on, open-ended design challenges that foster problem solving, collaboration, creativity, reflection, and digital literacy.

Grade 8 Program

Required Courses

- English 8
- Reading 8 Cycles
- Math 8
- Science 8
- Social Studies 8
- World Language (select one)
 - French 8
 - Italian 8
 - Spanish 8
- Physical Education/Health 8

Electives (select one)

- Band 8
- Chorus 8
- Orchestra 8
- Exploratory Cycles 8

Note: Please check Placement Criteria Charts.

ESL and ELL Academic Support and Transition

Grade 8 Required Course Descriptions

English 8

English 8 is a writing-intensive course that builds upon the skills learned in English 7. In this course, students focus on writing for specific purposes and audiences. Students use close reading strategies to drive multidisciplinary content-based writing. Emphasis is placed on supporting claims with evidence, analysis, and reason. Through the study of both fiction and nonfiction, students develop their ideas into multi-paragraph pieces of writing. Teachers use the writing workshop model to conference with students, who are expected to revise and edit their work through multiple drafts. Instruction of vocabulary, grammar, mechanics, and organization is infused throughout the course within the context of the material. Work is submitted in MLA format.

Reading 8 Cycles

Eighth grade students will attend four 9-week cycles of reading courses. Each cycle will focus on reading for a different purpose including reading for pleasure, research, writing, and public speaking and presenting. These courses are designed to build upon the work accomplished in Reading 7 cycles. In addition to class texts and assignments, students will be expected to read independently. Students in seventh grade will cycle through the following courses:

- **Research and Media Literacy 8**
- **Reading for Young Adults 8**
- **Reading and Performing Drama 8**
- **Readers as Writers 8**

Algebra I Honors*

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Math 7-1 with an A- or better first-semester average and teacher recommendation

Algebra I Honors is a rigorous course designed for mathematically talented students who have the conceptual and computational background and maturity to pursue an honors-paced subject. Topics are covered in-depth and at an accelerated pace. The curriculum covers algebraic skills and concepts necessary for an understanding of all future mathematics to be studied. Abstract and numerical reasoning are emphasized. Topics include: the real number systems, piecewise, linear, exponential, quadratic, absolute value, polynomial, and radical functions, linear and quadratic equations, inequalities, descriptive statistics, and systems of inequalities and equations. Graphing calculators are employed to extend concepts. Students learn a variety of problem-solving techniques and will apply arithmetic principles to specific algebraic topics. Standardized test preparation is integrated throughout the course. *The completion of a summer assignment is required.* ***Note: Algebra I is a high school course. Students enrolled in Algebra I in grade 8 are considered to be on an accelerated math track.**

Algebra I CPA*

Prerequisite: Semester one average of B- or better in Math 7-1 OR Summative Category average in semester one of A or better in Math 7, and teacher recommendation

Algebra I CPA is a college preparatory course that provides a sound foundation of algebraic skills and concepts necessary for an understanding of all future mathematics to be studied. Abstract and numerical reasoning are emphasized. Topics include: the real number system, piecewise, linear, exponential, quadratic, absolute value, polynomial, and radical functions, linear and quadratic equations, inequalities, descriptive statistics, and systems of inequalities and equations. Graphing calculators are employed to extend concepts. Students learn a variety of problem-solving techniques and will apply arithmetic principles to specific algebraic topics. Standardized test preparation is integrated throughout the course. *The completion of a summer assignment is required.* ***Note: Algebra I is a high school course. Students enrolled in Algebra I in grade 8 are considered to be on an accelerated math track.**

Math 8

Math 8 students study mathematics through the Big Ideas Math *Modeling Real Life* program, a standards-based approach that emphasizes critical thinking, real-world problem-solving, communication of mathematical concepts, and the development of abstract reasoning skills necessary for success in future Algebra and Geometry courses. This program is designed to engage all students while providing opportunities for differentiation to meet individual learning needs. Math 8 builds upon the skills developed in seventh grade, incorporating collaborative projects, exploratory activities, and real-life applications to strengthen students' understanding of key concepts. This course lays the groundwork for the skills and abstract thinking necessary for success in ninth-grade algebra. A summer assignment is required for Math 8.

Social Studies 8

Social Studies 8 students examine the early history of the United States. The course provides students with the opportunity to survey and understand the history of the United States from its European origins through Reconstruction. The students undertake a comprehensive study of the American government through analysis of the United States Constitution. In this course, students also learn and apply social studies skills and civics as well as explore other strands of the New Jersey Student Learning Standards.

Science 8

Science 8 introduces students to the foundational concepts of chemistry and physics. The course includes an overview of the structure, properties, and interactions of matter. Students will learn how to think critically about the physical nature of their world and discover the laws that govern the structure and behavior of matter, the environment, and physical systems. Learning activities will engage students in science and engineering practices, problem-solving, laboratory experiments, technology, and mathematics.

World Language 8 (French, Italian, or Spanish)

This full-year course provides students with the fundamental background to speak, read, write, and understand the target language. A great deal of stress is placed on the development of audio-lingual skills including correct pronunciation, intonation, and accentuation. The rudiments of grammar are taught as they are needed for oral and written expression. There will be a continued emphasis on the development of listening and speaking skills. Additional material for the development of the reading skill is provided for each student. The units on the culture and civilization of the target culture are expanded. World Language 8 classes are designed to prepare the student for World Language II in grade 9.

World Language Exploration

This full-year course is an introduction to language and the connection between Western languages. This course emphasizes basic understanding of Western Languages, the connections between languages along with an understanding of the cultural aspects. Students will explore a range of foundational cultural topics and will be given opportunities to make connections between languages. Reading and writing activities are introduced as they support the understanding of language. Strategies will include student-centered, differentiated instruction, cooperative learning, kinesthetic activities and computer and video-based instruction. Units will be organized by themes, situations and scenarios.

Physical Education 8

Physical Education in grade eight builds off the education and skill set the students acquired in grade seven. The students will explore the components of fitness and evaluate their physical fitness level. Our goal is to provide the students with the knowledge to execute a fitness goal. Promoting lifelong physical activity is also a focus. Activities throughout this year include; project adventure, flexibility and weight training, backyard games, basketball, and soccer.

Health 8

All students at West Essex Middle School participate in Health Education for one marking period each year. Health Education in eighth grade focuses on Human Sexuality, HIV/AIDS, Nutrition, Eating Disorders, Mental and Emotional Health, and Substance Abuse. The program is enhanced by utilizing out-of-district resources for presentations to the students.

Grade 8 Elective Descriptions

Band 8

Band is a course open to all students who play, or wish to play, woodwind, brass, or percussion instruments. Attention is given to individual and group development. Ear training, rhythm, tone quality, articulation, phrasing, balance and blend, and sight-reading are emphasized to increase musical literacy. Students are expected to attend all scheduled activities and performances. Members of the band program must also attend 1 small group lesson per week during lunch study.

Chorus 8

Chorus is a course open to all students who desire to improve their vocal skills and further develop their sight-reading skills. This course covers literature from various cultures and historical periods, emphasizing two, three, and four-part harmony. Ear training, rhythm, tone quality, articulation, phrasing, balance and blend, and sight-reading are emphasized to increase musical literacy. Students are expected to attend all scheduled activities and performances. Members of the chorus must attend 1 small group lesson per week during lunch study.

Orchestra 8

Orchestra is a course open to all students who play, or wish to learn, violin, viola, cello, and string bass. Eighth graders continue to develop their individual skill and leadership potential to prepare for high school orchestra. String instrument skills involving various bow techniques, left-hand techniques (such as shifting and vibrato), refined tone quality, and articulation are developed. Students are expected to attend all scheduled activities and performances. Members of the orchestra must also attend 1 small group lesson per week during lunch study.

Exploratory Cycles 8 (Four 9-week cycles)

Art 8	Art 8 is a 9-week cycle course that emphasizes the exploration of media, concepts, skills, and techniques, as well as discovery in visual art. Students continue to develop a foundation of learning about visual art and increase appreciation through creative experiences. The course is designed to develop content knowledge and skills in technical processes, personal expression through art production, and recognition of the role and importance of art and artists in society, culture, and history. The eighth-grade art program provides an environment that offers challenges to all students, builds on individual differences, and provides means by which students may express themselves and develop positive self-concepts.
Computer Science 8	This 9-week cycle course covers topics such as coding, physical computing, and data exploration. Students are empowered to create innovative and arcade-inspired games and projects to employ Computer Science as a medium for creativity, communication, problem-solving, and fun. This course is designed from the ground up to be accessible and engaging for all students, regardless of background or prior experience. Students engage in computational thinking as a problem-solving process. It includes knowing how and when to use computing tools, knowing what steps you need to take to solve a problem, and logically organizing and analyzing data. Students develop algorithmic and design thinking abilities to logically sequence events and tell great stories.
Music 8	Music 8 is a 9-week cycle course that offers students the opportunity to expand their understanding of music, its basic elements, concepts, and importance in the world around them. The Music 8 course includes applications of technology to enhance music learning at this level. Students will explore music from many different perspectives, such as enrichment, entertainment, professional opportunities, and cultural enhancement. Throughout this sequence students will create, perform, and respond to auditory sensory challenges, thus increasing their knowledge and skills as related to music literacy.
STEM 8	STEM is an acronym for Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics education. In this 9-week exploratory cycle course, the major focus of STEM 8 is to expose students to the engineering design process, research and analysis, technical sketching and drawing, 3D modeling, tool and machine safety and use, prototyping, and other techniques commonly used by professionals working in the fields of science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics. Student design teams will engage in authentic, hands-on, open-ended design challenges that foster problem solving, collaboration, creativity, reflection, and digital literacy. Though students will build on prior knowledge learned in STEM 7, STEM 7 is not a prerequisite for STEM 8.

Placement Criteria

English and Reading:

Grade 7 → Grade 8	
<i>Course</i>	<i>Criteria for Placement</i>
English 8	Successful completion of English 7 and teacher recommendation
Reading 8 Cycles	Successful completion of Reading 7 Cycles and teacher recommendation

Grade 8 → Grade 9	
<i>Course</i>	<i>Criteria for Placement</i>
English I Honors	Semester one average of A or better in English 8 and teacher recommendation
English I CPA	Successful completion of English 8 and teacher recommendation

Math:

Grade 7 → Grade 8	
<i>Course</i>	<i>Criteria for Placement</i>
Algebra I Honors	Semester one average of A- or better in Math 7-1 and teacher recommendation
Algebra I CPA	Semester one average of C or better in Math 7-1 and teacher recommendation OR Semester one average of A or better in Math 7 and teacher recommendation
Math 8	Successful completion of Math 7 and teacher recommendation

Grade 8 → Grade 9	
<i>Course</i>	<i>Criteria for Placement</i>
Geometry Honors	Semester one average of B- or better in Algebra I Honors and teacher recommendation OR Semester one average of A or better in Algebra I CPA and teacher recommendation
Geometry CPA	Successful completion of Algebra I CPA and teacher recommendation
Algebra I Honors	Semester one average of A or better in Math 8 and teacher recommendation
Algebra I CPA	Successful completion of Math 8 and teacher recommendation

Science:

Grade 7 → Grade 8	
<i>Course</i>	<i>Criteria for Placement</i>
Science 8	Successful completion of Science 7 and teacher recommendation

Grade 8 → Grade 9	
<i>Course</i>	<i>Criteria for Placement</i>
Biology Honors	Semester one average of A or better in Science 8, successful completion of Algebra I, and teacher recommendation
Biology CPA	Successful completion of Science 8 and teacher recommendation

Social Studies:

Grade 7 → Grade 8	
<i>Course</i>	<i>Criteria for Placement</i>
Social Studies 8	Successful completion of Social Studies 7 and teacher recommendation

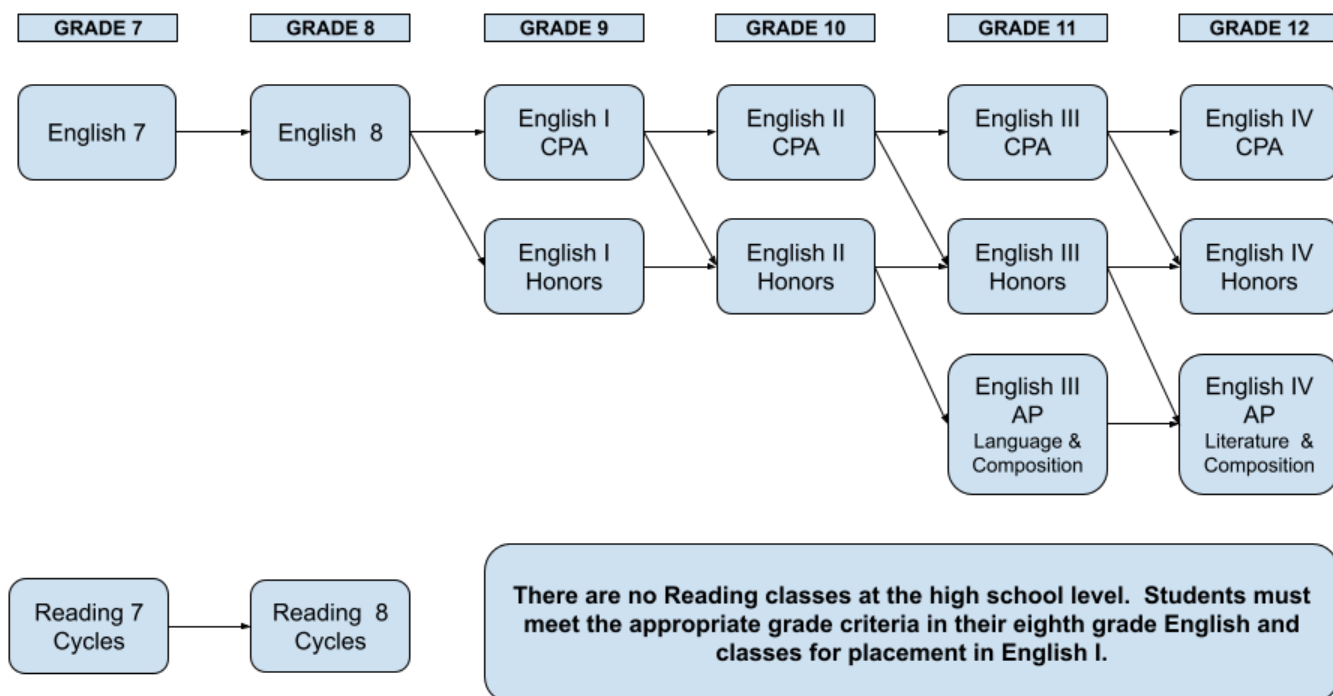
Grade 8 → Grade 9	
<i>Course</i>	<i>Criteria for Placement</i>
World History Honors	Semester one average of A or better in Social Studies 8 and teacher recommendation
World History CPA	Successful completion of Social Studies 8 and teacher recommendation

World Language:

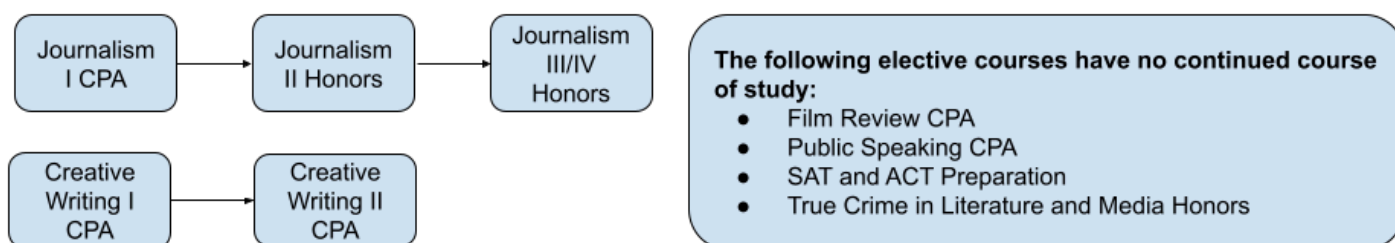
Grade 7 → Grade 8	
<i>Course</i>	<i>Criteria for Placement</i>
French 8	Successful completion of French 7 and teacher recommendation
Italian 8	Successful completion of Italian 7 and teacher recommendation
Spanish 8	Successful completion of Spanish 7 and teacher recommendation

Grade 8 → Grade 9	
<i>Course</i>	<i>Criteria for Placement</i>
French II CPA	Successful completion of French 8 and teacher recommendation
Italian II CPA	Semester one average of B+ or better in Italian 8 and teacher recommendation
Spanish II CPA	Semester one average of B+ or better in Spanish 8 and teacher recommendation
Chinese I CPA	No prerequisite
French I CPA	No prerequisite
Italian I CPA	No prerequisite
Spanish I CPA	No prerequisite

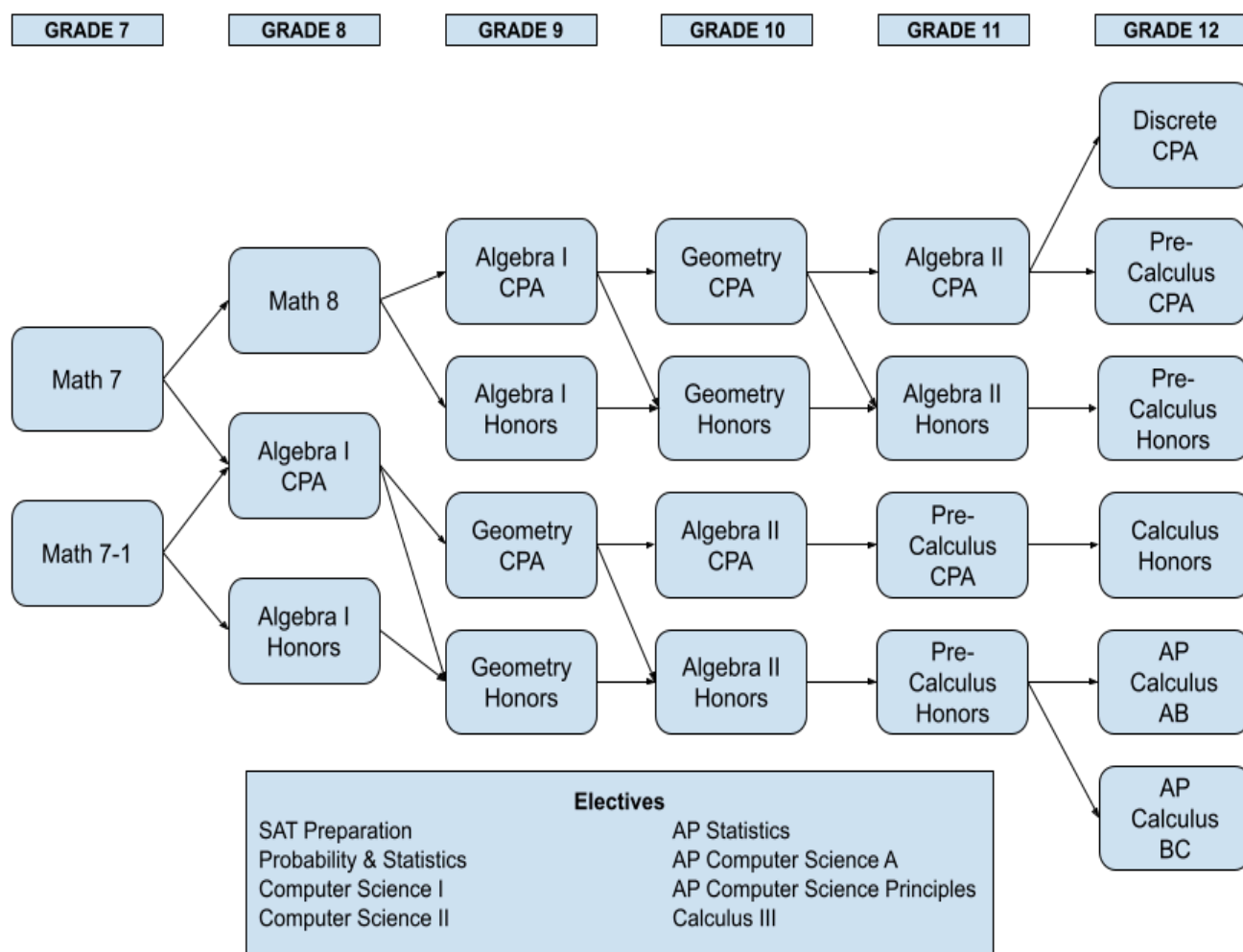
English and Reading Course Sequence



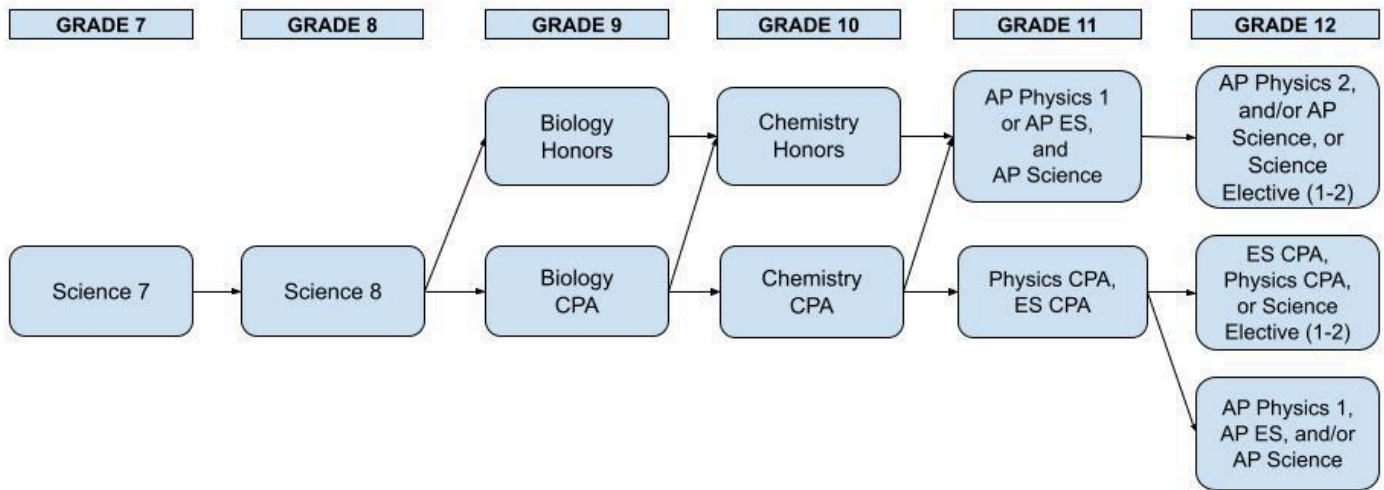
English Elective Courses (High School Only)



Mathematics Course Sequence

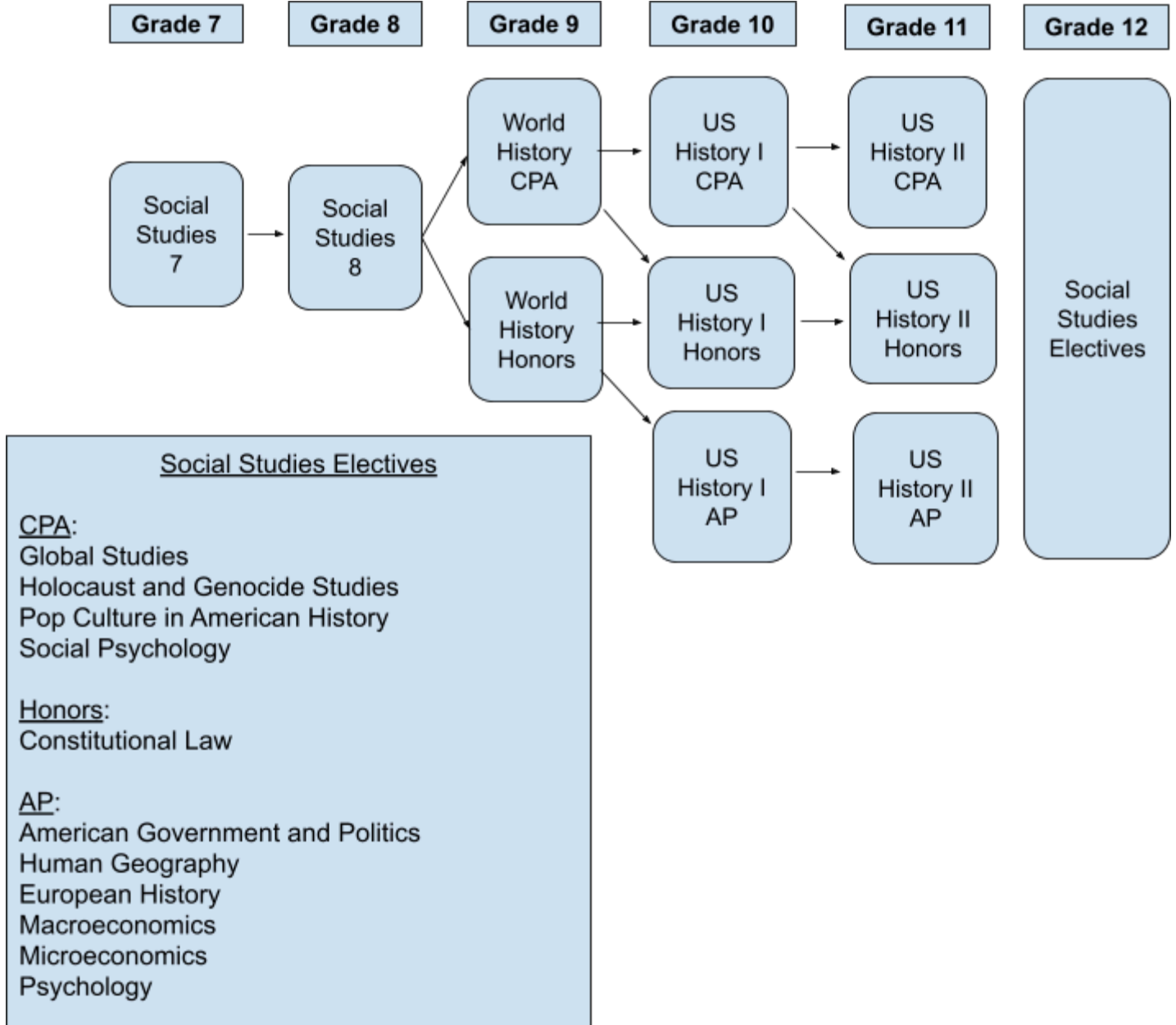


Science Course Sequence

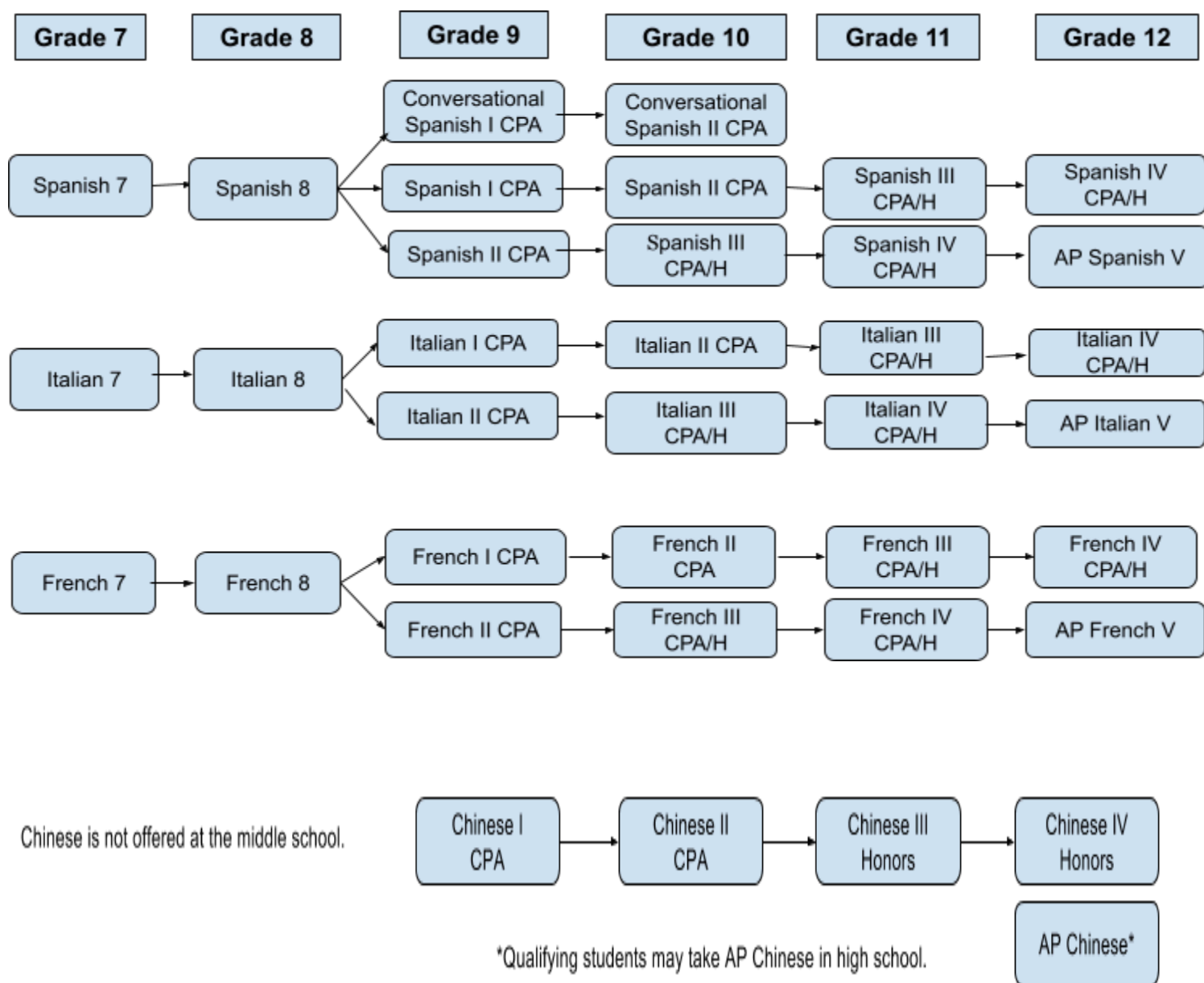


<i>HS Science Electives</i>		
<u>CPA</u> Astronomy Forensic Science Marine Science Sports Medicine	<u>Honors</u> Anatomy & Physiology Big History Biotechnology Forensic Science	<u>AP</u> AP Biology AP Chemistry AP Environmental Science AP Physics 1 AP Physics 2

Social Studies Course Sequence



World Language Course Sequence



West Essex High School



Program of Studies Grades 9 - 12 2025 -2026

Grades 9-12 Program Selection

- Students will select their courses with the assistance of their counselor, using the recommendations provided by their classroom teachers.
- Parents are encouraged to contact the counselor if they have any questions regarding course selection.
- A typical program consists of eight periods of instruction, usually five academics, physical education, and one or two electives.
- Courses are offered based on student enrollment. Under-enrolled courses may be canceled prior to school opening.
- Students are required to select alternate elective courses in priority order.
- District graduation requirements may not fulfill all college entrance requirements. It is essential that students review the specific entrance requirements for all colleges on their personal application list.
- Selective/competitive colleges recommend that students have 20+ academic courses. A challenging academic schedule should include the following:
 - 4 years of English
 - 4 years of Mathematics
 - 4 years of Science
 - 3-4 years of History/Social Studies
 - 3-4 years of World Languages

The Academic Program High School Graduation Requirements

Minimum graduation requirements, as established by the State of New Jersey and the West Essex Regional Board of Education, are that all students in grades 9-12 must accumulate a total of **135 credits** to graduate, including:

- English (Language Arts Literacy) - 20 credits
- Mathematics - 15 credits
- Science (Biology & two additional lab sciences from Chemistry, Physics, and Environmental) - 18 credits
- Social Studies: U.S. History - 10 credits, World History - 5 credits
- World Languages - 5 credits
- Visual and Performing Arts (Art, Music, Theatre) - 5 credits*
- 21st Century Life and Careers (Business, Family and Consumer Science, Technology Ed) - 5 credits**
- Physical Education - successful completion each year of attendance
- Health - successful completion each year of attendance
- Financial Literacy - 2.5 credits***
- Technology Literacy - integrated throughout the curriculum

Note: Only courses that are taken in grades 9-12 count toward high school graduation.

Courses to fulfill graduation requirements:

*The following courses fulfill the Visual and Performing Arts graduation requirement:

- ❖ AP Art History
- ❖ AP Art and Design
- ❖ Band
- ❖ Choir
- ❖ Digital Photography
- ❖ Graphic Design I-III
- ❖ Guitar
- ❖ Music Technology
- ❖ AP Music Theory
- ❖ Orchestra
- ❖ Studio Art I-IV
- ❖ Theatre Arts
- ❖ Yearbook

**The following courses fulfill the 21st Century Life and Careers graduation requirement:

- ❖ Architectural Design
- ❖ Culinary Arts I, II
- ❖ Engineering Design and Robotics
- ❖ Engineering Graphics
- ❖ Fashion Design I, II
- ❖ Food & Sports Nutrition
- ❖ Foundation of Engineering and Architectural Design
- ❖ Multimedia Design
- ❖ Woods Technology I-IV
- ❖ Technology Applications
- ❖ All Business Courses
- ❖ All Journalism Courses
- ❖ Animation & Game Design
- ❖ AP Computer Science A
- ❖ AP Computer Science Principles
- ❖ Cyber Security
- ❖ Introduction to Computer Science

***The following courses fulfill the Financial Literacy graduation requirement:

- ❖ Financial Accounting I, II Honors
- ❖ Personal Finance CPA
- ❖ AP Macroeconomics
- ❖ AP Microeconomics

Guidelines for Grade Level Assignments

- To enter Grade 9: Students will have successfully completed eighth grade.
- To enter Grade 10: Students will have successfully completed a minimum of 35 credits by the end of freshman year.
- To enter Grade 11: Students will have successfully completed a minimum of 70 credits by the end of sophomore year.
- To enter Grade 12: Students will have successfully completed a minimum of 105 credits by the end of junior year.

Course Level Recommendation Procedures

Recommendation for placement will depend upon the following factors:

- Current academic achievement
- Work-study habits which include motivation, effort, diligence, perseverance, and maturity, as noted by teachers
- Upon request, evidence or artifacts of student work and/or audition process
- The decision concerning a student's placement in any course will be made by the classroom teacher and department supervisor using the above criteria

Doubling Up (*Taking a course and its prerequisite concurrently*)

- Doubling-up is only permitted in special circumstances and with administrative approval. Student performance, rationale, and seat availability are all considered.
- Students who fail a prerequisite course, however, are not permitted to double up until the prerequisite course is passed. It is firmly believed that this restriction is in the best interest of student learning.

Summer School Courses

- All summer school courses MUST be approved by the administration *prior* to enrollment.
- If a student is interested in attending summer school for advancement, he or she must complete the "Summer Advancement Request" form. This form is in the HS Guidance Office and on our website.
- For a student to be eligible for a summer advancement course, the content supervisor will review measures including, but not limited to:
 - teacher feedback
 - student's comprehensive grade history
 - student's performance on standardized tests
- Once approved by the content supervisor, students must register and pay for the course on their own. WEHS does not register/pay for students to attend summer advancement courses.
- After completing the course, students may also be required to take a standardized or department-designed assessment to be used for placement and/or to verify student achievement in meeting the New Jersey Student Learning Standards at the high school level (see school Policy 5460 for more information).
- Credits will be awarded for successful completion of an approved summer school course; however, grades in those courses will NOT be calculated into a student's GPA.

Independent Study

Students may have the opportunity to participate in an Independent Study.

- Independent Studies are only for courses not offered at West Essex.
- Grades for Independent Study will be recorded as Pass/Fail.
- Two credits will be granted for the successful completion of an Independent Study.
- Applications will be available in the guidance office and on our website.
- Students must adhere to the application deadlines.
- Administrative and Board of Education approval is required.

Drop/Add/Withdrawal Deadlines for the 2025-2026 School Year

Students are expected to remain committed to choices made during the selection process. Students contemplating a course change should discuss their reasoning with their guidance counselor. All requests for schedule changes require teacher communication, parental consent, and approval by the supervisors and principal. Changes are subject to established deadlines and space availability in the new course. Students must submit a Request for a Schedule Change Form to their school counselor.

Move Up Day: June 6, 2025

1st Add/Drop Window: Monday, June 9 - Thursday, August 21, 2025

***No new FY or S1 academic course may be added after 8/22/25**

Final Drop Date for FY and S1 Courses to register for a study: October 31, 2025

Last day to drop a class without getting a WP (withdraw pass) or WF (withdraw fail) on your transcript: Friday, October 31, 2025

Semester 2 Add/Drop End Date: 1st Day of the 3rd Marking Period

***No new academic course may be added after the 1st Day of the 3rd Marking Period**

Final Drop Dates for S2 Courses to register for a study: April 1

Last day to drop a class without getting a WP (withdraw pass) or WF (withdraw fail) on your transcript: April 1

Scheduling Notes:

- *Students may not be scheduled for more than one study hall; hence, **only students without a study hall may drop a class after August 22. For this reason, it is important to select courses that are of interest and that are manageable.**
- All add/drops require appropriate parental and administrative signatures.
- Students must continue to attend scheduled classes until the counselor issues a new schedule.
- **All schedule changes are contingent upon seat availability.** There must be an open seat in the requested course as well as any other courses affected by the schedule change in order for the change to be made. Maintaining acceptable class sizes will be a priority.

Online Courses:

West Essex High School does not accept online or virtual courses for remediation or for advancement.

Grading Procedures:

- Any student receiving failing grades in both the 3rd and 4th marking periods will fail the course for the year.
- Any student who fails 3 marking periods will fail the course for the year.

Course Weighting

Please use the following grade weighting chart when calculating GPA:

Grade	Unweighted	CPA	Honors	Advanced Placement
A+	4.333	4.583	4.833	5.333
A	4.0	4.25	4.5	5.0
A-	3.666	3.916	4.166	4.666
B+	3.333	3.583	3.833	4.333
B	3.0	3.25	3.5	4.0
B-	2.666	2.916	3.166	3.666
C+	2.333	2.583	2.833	3.333
C	2.0	2.25	2.5	3.0
C-	1.666	1.916	2.166	2.666
D+	1.333	1.583	1.833	2.333
D	1.0	1.25	1.5	2.0
D-	0.666	0.916	1.166	1.666
F	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Advanced Placement weighting will only be granted to students who complete the requirements of the Advanced Placement Course and take the appropriate Advanced Placement exam. In the event the student does not take the AP exam, Honors weighting will be indicated on the student's final transcript.

Calculating GPA

How to Calculate a GPA:

Multiply the number of credits per course by the grade weight (see chart above) to determine quality points. The total number of quality points is divided by the total credits taken. Please see the example below:

Period	Class	Final Grade	Weight	Credits	Quality Points = Weight x Credits
1	US History II CPA	A	4.250	5	21.25
2	AP English III	B	4.000	5	20
3	Honors Pre-Calc	A	4.500	5	22.5
4	Phys.Ed/Health	B+	3.583	5	17.915
5	Study	-		-	
6	Elective CPA	B	3.250	5	16.25
7	AP Physics	C	3.000	6	18
8	Honors Spanish IV	C+	2.833	5	14.165
Total				36	130.08
GPA = Quality Points/Credits GPA = 130.08 / 36 3.6133					

Course Eligibility:

- All courses taken outside of West Essex High School may satisfy a prerequisite requirement, a graduation requirement, and will be awarded credit, but will NOT be included in the GPA calculation.
- Transfer students will receive credit and an unweighted GPA for courses completed at an accredited high school.

Class Rank:

Starting with the Class of 2025, the district will no longer calculate, maintain, or record on the permanent transcript the class rank/decile of West Essex High School pupils. Senior pupils will be confidentially "ranked," but such rank data will only be used internally to identify the valedictorian and salutatorian. Class rank shall not be reported to individual students; only the valedictorian and salutatorian provided that any pupil so named shall have been enrolled in the West Essex Regional School District by at least the 2nd semester of the pupil's freshman year. All students in the senior class are included in the computation of GPA and placement on the GPA Distribution Chart, with the exception of those enrolled in the Special Education Language Learning Disability (LLD) program.

Class of 2025 Highest GPA: Lowest GPA:		
<u>GPA Range</u>	<u>Number of Students</u>	<u>Percentage of Class</u>
4.5 +		
4.0 - 4.499		
3.5 - 3.999		
3.0 - 3.499		
2.5 - 2.999		
2.0 - 2.499		
Under 2.0		

Junior and senior students will be provided with a GPA that will be calculated based on the final grade in all subjects, except those subjects for which no credit is awarded. Weighted credit will be calculated for grades earned in all courses taken at West Essex High School. Grades earned in summer school programs, on-line courses, independent study courses, and/or pass/fail courses will not be included in the GPA calculation.

GPA's will be calculated and reported to students as follows:

- February of Junior year - 5 Semesters
- June of Junior year
- February of Senior year - 7 Semesters
- June of Senior Year - Final Transcript

Honor Roll and High Honor Roll Criteria

Honor Roll and High Honor Roll are based on individual marking period grades. Honor Rolls are run once a marking period (1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th)

- To qualify for the honor roll, a student must earn no less than a B- in all subjects that marking period.
- To qualify for the high honor roll, a student must earn no less than an A- in all subjects that marking period.

Course Level Placement Criteria

Arts, English, Social Studies, and World Languages:

1. For placement into an Advanced Placement course, a student must:
 - a. Have completed the prerequisite course(s)
 - b. Have achieved a semester one grade average of A- or better in Honors OR a semester one grade average of A or better in CPA (semester one grade average includes the midterm exam)
 - c. Have a teacher recommendation
 - d. Any exceptions to this course level placement criteria will be noted in the course descriptions.
2. For placement into Honors from a CPA course, a student must:
 - a. Have completed the prerequisite course(s)
 - b. Have achieved a semester one grade average of A- or better in CPA (semester one grade average includes the midterm exam)
 - c. Have a teacher recommendation
 - d. Any exceptions to this course level placement criteria will be noted in the course descriptions.

Science:

1. For placement into an Advanced Placement course, a student must:
 - a. Have completed the prerequisite course(s)
 - b. Have achieved a semester one grade average of B+ or better in Honors OR a semester one grade average of A or better in CPA (semester one grade average includes the midterm exam)
 - c. Have a teacher recommendation
 - d. Any exceptions to this course level placement criteria will be noted in the course descriptions.
2. For placement into Honors from a CPA course, a student must:
 - a. Have completed the prerequisite course(s)
 - b. Have achieved a semester one grade average of A or better in CPA (semester one grade average includes the midterm exam)
 - c. Have a teacher recommendation
 - d. Any exceptions to this course level placement criteria will be noted in the course descriptions.

Math:

For course level placement criteria in Math, please read the individual course descriptions.

Waiver for Academic Placement

To be placed into an Honors or AP level course, students need to meet certain grade requirements the first semester as specified in the course prerequisites. Students who do not meet the grade requirement but still wish to enroll in the higher-level course must complete the Waiver Form. The Waiver Form is located on the Guidance page of the district website.

Before submitting a waiver, parents and students should carefully consider the significant increase in academic rigor and expectations in Honors and AP level classes which may result in lower grades. Students should discuss their desire to waive into a course with their school counselor and current teacher.

Any request to move out of the waived course will be reviewed and discussed with the teacher, content supervisor, Guidance Director, and Principal at Progress Report time of the 1st Marking Period - no earlier. *Students must demonstrate maximum effort and attend extra help sessions in order to be considered for a level change.*

Should a change in the course be deemed necessary, the following aspects must be known:

- not all schedule changes are possible due to schedule limitations and seat availability.
- grades received in the waived class will transfer to the new course.
- Students who **do not** have a study hall in their schedule will have the option to drop the course with either a grade of WP (withdraw Pass) or WF (withdraw Fail) on the transcript and add a study hall in its place.
- West Essex students are not permitted to have more than 1 Study Hall a semester in their schedule. Students that already have a study hall during that semester may have to wait until the end of the first semester to add a new course and would receive either a WP (withdraw pass) or WF (withdraw fail) on the transcript.

To be eligible for a waiver, students must submit the Waiver Google Form which can be found on the Guidance webpage. Last date for submissions: April 1, 2026.

WEST ESSEX HIGH SCHOOL

COURSE OFFERINGS

2025-2026

Interdisciplinary Course Descriptions

AP CAPSTONE DIPLOMA PROGRAM (COLLEGE BOARD)

This program consists of 2 AP courses - **AP Seminar** and **AP Research**. Both courses are project-based and take an interdisciplinary approach to learning. Students will investigate, research, write, defend, make arguments, and present on topics from any discipline.

- Students who earn scores of 3 or higher in AP Seminar and AP Research and on 4 additional AP Exams of their choosing receive the AP Capstone Diploma™
- Students who earn scores of 3 or higher in AP Seminar and AP Research but not on four additional AP Exams receive the AP Seminar and Research Certificate.

Students are not required to take both courses but are encouraged to in order to have the opportunity for the abovementioned College Board achievements. This is a two-year program as AP Seminar is a prerequisite for AP Research.

<u>AP Seminar*</u> Grades: 10-11 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: Semester one average of B+ or better in any 2 Honors level courses or departmental recommendation *This course does not follow the district's course level placement criteria.
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As the College Board describes, this full-year course “engages students in cross-curricular conversations that explore the complexities of academic and real-world topics and issues by analyzing divergent perspectives. Students learn to investigate a problem or issue, analyze arguments, compare different perspectives, synthesize information from multiple sources, and work alone and in a group to communicate their ideas.” Students are assessed based on individual research-based writing assignments (scored by the College Board), individual and team presentations (scored by the teacher), and an end-of-year AP Exam (scored by the College Board). All of these components are averaged to determine a student’s final AP score. *As per our district policy, all AP students must take the College Board Advanced Placement exam to receive the AP weighting in their GPA. The completion of a summer assignment is required.*

<u>AP Research*</u> Grades: 11-12 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: Successful completion of AP Seminar and teacher recommendation *This course does not follow the district's course level placement criteria.
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AP Research is the second course required for the College Board's 2-year [AP Capstone Diploma](#) program. Students design, execute, present, and defend a year-long research-based investigation on a topic of individual interest. They build on skills developed in AP Seminar by learning how to understand research methodology; employ ethical research practices; and collect, analyze, and synthesize information to contribute to academic research. Like AP Seminar, AP Research is a project-based course. Each student’s official AP Research score is based on an academic paper, presentation, and oral defense. There is no end-of-course exam for AP Research. *The completion of a summer assignment is required.*

Freshman Seminar CPA Grade: 9 Credits: 2.5	Prerequisite: None
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This semester course is designed to assist freshmen students with their adjustment to high school life in key areas: academics, social relations, and emotional well-being. This course will allow students to acquire and apply knowledge, attitudes, and skills necessary to understand and manage emotions, navigate academics and organization/time management, establish and achieve positive goals, practice self-advocacy, and conflict resolution, and develop responsible decision-making skills to succeed in high school, college, and career. Through activities, readings, group discussions, and film, students will explore strategies to improve study skills and focus on social, emotional learning.

Arts Course Descriptions

(Visual & Performing Arts, 21st Century Life and Careers)

Visual Arts:

AP Art History Grades: 10-12 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: Semester one average of A- or better in a History Honors course and teacher recommendation
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AP Art History is a rigorous college-level course designed for the serious student who will enjoy learning about the symbolism and history behind each work of art. This course emphasizes a deep, conceptual understanding of historical concepts in art. Students will develop the essential skills of visual and contextual analysis constructing understandings of the pieces and their interconnections throughout history. By examining works of art from diverse cultures and the relationships among these works, students develop an understanding of global artistic traditions. Students will be required to use critical analysis and higher-level abstract reasoning skills when examining approximately 250 works of art in their contexts, considering issues of patronage, gender, politics, religion, and ethnicity. The interpretation of the work of art is based upon its intended use, audience, and the role of the artist and the work of art in its particular society. Students will expand their knowledge of history, geography, politics, religion, languages, and literature, as they explore the story of people as told through the art they created. There is an intensive homework load including readings, independent research using the visual literacy matrix, preparation for exams, and projects outside of class. The completion of a summer assignment is required. *As per our district policy, all AP students must take the College Board Advanced Placement exam to receive the AP weighting in their GPA.*

AP Art & Design: (2D Art and Design or Drawing)* Grade: 11-12 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: Successful completion of at least two West Essex High School art courses with a grade of A- or better (Studio Art, Fashion Design, Graphic Design, Digital Photography) and teacher recommendation OR portfolio review with teacher recommendation <i>*This course does not follow the district's course level placement criteria.</i>
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This course is designed for the serious art student who is interested in completing a portfolio of work that can be used to further study in art, architecture, fashion, photography, or any field of design. Students may choose to focus on Drawing which focuses on the aesthetics of mark-making in all of its forms or 2D Art and Design which focuses on some forms of painting and drawing, photography, digital art, or fashion. In each specialization, students are required to create a body of work that demonstrates a wide range of technical

experience and the ability to think creatively in the completion of self-designed projects. AP Art and Design is for highly motivated students who are passionate about the study of art. The course demands significant commitment and requires independent studio work outside of class. The completion of a summer assignment is required. *As per our district policy, all AP students must take the College Board Advanced Placement exam to receive the AP weighting in their GPA.*

<u>Graphic Design I CPA</u> Grades: 9-12 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: None
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This course will focus on graphic design using Adobe Photoshop and other popular graphic design programs. Projects are designed to introduce the field of graphic design to the student and to build their portfolio. Students will build on knowledge gained in previous art classes with respect to various media, aesthetics, and art history. This course prepares students to apply artistic techniques to express themselves through electronic media using typography, illustration, symbolism, and photography, combined with a firm foundation based on the elements and principles of art to create a basic portfolio of work.

<u>Graphic Design II CPA</u> Grades: 10-12 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: Successful completion of Graphic Design I CPA and teacher recommendation OR portfolio review with teacher recommendation
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This course is designed to provide students with an opportunity to master the art of page layout and design for print and electronic publication. In addition, this course will cover the history of page layout, design, and innovative trends, as well as provide student exposure to professional samples, lectures, demonstrations, and guest speakers. Students will build on the foundation developed in Graphic Design I, and produce original print and electronic publication media, presentations, and portfolios. At the conclusion of this course, students will have produced an electronic portfolio of work accompanied by a personal promotional brochure and website.

<u>Graphic Design III Honors</u> Grades: 11-12 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: Semester one average of A- or better in Graphic Design II CPA and teacher recommendation OR portfolio review with teacher recommendation
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In preparation for graphic generation for television production, gaming, multimedia, presentations, advertising commercials, and web design, this course is a natural third level for the computer graphic design students, as it will be a training ground for higher-level graphic illustration and design, special effects and animation artists. Graphic Design III students will learn advanced techniques in computer drawing, painting, and compositing in order to explore, develop, and communicate ideas, solutions, information, and feelings as evidenced by the popular media of today in film, print, television commercials, shows, and electronic mass media. From art to advertising product design, three-dimensional thinking is mandatory for success in the world of the twenty-first century. Students will build on the knowledge gained in Graphic Design I and II and learn advanced illustration and design and layout skills while exploring the basics marketing and how it fits into the world of today's design professionals.

<u>Digital Photography CPA</u> Grades: 9-12 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: None
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Digital Photography focuses on understanding the basic operations and functions of a digital single-lens reflex camera (DSLR) and the manipulation of its settings to achieve a specific result. Students will explore the history of photography, learning about its technological developments, important innovators in the field, significance within the larger context of the art world, and relevance as a career in today's society. Students will learn about the elements of art, composition, and lighting. Students will learn about the aesthetic, technical, and expressive qualities in a photograph, learning to critique their own and others' work. Students learn image techniques and digital manipulation using Adobe Photoshop and Lightroom, and how to manage and creatively alter digital images. They will be provided the opportunity to pursue their own interests and develop an individual voice.

<u>Studio Art I CPA</u> Grades: 9-12 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: None
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Studio Art I introduces students to the Elements of Art and Principles of Design while experiencing a variety of concepts and art media, specifically drawing and painting. Students will develop basic skills and create original artwork through studio experiences in the classroom. Students will make connections to their world by studying art history and works of various artists to facilitate an appreciation of visual art. By the end of the year, students will understand the fundamentals of art and be prepared for further high school art experiences.

<u>Studio Art II CPA</u> Grades: 10-12 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: Successful completion of Studio Art I CPA, or Fashion Design I CPA and teacher recommendation OR portfolio review with teacher recommendation.
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Studio Art II is an intermediate art course for the serious art student who wishes to advance their skills to a higher level. It exposes students to a variety of studio experiences for further refinement of previously learned skills. Students will go further in-depth in their skills and understanding of all types of media and subject matter as the development of personal style evolves throughout this course. Contemporary trends in art will be integrated within this course to enrich student knowledge and awareness.

<u>Studio Art III Honors</u> Grades: 11-12 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: Semester one average of A- or better in Studio Art II CPA, Drawing and Composition II CPA, Fashion Design II CPA or Fashion II Honors and teacher recommendation OR portfolio review with teacher recommendation.
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This course is designed to provide intensive study in art for those students who have a high level of interest in developing their visual forms of expression in greater depth. Students will work to synthesize the elements and principles of design into a personal style and give particular attention to the content of the meaning of the student's artwork. Emphasis will be placed on portfolio development and the production of works that are suitable for college applications.

<u>Studio Art IV Honors</u> Grade: 12 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: Semester one average of A- or better in Studio Art III Honors or AP Art and Design and teacher recommendation OR portfolio review and teacher recommendation.
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Studio Art IV Honors is a rigorous course for the serious art student interested in developing a personal body of artwork suitable for college and art school applications. The course covers a wide variety of media as students work to develop technical skills as well as the meaning and content of their work. Students who choose to take AP Art and Design as a junior may wish to take Studio Art IV Honors as a senior to further develop their portfolio.

<u>Yearbook CPA</u> Grade: 11-12 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: Successful completion of Graphic Design I CPA or Digital Photography CPA or Multimedia Design CPA, and Teacher recommendation OR Previous experience with Milestone Yearbook Club.
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Students enrolled in this course will exercise their creativity while developing skills in computer and graphic design, photography, copywriting, advertising and marketing, public relations and promotion, distribution, and project management. Students will be responsible for the production, design, and publication of the school yearbook. Leadership skills, management, planning, and organization are developed throughout the course through hands-on activities. Students in the class are expected to work both collaboratively and independently. Students who wish to serve as yearbook editors should consider this course. *Students in this production-based course are required to complete work both in-class and after-school to ensure timely delivery of the yearbook. Students who are interested in working on the yearbook but who are not registered for the course may still join the Milestone Yearbook Club.*

Performing Arts:

<u>AP Music Theory*</u> Grades: 10-12 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: At least 1 year of Band/Choir/Orchestra and teacher recommendation. <i>*This course does not follow the district's course level placement criteria.</i>
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The ultimate goal of AP Music Theory is to develop a student's ability to recognize, understand and describe the basic to advanced materials and processes of music that are heard or presented in a score. Achievement of this goal is approached by addressing fundamental aural, analytical, and compositional skills using both listening and written exercises. The course progresses to include more creative tasks, such as the harmonization of a melody by selecting appropriate chords, composing a musical bass line to provide a two-voice counterpoint, or realization of figured-bass notation. Musicianship skills such as dictation and other listening skills, sight-singing, and keyboard harmony are considered important to the theory course. It is strongly recommended that a student has acquired at least basic performance skills in voice or on an instrument before taking this course. The completion of a summer assignment is required. *As per our district policy, all AP students must take the College Board Advanced Placement exam to receive the AP weighting in their GPA.*

<u>Band CPA - Concert Band</u> Grades: 9-12 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation
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Band is a course designed to meet the musical needs of all wind and percussion players in grades 9 through 12. Emphasis is placed on the continuation of the development of the student's musical skills from their experience

in the middle school band program. Students will gain knowledge of music literature and performance techniques from a variety of time periods and styles. Members of the band are strongly encouraged to participate in all aspects of the program (co-curricular and extracurricular offerings) and are required to attend weekly group lessons, concerts, dress rehearsals, festival adjudications, and perform at high school graduation.

Concert Band is the first tier in the two-tiered band system. Concert Band is geared towards the developing student and provides an experience for those who are pursuing a higher level of skill and musical understanding. The music performed includes selections at levels 1,2, or 3 (NBA Grading) in contemporary and traditional compositions. Recommendation for each group is based on the required instrumentation of the ensemble, total years of playing experience, written and playing exams, rehearsal etiquette, performance demonstration in lessons, rehearsals, and performances, and schedule availability.

Instrumental Group Lessons- All band students receive instruction on their instrument during unit lunch one time per eight-day rotation. The lessons develop necessary skills that allow each student to benefit from the ensemble experience. Embouchure, breath control, tone, note and rhythm reading, technique, articulation, and musicianship are studied.

<u>Band Honors- Concert Band*</u> Grades: 10-12 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: Concert Band CPA and teacher recommendation based on successful completion of Honors Application process and instrumental audition. *This course does not follow the district's course level placement criteria.
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Students taking band at the honors level will have additional responsibilities beyond the CPA level band class. These responsibilities include a combination of musical experiences outside of school, participation in co-curricular music ensembles, and preparation of level-appropriate solo repertoire. Students who wish to take band at the honors level must receive a teacher recommendation by successfully completing the application process in January of the prior school year. Students interested in applying for consideration for the Honors program should contact their music director for more information.

<u>Band CPA - Symphonic Winds</u> Grades: 9-12 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation
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Band is a course designed to meet the musical needs of all wind and percussion players in grades 9 through 12. Emphasis is placed on the continuation of the development of the student's musical skills from their experience in the middle school band program. Students will gain knowledge of music literature and performance techniques from a variety of time periods and styles. Members of the band are strongly encouraged to participate in all aspects of the program (co-curricular and extracurricular offerings) and are required to attend weekly group lessons, concerts, dress rehearsals, festival adjudications, and perform at high school graduation.

Symphonic Winds is the second tier of the two-tiered band system and comprises the advanced band students. Symphonic Winds studies and performs at a grade 3, 4, and 5 (NBA Grading) level in contemporary and traditional compositions. Students must possess advanced techniques and a strong desire to make music with others at the highest possible level. All fundamentals required for Concert Band must already be well established as demonstrated in all rehearsals, performances, and lessons. Students are strongly encouraged to seek private instrumental music instruction. Recommendation for each group is based upon the required instrumentation of the ensemble, total years of playing experience, written and playing exams, rehearsal etiquette, performance demonstration in lessons, rehearsals, and performances, and schedule availability.

Instrumental Group Lessons- All band students receive instruction on their instrument during unit lunch one time per eight-day rotation. The lessons develop necessary skills that allow each student to benefit from the ensemble experience. Embouchure, breath control, tone, note and rhythm reading, technique, articulation, and musicianship are studied.

Instrumental Group Lessons- All band students receive instruction on their instrument during unit lunch one time per eight-day rotation. The lessons develop necessary skills that allow each student to benefit from the ensemble experience. Embouchure, breath control, tone, note and rhythm reading, technique, articulation, and musicianship are studied.

<u>Band Honors-Symphonic Winds*</u> Grades: 10-12 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: Placement in Symphonic Winds and teacher recommendation based on successful completion of honors application process and instrumental audition. *This course does not follow the district's course level placement criteria.
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Students taking band at the honors level will have additional responsibilities beyond the CPA level band class. These responsibilities include a combination of musical experiences outside of school, participation in co-curricular music ensembles, and preparation of level-appropriate solo repertoire. Students who wish to take band at the honors level must receive a teacher recommendation by successfully completing the application process in January of the prior school year. Students interested in applying for consideration for the Honors program should contact their music director for more information.

<u>Treble Choir CPA</u> Grades: 9 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation
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This course is designed to transition Freshman treble voices into the rigors of singing in a high school choral ensemble. This course will meet the needs of those students who are interested in developing good vocal technique, sight-reading skills, and ensemble singing. Diction, breath control, tone, sight-reading, technique, intonation, and musicianship within the choral repertoire are studied.

Music of a variety of styles, genres, and difficulties, as well as seasonal repertoire, will be studied and performed. Students are required to attend all scheduled activities, rehearsals, and performances. The winter and spring concerts are mandatory. Choir members must attend one choir lesson during unit lunch per four-day rotation of the add-drop schedule. Students in this group have the opportunity to audition for the WE Acapella ensemble, Region Chorus, and All-State Chorus, as well as participate in music department performances, festivals, and field trips.

<u>Concert Choir CPA</u> Grades: 9-12 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation
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This course is designed for male and female voices to meet the needs of those students who are interested in further developing good vocal technique, sight-reading skills, and ensemble singing. Diction, breath control, tone, sight-reading, technique, intonation, and musicianship within the choral repertoire are studied.

Music of a variety of styles, genres, and difficulties, as well as seasonal repertoire, will be studied and performed. Students are required to attend all scheduled activities, rehearsals, and performances. Choir

members must attend one choir lesson during unit lunch per four-day rotation of the add-drop schedule. Students in this group have the opportunity to audition for co-curricular choir, Region Chorus, and All-State Chorus, as well as participate in music department performances, festivals, and field trips.

<u>Concert Choir Honors*</u> Grades: 10-12 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation based on successful completion of honors application process and vocal audition. *This course does not follow the district's course level placement criteria.
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Students taking choir at the Honors level will have additional responsibilities beyond the CPA level choir class. These responsibilities include a combination of musical experiences outside of school, participation in a co-curricular choir is encouraged, and preparation of level-appropriate solo repertoire. Students who wish to take choir at the honors level must receive a teacher recommendation by successfully completing the application process in January of the prior school year. Students interested in applying for consideration for the Honors program should contact their music director for more information. Students in this group have the opportunity to audition for the WE Acapella ensemble, Region Chorus, and All-State Chorus, as well as participate in music department performances, festivals, and field trips.

<u>Guitar CPA</u> Grades: 9-12 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: None
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This full-year instrumental music course is designed for beginning guitarists with little or no experience on the instrument. Students will learn a variety of playing techniques in addition to developing the fundamentals of music literacy and notation, song performance, accompaniment techniques, listening, and improvising. Instruction will be provided on acoustic guitars. Performance opportunities will be available to students who desire the experience but are not a requirement of the course.

<u>Music Technology CPA</u> Grades: 9-12 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: None
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Music Technology provides students with an introduction to hands-on learning experiences through professional music technology hardware and software. Students will be introduced to audio recording and editing, MIDI sequencing, loop, and beat-based sound production, as well as notation, orchestration, composition and live audio recording. Little to no musical experience is required for this course, however, students with an aptitude for guitar, piano, bass, vocal, band, and orchestra performance will be able to integrate their musical interests within this course.

<u>Orchestra CPA</u> Grades: 9-12 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation
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Orchestra is a course designed to meet the musical needs and interests of all string players in grades 9 through 12. Emphasis is placed on the continuation of the development of the student's musical skills from their experience in the middle school orchestra program. Students will gain knowledge of music literature and performance techniques from a variety of time periods and styles. New students who possess a strong work

ethic are always welcome to join the orchestra during their high school years. In addition to performing at school assemblies and winter and spring festivals, the orchestra also performs at various community functions. Students are expected to attend all weekly lessons, scheduled activities, dress rehearsals, and performances.

Instrumental Group Lessons - All orchestra students receive small group lesson instruction during unit lunch once during the four-day rotation. The lessons develop necessary skills that allow each student to benefit from the ensemble experience. Bowing technique, tone production, music literacy, left-hand technique, articulation, and musicianship are studied and developed through small group lesson instruction.

<u>Orchestra Honors*</u> Grades: 10-12 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: Orchestra CPA and teacher recommendation based on successful completion of Honors application process and instrumental audition. *This course does not follow the district's course level placement criteria.
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Students taking orchestra at the honors level will have additional responsibilities beyond the CPA level orchestra class. These responsibilities include a combination of recorded performance assessments, preparation of level-appropriate solo or small ensemble repertoire, and self-assessment/reflection-based writing assignments. Students who wish to take orchestra at the honors level must receive a teacher recommendation by successfully completing the application process in January of the prior school year. The process consists of a recorded audition and written application. Students interested in applying for consideration for the Honors program should contact their music director for more information.

<u>Theatre Arts CPA</u> Grades: 9-12 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: None
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This course actively engages students as they explore theatre from an introductory level, focusing on theatre history and the fundamentals of theatre arts, through goals of performance, pantomime, improvisation, monologues, character development, scene work, playwriting, and basics of technical theatre. Students will participate in a variety of discussions, individual and group projects, theatre games, small and large group activities, performance and performance-sharing sessions focusing on acquiring performance skills that include, but are not limited to: character development, vocal quality, facial expression, stage presence, and movement. Students will experience performing comedic, dramatic and improvisational roles in various settings.

21st Century Life & Careers: Family and Consumer Science

<u>Culinary Arts I CPA</u> Grades: 10-12 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: None
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Culinary Arts I is the foundation-level course designed to prepare students with the knowledge and skills necessary for success in the kitchen. Culinary Arts I includes a balance of coursework, lecture, and demonstration. Students will hone culinary skills by participating in hands-on labs where they will execute a recipe from preparation to cleanup. Topic areas will include food selection and storage, cooking techniques, nutrition, culinary math and measurement, artistic plating, recipe reading and development, and appreciation of cultural traditions and regional cuisine.

<u>Culinary Arts II CPA</u> Grades: 11-12 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: Successful completion of Culinary Arts I and teacher recommendation
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Culinary Arts II is designed for students who desire to advance their skills in the culinary field. The students learn advanced food preparation skills while refining their time management and organizational skills. This course focuses on the creative planning, preparation, and service of meals from appetizers to desserts. This class encourages independence while integrating teamwork, communication, and leadership skills through demonstrations and hands-on experiences.

<u>Culinary Arts II Honors</u> Grades: 11-12 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: Semester one average of A- or better in Culinary Arts I CPA and teacher recommendation
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Students taking Culinary Arts II at the honors level will have additional responsibilities beyond the CPA level culinary class. These responsibilities include a combination of culinary experiences outside of school, participation in culinary competitions, and completion of the ServSafe certification program in safe food handling. Students who wish to take Culinary Arts II at the honors level must receive a teacher recommendation. Students interested in applying for consideration for the Honors course should contact their culinary teacher for more information.

<u>Food and Sports Nutrition CPA</u> Grades: 11-12 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: None
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A healthy lifestyle, well-balanced eating, and physical activity are key factors to an individual's overall sense of wellness. Food and Sports Nutrition is designed to inform, challenge, and guide the eating patterns of each student to help achieve their physical performance goals while optimizing nutritional health. This course will provide students with the opportunity to recognize and understand the implications of food and health, conscious eating, nutrition, fitness, food safety, weight management, and the relationship between nutrition and sports. Further study of these topic areas supports the goals of optimizing athletic performance and enhancing mood improvement. Food and Sports Nutrition includes a balance of demonstrations, hands-on experiences, development of critical thinking skills, and exploration of careers related to sports, nutrition, and wellness.

<u>Fashion Design I CPA</u> Grades: 9-12 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: None
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Approach the World of Fashion through illustration and design. Students will learn about the elements and principles of art as they apply to fashion and textile design. Students will render fashion illustrations through a variety of media and fabrications. Projects and activities will be enhanced by student exploration of fashion's role in contemporary issues. Students will also learn to sew. Students will be expected to provide some of their own sewing project materials.

<u>Fashion Design II Honors</u> Grades: 10-12 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: Successful completion Fashion Illustration I CPA or Studio Art 1 CPA and teacher recommendation or portfolio review and teacher recommendation.
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This advanced-level course will expand on the design concepts introduced in Fashion Design I with a higher level of student-driven outcomes. Students who excel in the Arts and have an interest in the field will be supported in their development in creating their own style/voice within their original art. Projects and activities will expand on student Fashion Industry awareness by exploring careers within the field of design, categories, and markets of fashion, and relationships between history, culture, and fashion. Students taking Fashion Design II at the honors level will have additional responsibilities beyond the CPA level fashion class. Students will also learn to sew. Students will be expected to provide some of their own sewing project materials.

21st Century Life & Careers: Technology Education

<u>Architectural Design Honors*</u> Grades: 10-12 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: Successful completion of Foundations of Engineering and Architectural Design CPA and teacher recommendation *This course does not follow the district's course level placement criteria.
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Architectural Design Honors is for students who wish to pursue a degree in architecture and design or gain employment in architecture, drafting, project management, or other related areas. The course is focused on the principles, concepts, and use of graphic tools in architecture, structural systems, and construction. Emphasis is placed on housing designs, which include floor plans, roof designs, elevations (interior and exterior), and foundations.

Students will prepare working drawings, including floor plans, elevation drawings, sections, site plans, and project renderings using AutoCAD, Revit, and other 3D modeling software. Students will learn about sustainable, green, and energy-efficient design practices that are quickly becoming the standard in modern-day building design and planning. This course will enhance the students' awareness of various facets of the architectural field, including construction techniques, historical perspectives, landscape design, architectural styles, building codes, and client design considerations. Students will be able to communicate architectural ideas in an understandable, efficient, and accurate manner both in person and through digital presentations.

<u>Engineering Design and Robotics Honors*</u> Grades: 10-12 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: Successful completion of Foundations of Engineering and Architectural Design CPA and teacher recommendation *This course does not follow the district's course level placement criteria.
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This course involves an active hands-on approach to solving technological problems in engineering and robotics. Students will explore various aspects of engineering while developing problem-solving skills with an emphasis on contemporary engineering practices, the design process, teamwork, and the safe use of tools and technologies that engineers employ. Students will work with design software to produce 2 and 3-dimensional drawings of solutions to engineering-related problems while understanding the connections between Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Mathematical concepts in designing and testing ideas that fit certain defined project criteria. Students will develop critical thinking skills using an interdisciplinary approach to problem-solving by being challenged to find solutions to problems in the areas of energy conservation, construction, and applied engineering. Possible projects may include balsa bridges, CO2 dragsters, transportation systems, rockets, and robotics. Students have the opportunity to compete in Technology Student

Association competitions, and more regional and national STEAM competitions. This course is highly recommended for students interested in STEAM careers including engineering, architecture, and physical science.

<u>Engineering Graphics Honors: 3D Modeling and Rapid Prototyping*</u> Grades: 10-12 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: Successful completion of Foundations of Engineering and Architectural Design CPA and teacher recommendation *This course does not follow the district's course level placement criteria.
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Students will continue to develop skills in 3-D modeling and printing design and technology that they have learned in previous coursework, to generate effective prototypes and models to provide physical solutions to real-world problems. Topics include fundamentals of engineering graphics, conventional drawing techniques, and using AutoCAD, Inventor, and SketchUp software. Upon successful completion of this course, students should be able to effectively produce 3-D models and 2-D Drawings using Autodesk Inventor software programs to communicate their ideas. Additionally, students will be given long-term three-dimensional design projects throughout the year to reinforce concepts of Engineering Graphics, Blueprint reading, geometric constructions, multiview projections, dimensioning, and creating Sectional and Auxiliary views. Students will also learn how to create animations from their assemblies which will allow them to demonstrate and virtually recreate mechanical processes. Students also have the opportunity to compete in state and national technology competitions outside of class.

<u>Foundations of Engineering and Architectural Design CPA</u> Grades: 9-12 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: None
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In this course, students are introduced to the engineering design process and will apply concepts in science, technology, engineering, art, and mathematics (STEAM) to hands-on projects. This class is a must for students who are interested in any type of engineering, architecture, or product design. The course focuses on learning numerous engineering and design principles related to hand drawing and computer-aided design. Programs such as AutoCAD for drafting, Inventor and SketchUp for 3D modeling and rapid prototyping, and Revit for architectural design are explored through concentrated assignments and real-world projects. Throughout the course, students will complete many digital and hands-on projects to enhance their learning, encourage their creativity, and work on their design development. Portfolio development and project documentation concepts will be introduced and carried through to other STEAM courses.

<u>Multimedia Design CPA</u> Grades: 9-12 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: None
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Students will go beyond print to design graphically exciting content to reach mass media audiences on the vast number of digital media devices that exist today. They will learn how to develop rich, attention-grabbing, custom slide shows. They will design engaging web and blog content, and create original graphically pleasing digital promotion materials. Students will create interdisciplinary multimedia projects. Students will incorporate and edit digital photographs, film original videos and edit audio into their projects. Students will utilize the Adobe Creative Cloud Suite and open source software to create content-rich multimedia presentations, productions, and publications.

<u>Woods Technology I CPA</u> Grades: 9-12 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: None
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Woods Technology I is the foundation level course in which students are provided with the opportunity to develop knowledge and skill in the manipulation of hand tools and machines. The student is also exposed to industrial techniques and materials related to topics including wood finishing and basic cabinet making. Opportunities are provided for students to develop an appreciation of the components of good design and to explore possible vocational interests.

<u>Woods Technology II CPA</u> Grades: 10-12 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: Successful completion of Woods Technology I CPA and teacher recommendation
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Woods Technology II provides students with the opportunity to build upon their knowledge and skills introduced in Woods Technology I. Advanced woodworking and carpentry skills allow students to demonstrate their understanding of the fundamentals of good design while exploring vocational interests.

<u>Woods Technology III Honors</u> Grades: 11-12 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: Semester one average of A- or better in Woods Technology II CPA and teacher recommendation
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Woods Technology III Honors is an honors level course for students who show passion and high levels of interest in woodworking. Students will examine concepts in sustainable building technologies with LEED standards. A focus for students at this level will be to learn how to repurpose, reuse and recycle.

<u>Woods Technology IV Honors</u> Grades: 12 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: Successful completion of Woods Technology III Honors and teacher recommendation
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Woods Technology IV Honors is an honors level course for students who show passion and high levels of interest in woodworking. The student is also exposed to industrial techniques and materials related to topics including renovations, construction and repair. Real-world opportunities are provided for students to demonstrate their mastery of the components of good design and to explore possible vocational interests.

Business Course Descriptions

All business courses count towards the credits needed to fulfill the 21st Century Life and Careers graduation requirement.

<u>Business Law Honors</u> Grades: 10-12 Credits: 2.5	Prerequisite: None
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This course familiarizes students with basic principles of law as they relate to civil and business matters. Students explore areas such as tort law, court systems, ethical decision-making, contracts, and employment law. Current and historical legal cases present situations for examination and discussion. This class introduces students to important ethical and cultural challenges that they will face as business leaders.

<u>Business Management Honors</u> Grades: 10-12 Credits: 2.5	Prerequisite: None
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Students will become familiar with influences on business and management responsibilities. Current case studies present important real-world and ethical situations for examination and discussion. Students play the Stock Market Game and learn the art of investing. Through current event articles, financial websites, business publications, and a management simulation, students practice decision-making and problem-solving skills.

<u>Entrepreneurship CPA</u> Grades: 9-12 Credits: 2.5	Prerequisite: None
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In this course, students will gain an understanding of the general business principles necessary to start and manage a business venture. In this hands-on course, students will study the elements of a comprehensive business plan, which includes items such as college and career readiness skills, looking at marketing data and choosing a business type, learning how to calculate business finances, creating an advertising strategy for a business, and making design decisions. To accomplish this task, students will work collaboratively. Topics will provide students with many of the required attitudes, values, and business practices necessary for success. Students who embrace the entrepreneurial spirit will often find success in a wide range of endeavors.

<u>Financial Accounting I Honors*</u> Grades: 10-12 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: Semester one average of C+ or better in Algebra I Honors OR semester one average of B+ or better in Algebra I CPA *This course does not follow the district's course level placement criteria.
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This rigorous course is equivalent to Accounting 101 at the college level. It is taught at an accelerated pace using a college textbook and covers fundamental accounting procedures with an emphasis on recording, reporting, summarizing, and analyzing the financial activities of a business. Topics include the conceptual basis of accounting, reporting process, accounting cycle, merchandising operations, internal control, accounting for inventory, plant and equipment, and current liabilities. An analysis of financial statements is an important aspect of this course. Prior working knowledge of spreadsheet creating and manipulation is recommended. This course fulfills a State semester course requirement for Financial Literacy.

<u>Financial Accounting II Honors*</u> Grades: 11-12 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: Successful completion of Financial Accounting I Honors and teacher recommendation *This course does not follow the district's course level placement criteria.
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Financial Accounting II is an honors course. This course covers fundamental individual tax terms and forms, as well as the theory and history behind our tax system. Topics covered include federal income tax withholding, refunds, deductions, filing status, self-employment, alternative tax systems, Tax Policy, Mortgages; Buying, Refinancing, Loan Options, Interest Rates, Forensic Accounting, and Financial Statement Analysis.

<u>Digital Marketing and Social Media CPA</u> Grades: 9-12 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: None
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This course introduces students to the vast fields of marketing and retailing. Students develop the knowledge and skills needed to begin their education in business, marketing, fashion merchandising, and retailing, as well as those skills necessary for immediate employment. Through the use of projects, simulations, role-playing, and DECA activities, students receive first-hand experience in marketing functions and career information. In addition to learning the tenets of marketing, students will also be responsible for managing and maintaining the High School's official Instagram account.

<u>Personal Finance CPA</u> Grades: 9-12 Credits: 2.5	Prerequisite: None
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This course will address financial literacy and help students learn how to make informed decisions for financial security as well as learn how their decisions impact local and global communities. Students will apply the principles of planning personal finances, banking, and credit, saving and investing financial resources as well as protecting their finances. They will also understand how to create a financial plan for their college and future plans. This course fulfills a state semester course requirement for Financial Literacy.

<u>Sport Management Honors</u> Grades: 11-12 Credits: 2.5	Prerequisite: None
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For students looking for a career in sport management, Sport Management is an essential introduction to the field's concepts through an examination of problems and issues faced by contemporary sport managers. You will learn to identify and describe the unique characteristics of sport; examine some of the major problems facing sport managers; develop a knowledge of what is involved in problems and solutions; apply the foundation and principles of sport management to various aspects of the industry; understand the social and ethical responsibilities involved in managing sports organizations and events; and identify career opportunities and how to prepare for them. Unique characteristics of sport and resulting social and ethical responsibilities of sport managers will be discussed. Students have the option to receive 3 college credits at \$115/credit through Syracuse University Project Advance. If a student is registering for the Syracuse course, SPM 205: Principles and Contemporary Issues in Sport Management is an introductory course offered through the Syracuse University David Falk College of Sport and Human Dynamics.

Sports and Entertainment Marketing CPA Grades: 9-12 Credits: 2.5	Prerequisite: None
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This course will take students step-by-step through the world of marketing. They will learn the basic functions of marketing and how these functions are applied to sports and entertainment. The basic functions of marketing include management-information, financing, pricing, promotion, product/service planning, distribution, and selling.

Introduction to Business and Business Applications CPA Grades: 9-12 Credits: 2.5	Prerequisite: None
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This course will introduce students to a comprehensive array of essential business concepts. The principles covered in this course will provide a strong initial foundation for students who wish to progress to more specific course offerings in the Business Department. The course will also cover current technology concerns as they relate to business topics. The course further develops an understanding and provides an overview of business disciplines such as economics, finance, investing, business ethics and employment skills. The psychology of working in teams and a necessary understanding of group dynamic skills to function in a business environment will also be presented. Students will utilize Google Apps including Docs, Sheets, and Slides. Knowledge of these programs is a primary tool to function in a 21st century business environment.

Work-Based Internship/Cooperative Education Grade: 12 Credits: 15	Prerequisite: Student in good standing in attendance and discipline and teacher interview
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Work-based Internship/Cooperative Education provides high school credit combining academic study with practical work experience. Receiving on-the-job training, developing business contacts, exploring career options, and building community networking are some of the benefits of enrolling in this program. Students can prepare for careers, such as accounting, business administration and management, finance, banking, insurance, and early childhood education. Students attend school in the morning and report to their work site in the afternoon. Students are expected to maintain good attendance in school and work a minimum of fifteen hours per week. Students earn fifteen credits for the Work-based Internship/Cooperative Education class and employment. The teacher provides ongoing worksite monitoring and assessment in conjunction with a formal training plan, discussion of workplace experience, and a final evaluation. Cooperative education is an excellent way for students to experience a career of interest, to obtain the necessary skills for success in college, and to assist in the transition to the world of work.

***Note:** *Students will be graded on the work they complete in the course and earn credit for their time at their place of employment.*

English Course Descriptions

<u>English I CPA</u> Grade: 9 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: Successful completion of English 8 and Reading 8
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English I CPA begins with a writing-intensive unit designed to prepare students for high school and college writing. Students will engage in the close reading of dense literary nonfiction as a means to drive multi-paragraph writing that focuses on the application of ideas. Assigned reading will include the study of a variety of genres: the novel, the memoir, informational texts, the short story, the graphic novel, drama with an emphasis on Shakespeare, poetry, and the epic poem. Additionally, students are expected to fulfill at least one independent reading requirement each marking period. Independent reading assignments will be assessed in a variety of ways. *The completion of a summer assignment is required.*

<u>English I Honors</u> Grade: 9 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: Semester one average of A in English 8 and Reading 8 and teacher recommendations
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English I Honors begins with a writing-intensive unit designed to prepare students for high school and college writing. Students will engage in the close reading of dense literary nonfiction as a means to drive multi-paragraph writing that focuses on the application of ideas. At the honors level, students are expected to read and comprehend multiple texts and place them in conversation with one another. Assigned reading will include the study of a variety of genres: the novel, the memoir, informational texts, the short story, the graphic novel, drama with an emphasis on Shakespeare, poetry, and the epic poem. Additionally, students are expected to fulfill at least one independent reading requirement each marking period. *The completion of a summer assignment is required.*

<u>English II CPA</u> Grade: 10 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: Successful completion of English I CPA
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English II CPA revolves around classic and contemporary world literature and nonfiction that explore the human condition. Students read texts through a variety of lenses with semester-long units focusing on Power, Gender, and Survival and Conflict, Betrayal, and Truth. The texts are inclusive of a wide array of genres including the novel, memoir, speech, essay, short story, poetry, and biography. Students will practice writing in a wide variety of forms including a global research project that requires students to apply ideas from their texts to real-world problems or conflicts. In addition to core texts and class reading, students are expected to fulfill independent reading requirements with the same high level of inquiry. *The completion of a summer assignment is required.*

<u>English II Honors</u> Grade: 10 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: Semester one average of C or better in English I Honors OR semester one average of A- or better in English I CPA and teacher recommendation
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English II Honors revolves around classic and contemporary world literature and nonfiction that explores the human condition. Students read texts through a variety of lenses with semester-long units focusing on Power,

Gender, and Survival and Conflict, Betrayal, and Truth. The texts are inclusive of a wide array of genres including the novel, memoir, speech, essay, short story, poetry, and biography. At the honors level, students are expected to synthesize information and make connections across texts and disciplines. Students enhance vocabulary and knowledge through close-reading of rich nonfiction. Students will practice writing in a wide variety of forms including a global research project that requires students to apply ideas from their texts to real-world problems or conflicts. In addition to core texts and class reading, students are expected to fulfill independent reading requirements with the same high level of inquiry. *The completion of a summer assignment is required.*

<u>English III CPA</u> Grade: 11 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: Successful completion of English II CPA
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English III CPA covers classic and contemporary American works of fiction, non-fiction, poetry, and drama. The course is designed to foster independence in reading and writing in each student. Readings are completed independently, as well as in class with added classroom discussion to expand the students' comprehension and analysis of the material. This course also exposes students to the critical reading and writing sections of standardized tests in preparation for the high-stakes standardized tests taken during their junior year. All students are expected to fulfill independent reading requirements each marking period. *The completion of a summer assignment is required.*

<u>English III Honors</u> Grade: 11 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: Semester one average of C or better in English II Honors OR semester one average of A- or better in English II CPA and teacher recommendation
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English III Honors is an in-depth study of classic and contemporary American works of fiction, non-fiction, poetry, and drama. The course is designed to foster independence in reading and writing in each student. At the honors level, readings are completed independently and students are expected to drive the classroom discussion and analysis of the text. This course also exposes students to the critical reading and writing sections of standardized tests in preparation for the high-stakes standardized tests taken during their junior year. All students are expected to fulfill independent reading requirements each marking period. *The completion of a summer assignment is required.*

<u>AP English III - Language and Composition</u> Grade: 11 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: Semester one average of A- or better in English II Honors and teacher recommendation OR semester one average of A or better in English II CPA and teacher recommendation
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The AP course in English Language and Composition fulfills the requirement set forth by The College Board. This rigorous, college-level English course engages the students in becoming skilled readers of prose written in a variety of periods, disciplines, and rhetorical context, and in becoming skilled writers who compose for a variety of purposes. Students will be expected to move beyond programmatic responses as the multi-paragraph essay. Instead, writers will be encouraged to place their emphasis on content, purpose, and audience and to allow this focus to guide the organization of their writing. Students will become skilled at gaining authority and taking risks in their writing. The informed use of research materials and the ability to synthesize varied sources are integral parts of the course. *As per our district policy, all AP students must take the College Board Advanced Placement exam to receive the AP weighting in their GPA. The completion of a summer assignment is required.*

English IV CPA Grade: 12 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: Completion of English III CPA or Honors
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English IV CPA is designed to improve and strengthen the writing skills, critical thinking skills, and information literacy skills essential to students' academic success. Students will be engaged in all stages of the writing process as they prepare for the demands of college writing. Writing covers a wide range of tasks, purposes, and audiences. Units of study will allow for student choice and engage and challenge students as they facilitate extended inquiry by creating a forum for questions, answers, and dialogue. *The completion of a summer assignment is required.*

English IV Honors Grade: 12 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: Semester one average of C or better in English III Honors OR semester one average of A- or better in English III CPA and teacher recommendation
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In English IV Honors, students are expected to have a mature understanding of writing, critical thinking, and information literacy skills essential to academic success. Students will be engaged in all stages of the writing process as they prepare for the demands of college writing. Writing covers a wide range of tasks, purposes, and audiences. Units of study will allow for student choice and engage and challenge students as they facilitate extended inquiry by creating a forum for questions, answers, and dialogue. *The completion of a summer assignment is required.*

AP English IV - Literature and Composition Grade: 12 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: Semester one average of C or better in English III AP OR semester one average of A- or better in English III Honors OR semester one average of A or better in English III CPA, and teacher recommendation
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The Advanced Placement course in English Literature and Composition fulfills the requirements set forth by The College Board. This rigorous, college-level English course engages students in the careful reading and critical analysis of imaginative literature. Through the close reading of selected texts, students deepen their understanding of the way writers use language to provide meaning and pleasure for their readers. As they read, the students consider the work's structure, style, and themes as well as smaller-scale elements such as the use of figurative language, imagery, symbolism, and tone. This course includes intensive study of representative works from various genres and periods, concentrating on works and authors of recognized literary merit. Reading in the AP course is both thorough and deliberate with a focus on the work's complexity, the richness of meaning, and analysis of literary form. Writing to understand a literary work may involve reaction papers, annotation, freewriting, and keeping some form of reading journals. The goal of the writing assignments is to increase students' ability to explain clearly, cogently, even elegantly, what they understand about literary works and why they interpret them as they do. Emphasis is placed on stylistic maturity. *As per our district policy, all AP students must take the College Board Advanced Placement exam in May to receive the AP weighting in their GPA. The completion of a summer assignment is required.*

English Electives

<u>Creative Writing I CPA</u> Grades: 9-12 Credits: 2.5	Prerequisite: None
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Creative Writing I is a first-semester course designed to help students concentrate on works of fiction, drama, and poetry. Students focus on structure and process in the production of original drafts. Skills in peer- and self-evaluation, editing, proofreading, and revision are developed throughout the course. The class is organized as a workshop and a portfolio of work is produced. In addition, students are encouraged to publish their work in the school's literary magazine, The Roundtable.

<u>Creative Writing II CPA</u> Grades: 9-12 Credits: 2.5	Prerequisite: Successful completion of Creative Writing I CPA
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Creative Writing II is a second-semester course designed to assist students in refining and publishing their work begun in Creative Writing I. Students' work is critiqued in a workshop setting, and portfolios are enhanced. Again, students are encouraged to publish their work in the school's literary magazine, The Roundtable.

<u>Film Review CPA</u> Grades 9-12 Credits: 2.5	Prerequisite: None
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This single-semester elective utilizes visual media as a springboard to encourage students to practice more analytical writing, particularly in the modes of argument, information, and explanation. Students will analyze the elements, genres, and language of the film industry, study film as a powerful form of communication, and explore personal opinions and the opinions of others. Through various writing assignments, projects, and investigations, students will become more proficient in expressing their opinions in speaking and in writing.

All Journalism courses count towards the credits needed to fulfill the 21st Century Life and Careers graduation requirement.

<u>Journalism I CPA</u> Grades 9-12 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: None
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This course teaches students the fundamentals of how to use writing and multimedia together to create multiple types of modern print and digital media products. After learning the basics of effective storytelling and reporting in all forms, students learn how to use writing, photography, and page design to compose print journalism articles in many forms, including news, sports, opinion, features, and entertainment writing. At the same time, students also learn the technical and performance-level skills necessary to plan and create video and multimedia content, such as news segments and sports interviews. The course is a workshop class that asks students to plan out, report on, and then complete a variety of individual and group assignments of their own design. Examples of the best qualities of print, multimedia, and online media are read and analyzed in class as models of effective journalism. Technology such as iMovie and aspects of the Adobe Creative Suite (InDesign and PhotoShop) are used as methods of creating stories for journalistic outlets.

<u>Journalism II Honors*</u> Grades: 10-12 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: Semester one average of B+ or better in Journalism I CPA and teacher recommendation OR completion of supplemental material and teacher recommendation *This course does not follow the district's course level placement criteria.
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Students work to improve mastery of journalistic writing and production, including news, opinion, features, arts, and sports. By the end of this course, students are required to contribute story ideas and assist in the layout of the Wessex Wire. Students will learn about journalism ethics both in print and online as they explore the parameters of the First Amendment. The class is often conducted as a workshop so that all students develop skills in both writing and editing. The teacher works individually with each student on writing assignments. Technology such as iMovie and Adobe Creative Suite are utilized in the production of the Wessex Wire.

<u>Journalism III Honors*</u> Grades: 11-12 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: Semester one average of B+ or better in Journalism II Honors and teacher recommendation *This course does not follow the district's course level placement criteria.
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Students enrolled in this course will work alongside students in Journalism IV Honors to learn, apply, and practice all aspects of the journalism industry. They are responsible for gathering news and reporting it in the Wessex Wire. These students act as the staff editors for the school paper. Journalists at this level are capable of peer editing, peer coaching, and motivating younger students to participate. Students must write the gamut of story types including editorials, news, sports, and feature articles. The class is conducted as a workshop, so all students learn to both write and edit. The instructor works individually with each student on writing assignments. Students use technology such as iMovie and Adobe Creative Suite to produce the Wessex Wire. Additional time outside of class is required to produce the school's extra-curricular publication.

<u>Journalism IV Honors</u> Grades: 11-12 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: Successful completion of Journalism III Honors and teacher recommendation *This course does not follow the district's course level placement criteria.
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Students enrolled in this course mentor students in Journalism III Honors as they learn, apply, and practice all aspects of the journalism industry. They are responsible for gathering news and reporting it in the Wessex Wire. These advanced students act as senior editors and managers for the entire staff of the school paper and are expected to take on additional responsibilities and assignments as needed and as dictated by newspaper management. Journalists at this level are capable of peer editing, peer coaching, and motivating younger students to participate. Students must write the gamut of story types including editorials, news, sports, and feature articles. The class is conducted as a workshop, so all students learn to both write and edit. The instructor works individually with each student on writing assignments. Students use technology such as iMovie and Adobe Creative Suite to produce the Wessex Wire. Additional time outside of class is required to produce the school's extra-curricular publication.

<u>Public Speaking CPA</u> Grades: 9-12 Credits: 2.5	Prerequisite: None
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This single-semester course engages students in different types of public speaking such as interpretive reading, declamation, original oratory, extemporaneous, and debates. This performance course prepares students to speak for a variety of audiences, with emphasis on enunciation, eye contact, body language, pronunciation, expression, and selection of topics.

<u>SAT and ACT Preparation</u> Grades: 10-12 Credits: 2.5	Prerequisite: None
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The general goals of this course include an improved understanding of the requirements of the SAT and ACT exams. The instructors will familiarize students with the question types and formats, teach approaches to answer questions in all sections of the tests, and help the students become more comfortable and confident when taking the tests. Instructors will also review concepts in Math and English that are assessed on the tests. This course is graded Pass/Fail and is not included in GPA calculations.

<u>True Crime in Literature and Media Honors</u> Grades: 11-12 Credits: 2.5	Prerequisite: Semester one average of C or better in English II or III Honors OR semester one average of A- or better in English II or III CPA and teacher recommendation
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This elective course will analyze the changing intellectual landscape surrounding questions of gender, class, race, and morality in relation to crime. Through the use of literary nonfiction, documentaries, podcasts, and news articles, students will attempt to examine how a culture's changing relationship to "real life" crime narratives can help us understand the fundamental and complex role criminality plays in defining a people at any given point in time. Students will explore varied accounts of crimes to analyze fact vs. fiction and the aspect of sensationalism in society. The course will also enable students to gain greater insight into the psychological aspects of criminals while evaluating the effectiveness of the writing techniques and research process used by respective authors. At the honors level, students are expected to analyze multiple forms of media and place them in conversation with one another.

Appendix

<u>English as a Second Language (ESL)</u> Grades: 7-12 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: None
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Non-English speaking students are enrolled in ESL instruction in addition to their regular English class. Emphasis is placed on the development of English vocabulary and structures in the areas of listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Students have opportunities to practice their English via small group instruction. The level of difficulty is adjusted for the individual as he or she demonstrates increased proficiency and thus may be repeated for credit.

<u>English Language Learner (ELL)</u> Grades: 7-12 Credits: 0	Prerequisite: None
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This course focuses on the acquisition of English Language skills necessary to be successful in the mainstream classes and/or state-mandated assessments. The emphasis is on academic vocabulary development and application associated with language arts and social studies. The materials/resources chosen reinforce the four language domains: reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Mainstream English and Social Studies teachers of ELL students collaborate with the ESL certified instructor to provide continuous support throughout the year.

<u>Strategies Applications 9</u> Grades: 9 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: Teacher Recommendation
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This course is designed to assist students in developing the skills that will enable them to become more independent learners. Students will participate in a variety of skill-building activities to understand how to efficiently schedule and complete homework, analyze personal learning styles, and prioritize academics and extracurricular activities. Specific skills such as project planning, test preparation, organizational skills, and learning strategies are addressed in all academic subjects.

<u>Foundations</u> Grades: 7-8 Credits: 0	Prerequisite: Teacher Recommendation
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This non-credit-bearing course provides skill remediation in English Language Arts and Mathematics for those students who scored below proficiency on standardized assessments. Class sizes are small, and instructors use a data-driven approach to individualize instruction based on each student's particular needs. Students in this class work independently, in groups, and one-on-one with the teacher to practice reading strategies, writing skills, and/or mathematical concepts. Teachers utilize a variety of hands-on strategies and high-interest learning activities to engage students and create a relaxed, supportive learning environment. This course is meant to remediate skill deficits, not to re-teach content from the grade-level ELA or Mathematics class. Placement into this course is based on teacher recommendation and standardized test performance.

<u>Academic Coaching</u> Grades: 7-8 Credits: 0	Prerequisite: Teacher Recommendation
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Academic Coaching is a non-credit-bearing structured learning environment for students who require additional supervised support in their academic courses. The academic coaching block is dedicated to improving student ability in organization, study skills, and overall academic outlook. Instructors utilize mini-lessons in the aforementioned categories to augment student performance and learning while also providing time for students to complete homework assignments, get extra help in their courses when available, and use additional digital programs to improve on academic areas that require growth.

Math Course Descriptions

All courses require the use of a graphing calculator. The TI-84 is the graphing calculator used by instructors during the course, but other brands of calculators are permissible in class. Any calculator that has a CAS (Computer Algebra System) is not allowed for use on assessments.

<u>Algebra I CPA</u> Grades: 9-12 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: Successful completion of Math 8
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Algebra I CPA is a college preparatory course that provides a sound foundation of algebraic skills and concepts necessary for an understanding of all future mathematics to be studied. Abstract and numerical reasoning are emphasized. Topics include: Real number system, solving equations with proportions and rational numbers, ratios, rates, similar figures, conversions, literal equations, percent applications, linear equations with applications, introduction to functions, linear functions, systems of equations and inequalities, absolute value functions, exponent rules, exponential functions, polynomials and factoring, quadratic functions, radicals, and equations. Graphing calculators are employed to extend concepts. Students learn a variety of problem-solving techniques and will apply arithmetic principles to specific algebraic topics. Standardized test preparation is integrated throughout the course. *The completion of a summer assignment is required.*

<u>Algebra I Honors</u> Grades: 9-12 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: Semester one average of A or better in Math 8 and teacher recommendation
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Algebra I Honors is a rigorous course designed for mathematically talented students who have the conceptual and computational background and maturity to pursue an honors-paced subject. Topics are covered in-depth and at an accelerated pace. The curriculum covers algebraic skills and concepts necessary for an understanding of all future mathematics to be studied. Abstract and numerical reasoning are emphasized. Topics include: Real number system, solving equations with proportions and rational numbers, ratios, rates, similar figures, conversions, literal equations, percent applications, linear equations with applications, introduction to functions, linear functions, systems of equations and inequalities, absolute value functions, exponent rules, exponential functions, polynomials and factoring, quadratic functions, radicals, and equations. Graphing calculators are employed to extend concepts. Students learn a variety of problem-solving techniques and will apply arithmetic principles to specific algebraic topics. Standardized test preparation is integrated throughout the course. *The completion of a summer assignment is required.*

<u>Algebra II CPA</u> Grades: 9-12 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: Successful completion of Geometry CPA
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Algebra II CPA is a college preparatory course whose objectives are to review and extend the concepts taught in Algebra I. Graphing calculator skills will be used extensively in this course. Throughout this course, students will develop learning strategies, critical thinking skills, and problem-solving techniques to prepare for future math courses and college entrance exams. Topics include: linear and quadratic equations, functions, systems of equations and inequalities, polynomial functions, rational functions, radical equations, exponential and logarithmic functions, and trigonometry. *The completion of a summer assignment is required.*

<u>Algebra II Honors</u> Grades: 9-12 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: Semester one average of B- or better in Geometry Honors and full-year average of B- or better in Algebra I Honors OR Semester one average of A or better in Geometry CPA and full-year average of A- or better in Algebra I CPA and teacher recommendation.
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Algebra II Honors is a rigorous course designed for advanced mathematics students. It will provide the student with in-depth instruction at an accelerated pace. This course involves a comprehensive study of mathematics in preparation for Pre-Calculus Honors. Topics include: linear and quadratic equations, functions, systems of equations and inequalities, polynomial functions, rational functions, radical equations, exponential and logarithmic functions, and trigonometry. The graphing enhanced curriculum allows for the modeling of real-world problems. Standardized test preparation is integrated throughout the course. *The completion of a summer assignment is required.*

<u>AP Calculus AB</u> Grades: 9-12 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: Semester one average of B- or better in Pre-Calculus Honors and teacher recommendation
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AP Calculus AB is a college-level course in calculus taught at an accelerated pace in preparation for the AP Examination in AB Calculus, which may result in advanced credit towards one semester of a college mathematics course. At the completion of the course, the student will understand the theory and applications of differential and integral calculus. It is expected that students who successfully complete the course will have developed proficiency in the following areas: limits, derivatives, integrals, differential equations, and their applications. Students use the TI-84 Graphing Calculator. *As per our district policy, all AP students must take the College Board Advanced Placement exam in May to receive the AP weighting in their GPA. The completion of a summer assignment is required.*

<u>AP Calculus BC</u> Grades: 9-12 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: Semester one average of A- or better in Pre-Calculus Honors and teacher recommendation
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AP Calculus BC is a college-level course in calculus taught at an accelerated pace in preparation for the AP Examination in BC Calculus, which may result in two semesters of college mathematics credit. This course is designed for mathematically mature students who plan to enter a profession where a technical or scientific background is desirable. The BC course is equivalent to a first-year college-level Calculus offering and consists of the following topics: rate of change, differentiation, integration, advanced applications, transcendental functions, parametric equations, differential equations, Taylor series, Maclaurin series, power series, and polar curves. *As per our district policy, all AP students must take the College Board Advanced Placement exam in May to receive the AP weighting in their GPA. The completion of a summer assignment is required.*

<u>Calculus Honors</u> Grades: 9-12 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: Semester one average of C+ or better in Pre-Calculus CPA and teacher recommendation
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Calculus Honors introduces the student to calculus of a single variable. The course is problem-driven in response to the calculus reform movement and integrates applications to management, life, and social science in exercises throughout the course. Functions are presented graphically, numerically, and algebraically to give

students the benefit of alternate interpretations. Graphing calculators are used extensively. *The completion of a summer assignment is required.*

<u>Calculus III Honors (AP weighting)</u> Grades: 9-12 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: Successful completion of AP Calculus BC with an AP Exam score of 4 or better and teacher recommendation
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Calculus III Honors is a college-level course taught at an accelerated pace. This course is designed for the mathematically mature student who plans to study mathematics, science, and/or engineering in college. Concepts covered in this course include: vectors, vector-valued functions, functions of several variables, partial derivatives, and multiple integration. To register for this course with Syracuse University, students must provide documents confirming completion of one of the following prerequisites: earning a score of 4 or better on the AP Calculus BC exam, or a qualifying score on Syracuse University's MAT 296 (Calculus II) final exam. Students have the option to receive 4 college credits at \$115/credit Syracuse University Project Advance. *Students will receive AP weighting for this course. The completion of a summer assignment is required.*

<u>Discrete Mathematics CPA</u> Grades: 9-12 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra II CPA
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Discrete CPA is a college preparatory course that provides a review and extension of skills acquired in algebra and geometry. Techniques are introduced to engage students in and strengthen their problem-solving skills. The course will provide a strong development of trigonometry as well as explore other discrete topics throughout the year. *The completion of a summer assignment is required.*

<u>Geometry CPA</u> Grades: 9-12 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra I CPA
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Geometry CPA is a college preparatory course that emphasizes topics inherent to plane geometry. Knowledge of geometry will be developed with an emphasis on its logical structure and problem solving with consideration of both inductive and deductive reasoning methods as applied to formal proofs. Skills acquired in Algebra I will be further strengthened throughout the course. Topics include: transformations, congruence, proof, constructions, triangles, similarity, trigonometry, spatial reasoning, solids, circles, conics, and applications of probability. Problem-solving will be emphasized to encourage higher-level thinking skills. Standardized test preparation is integrated throughout the course. *The completion of a summer assignment is required.*

<u>Geometry Honors</u> Grades: 9-12 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: Semester one average of B- or better in Algebra I Honors OR semester one average of A in Algebra I CPA, and teacher recommendation
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Geometry Honors is a rigorous course that emphasizes topics inherent to plane and solid geometry. Knowledge of geometry will be developed with an emphasis on its logical structure, using critical thinking skills and problem-solving strategies with consideration of both inductive and deductive reasoning methods as applied to formal proofs. Skills acquired in Algebra I will be further strengthened throughout the course. Topics include: transformations, congruence, proof, constructions, triangles, similarity, trigonometry, spatial reasoning, solids, and circles. Problem-solving will be emphasized to encourage higher-level thinking skills. Standardized test preparation is integrated throughout the course. *The completion of a summer assignment is required.*

<u>Pre-Calculus CPA</u> Grades: 9-12 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: Semester one average of B- or better in Algebra II CPA and teacher recommendation
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Pre-Calculus CPA is a college preparatory course that introduces aspects of higher mathematics. It is a rigorous course that extends students' Algebra II CPA and basic trigonometry knowledge. Pre-calculus is a study of mathematical theory and applications designed to prepare students for Calculus and higher mathematics. The Pre-Calculus CPA course consists of the following topics: extensions of algebra, functions and their graphs, right triangle trigonometry, trigonometric functions and their inverses; analytic trigonometry and functions, systems of equations, exponential and logarithmic functions, polynomial functions, rational functions, and complex numbers. Students will use graphing calculators extensively in this course. Standardized test preparation is integrated throughout the course. *This course includes a summer assignment requirement.*

<u>Pre-Calculus Honors</u> Grades: 9-12 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: Semester one average of B- or better in Algebra II Honors and teacher recommendation <i>*This course does not follow the district's course level placement criteria.</i>
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Pre-Calculus Honors will provide the student with a comprehensive study of mathematics in preparation for a course in Advanced Placement Calculus. The Pre-Calculus Honors course consists of the following topics: extensions of algebra, limits, continuity, derivatives, exponential and logarithmic functions, trigonometric functions and their inverses, analytic trigonometry, derivatives of trigonometric functions and their inverses, additional topics in trigonometry, parametric equations, and polar equations. Students will use graphing calculators extensively in this course. Standardized test preparation is integrated throughout the course. *The completion of a summer assignment is required.*

Mathematics Electives

<u>Animation and Game Design CPA</u> Grades: 9-12 Credits: 2.5	Prerequisite: Successful completion of Intro to Computer Science CPA or AP Computer Science Principles *This course fulfills 2.5 credits towards the 21st Century Life & Career Graduation Requirement
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This semester course is an introduction to the fundamental techniques, concepts, and vocabulary of game design. Students will design original non-digital prototypes and games, using iteration and playtesting best practices. Topics include formal elements of games, mechanics, and dynamics, decision making, flow states and player psychology, the iterative process, and rapid prototyping. Students will modify existing code and run it in the browser, investigate cyber-related topics and reflect on them and discuss them, create digital presentations, and engage in in-person collaborative exercises with classmates.

<u>AP Computer Science A*</u> Grades: 10-12 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: Successful completion of Intro to Computer Science CPA or Computer Science Principles AP and teacher recommendation *This course fulfills the 21st Century Life & Career Graduation Requirement
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As described by the College Board, “AP Computer Science A is equivalent to a first-semester, college course in computer science. The course introduces students to computer science with fundamental topics that include problem-solving, design strategies and methodologies, organization of data (data structures), approaches to processing data (algorithms), analysis of potential solutions, and the ethical and social implications of computing. The course emphasizes both object-oriented and imperative problem solving and design using Java language.” *As per our district policy, all AP students must take the College Board Advanced Placement exam in May to receive the AP weighting in their GPA. The completion of a summer assignment is required.*

<u>AP Computer Science Principles*</u> Grades: 9-12 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: Semester one average of B or better in Algebra I CPA and teacher recommendation *This course fulfills the 21st Century Life & Career Graduation Requirement
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This is a college-level course in computer science taught at an accelerated pace in preparation for the AP Examination. As described by the College Board, the course “offers a multidisciplinary approach to teaching the underlying principles of computation. The course will introduce students to the creative aspects of programming, abstractions, algorithms, large data sets, the Internet, cybersecurity concerns, and computing impacts. Computer Science Principles AP will enable students to use technology to address real-world problems and build relevant solutions.” *As per our district policy, all AP students must take the College Board Advanced Placement exam in May to receive the AP weighting in their GPA. The completion of a summer assignment is required.*

<u>Cybersecurity CPA</u> Grades: 9-12 Credits: 2.5	Prerequisite: Successful completion of Introduction to Computer Science CPA or AP Computer Science Principles *This course fulfills 2.5 credits towards the 21st Century Life & Career Graduation Requirement
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Cybersecurity CPA is a semester course designed for intermediate computer science students. The course is highly visual, dynamic, interactive, and engaging. Students will learn foundational cybersecurity topics including digital citizenship and cyber hygiene, the basics of cryptography, software security, networking fundamentals, and basic system administration and all through a web-based platform. Students will complete projects at the end of each module, and a culminating course project where they will complete a simulated hack walkthrough. This is not a coding-intensive course, but students will learn basic SQL and will utilize basic HTML and JavaScript.

<u>Introduction to Computer Science CPA</u> Grades: 9-12 Credits: 2.5	Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra I CPA *This course fulfills 2.5 credits towards the 21st Century Life & Career Graduation Requirement
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This semester course is designed to teach the fundamental concepts of computer programming in an object-oriented language, as well as to quickly engage students who may have no prior interest or experience in programming. During the course, students will apply the different features and capabilities of an

object-oriented language developing simulations and interactive games. This is achieved through a wide variety of projects for the students where the area of application and the level of difficulty are varied. The concepts of object-oriented programming (OOP) are developed in Computer Science I. Students will complete Java programming projects and will apply the features and capabilities of the Java language to applications in the areas of mathematics and logic. Due to the nature of the work involved in writing, running, and debugging programs, students will continue to develop skills in information gathering and analysis, problem-solving, effective communication, and critical thinking. Working independently and collaboratively with other students are keys to success in this course.

<u>Probability and Statistics CPA</u> Grades: 10-12 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra II CPA and teacher recommendation
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Probability and Statistics is an introduction to probability theory and statistical concepts and techniques. Students will investigate probability concepts, as well as different ways to organize, represent, describe and analyze data. This course develops an appreciation for, and skill in, applying statistical techniques. Practical examples based on real experimental data are used throughout the course. *The completion of a summer assignment is required.*

<u>SAT and ACT Preparation</u> Grades: 10-12 Credits: 2.5	Prerequisite: None
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The general goals of this course include an improved understanding of the requirements of the SAT and ACT exams. The instructors will familiarize students with the question types and formats, teach approaches to answering questions in all sections of the tests, and help the students become more comfortable and confident when taking the tests. Instructors will also review concepts in Math and English that are assessed on the tests. This course is graded Pass/Fail and is not included in GPA calculations.

<u>AP Statistics</u> Grades: 10-12 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: Semester one average of B- or better in Algebra II Honors OR semester one average of A- or better in Algebra II CPA, and teacher recommendation
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AP Statistics is a college-level course in statistics taught at an accelerated pace in preparation for the AP Examination in Statistics, which may result in advanced credit toward one semester of a college mathematics course. In accordance with the College Board, the purpose of this course is to introduce students to the major concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing, and drawing conclusions from data. Students are exposed to four broad conceptual themes: Exploring Data, Sampling and Experimentation, Anticipating Patterns, and Statistical Inference. *As per our district policy, all AP students must take the College Board Advanced Placement exam in May to receive the AP weighting in their GPA. The completion of a summer assignment is required.*

Physical Education and Health Course Descriptions

<u>PE I</u> Grade: 9 Credits: 3.75	Prerequisite: Successful completion of previous grade-level physical education course
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Physical Education focuses on the overall wellness of the individual student. The students will learn the importance of caring for their mental health, strengthening their physical health, balancing their emotional health, all through the exploration of exercise. The program progresses by utilizing a wide variety of physical activities. Our goal is to expose our students to as many activities as possible to pique their interest, so continue to infuse fitness into their lives outside the classroom. Our students will become educated on the benefits of physical activity on the body and mind. The activities offered in grade 9 are the following; adventure education, tennis, weight room, fitness, pillow polo, boccer, frisbee, and football.

<u>Health 9</u> Grade: 9 Credits: 1.25	Prerequisite: None
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All students at West Essex High School participate in Health Education for one marking period each year. Health Education in ninth grade focuses on substance abuse, relationship violence, human sexuality, cyberbullying, suicide prevention, and prescription drug addiction. The program is enhanced by utilizing out-of-district resources for presentations to our students.

<u>PE II</u> Grade: 10 Credits: 3.75	Prerequisite: Successful completion of Physical Education I
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Physical Education focuses on the overall wellness of the individual student. The students will learn the importance of caring for their mental health, strengthening their physical health, balancing their emotional health, all through the exploration of exercise. The program progresses by utilizing a wide variety of physical activities. Our goal is to expose our students to as many activities as possible to pique their interest, so continue to infuse fitness into their lives outside the classroom. Our students will become educated on the benefits of physical activity on the body and mind. The activities offered in grade 10 are the following; weight room, yoga, wiffleball, backyard games, basketball, and pickleball.

<u>Driver's Education</u> Grade: 10 Credits: 1.25	Prerequisite: Successful completion of Health 9
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Driver Education is the Health Education course for the tenth grade. This course introduces the skill of driving on today's roadways. Emphasis is placed on educating the students about safe driving practices and procedures in a multitude of driving environments and situations. The New Jersey State Driver's Manual is used to cover the laws governing driving and safety. At the conclusion of the course, students take the written portion of the New Jersey State Driver's Test. The program is enhanced by utilizing out-of-district resources for presentations to our students.

<u>PE III</u> Grade: 11 Credits: 3.75	Prerequisite: Successful completion of Physical Education II
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Physical Education focuses on the overall wellness of the individual student. The students will learn the importance of caring for their mental health, strengthening their physical health, balancing their emotional health, all through the exploration of exercise. The program progresses by utilizing a wide variety of physical activities. Our goal is to expose our students to as many activities as possible to pique their interest, so continue to infuse fitness into their lives outside the classroom. Our students will become educated on the benefits of physical activity on the body and mind. The activities offered in grade 10 are the following; fitness, badminton, volleyball, yoga, floor hockey, adventure ed II, and tennis.

<u>Health 11</u> Grade: 11 Credits: 1.25	Prerequisite: Successful completion of Drivers Education
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All students at West Essex High School participate in Health Education for one marking period each year. Health Education in eleventh grade focuses on American Red Cross First Aid, CPR, and Choking Certification, nutrition, mental health disorders, stress management, and mindfulness. The program is enhanced by utilizing out-of-district resources for presentations to our students.

<u>PE IV</u> Grade: 12 Credits: 3.75	Prerequisite: Successful completion of Physical Education III
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Physical Education focuses on the overall wellness of the individual student. The students will learn the importance of caring for their mental health, strengthening their physical health, balancing their emotional health, all through the exploration of exercise. The program progresses by utilizing a wide variety of physical activities. Our goal is to expose our students to as many activities as possible to pique their interest, to continue to infuse fitness into their lives outside the classroom. Our students will become educated on the benefits of physical activity on the body and mind. The activities offered in grade 10 are the following; dance, softball, badminton, basketball, weight room, football, volleyball, adventure ed III, and tennis.

<u>Health 12</u> Grade: 12 Credits: 1.25	Prerequisite: Successful completion of Health Education 11
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All students at West Essex High School participate in Health Education for one marking period each year. Health Education in twelfth grade focuses on career exploration, parenting responsibilities, independent living, consumer health, personal health, financial planning, and human sexuality. The program is enhanced by utilizing out-of-district resources for presentations to our students.

Science Course Descriptions

<u>Biology CPA</u> Grades: 9-12 Credits: 6	Prerequisite: Successful completion of Science 8 and teacher recommendation
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Biology CPA is a lab-based course that investigates patterns, processes, and relationships among organisms. The core concepts are powerful conceptual tools for making sense of the complexity, diversity, and interconnectedness of life on Earth. Biology CPA helps students acquire a clear understanding of biological concepts, develop an awareness of the relevance of biology in their everyday lives, and foster an appreciation for the complexity of living things. Students investigate topics such as the structure and function of cells, ecosystems, biodiversity, DNA, and evolution in this course.

<u>Biology Honors</u> Grades: 9-12 Credits: 6	Prerequisite: Semester one average of A or better in Science 8 AND successful completion of Algebra I, and teacher recommendation
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Biology Honors is a rigorous, lab-based study of the basic theories and foundation of life processes. Topics to be covered include, but are not limited to: molecular structure, microbiology, cell physiology, invertebrate and vertebrate animals, genetic continuity, evolution, ecology, and the unity of life. A major component of the course includes laboratory work and investigation, including dissections and microscope use. This course also incorporates current events, recent discoveries, and advancements in the understanding and development of living organisms.

<u>AP Biology</u> Grades: 10-12 Credits: 6	Prerequisite: Semester one average of B+ or better in Biology Honors OR semester one average of A or better in Biology CPA, and teacher recommendation Corequisite: Algebra II
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This full-year, lab-based course is equivalent to a two-semester introductory college-level Biology course in both content and expectations. AP Biology follows the syllabus prescribed by the College Board. It is designed to incorporate major themes of biology throughout the curriculum as students develop an understanding of biology as a process. Major topics of study include: molecules and cells, heredity and evolution, and organisms and populations. *As per our district policy, all AP students must take the College Board AP exam to receive the AP weighting in their GPA. The completion of a summer assignment is required.*

<u>Chemistry CPA</u> Grades: 10-12 Credits: 6	Prerequisite: Successful completion of Biology CPA and teacher recommendation
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Chemistry CPA is a lab-based course that investigates matter and energy as well as the ways they interact. Students will learn to recognize how both matter and energy are quantified (measured) and qualified (observed) in a variety of contexts. This course provides a comprehensive foundation in chemistry with an emphasis on scientific literacy, conceptual understanding and application, critical thinking, problem-solving, and experimental design. Instruction emphasizes the understanding of chemical principles and methods for conducting quantitative analysis and executing laboratory experiments. Topics explored in the course include the structure and properties of matter, chemical reactions, nuclear processes, the periodic table, acid-base chemistry, thermodynamics, chemical equilibrium, waves, and electromagnetic radiation.

<u>Chemistry Honors</u> Grades: 10-12 Credits: 6	Prerequisite: Semester one average of B- or better in Biology Honors OR semester one average of A or better in Biology CPA, and teacher recommendation Corequisite: Algebra II
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This lab-based course engages students in a rigorous study of matter, its structure, and interaction. Students learn about chemical principles through experiments, demonstrations, independent study, and class discussion. Students in Chemistry Honors must work collaboratively and individually to analyze data and make inferences about the laws of chemistry. Topics covered in the course include, but are not limited to: stoichiometry, gas laws, chemical reactions, solutions, atomic structure, properties of matter, organization of the periodic table, nuclear reactions, equilibrium, thermodynamics, and laboratory skills.

<u>AP Chemistry</u> Grades: 11-12 Credits: 6	Prerequisite: Semester one average of B+ or better in Chemistry Honors OR semester one average of A or better in Chemistry CPA AND successful completion of Algebra II, and teacher recommendation
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AP Chemistry is a lab-based course designed to emulate the General Chemistry lab-based course offered at 4-year colleges and universities. The course contributes to the development of students' abilities to think clearly and express their ideas, orally and in writing, with clarity and logic. Major topics covered in the course include, but are not limited to: structure of matter, states of matter, and chemical reactions. Understanding the concepts and principles of chemistry, application of knowledge to laboratory work, and the solution of complex problems are the main components of this college-level course. *As per our district policy, all AP students must take the College Board AP exam to receive the AP weighting in their GPA.*

<u>Environmental Science CPA</u> Grades: 11-12 Credits: 6	Prerequisite: Successful completion of Chemistry CPA and teacher recommendation
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Environmental Science CPA is a lab-based course that provides students with an opportunity to study environmental issues confronting our global society. Environmental problems, both natural and human-induced, are investigated through an integrated approach that relies on quantitative real-world data analysis. Students will evaluate the relative risks associated with these problems and examine alternative solutions for resolving and/or preventing them through a problem-based approach. Topics of study include: introduction to earth systems (geosphere, hydrosphere, atmosphere, and biosphere), weather and climate, natural resources, natural hazards, sustainability, and human impacts on earth systems.

<u>AP Environmental Science*</u> Grades: 11-12 Credits: 6	Prerequisite: Successful completion of Chemistry Honors OR semester one average of A or better in Chemistry CPA AND successful completion of Algebra II, and teacher recommendation <i>*This course does not follow the district's course level placement criteria.</i>
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Advanced Placement Environmental Science (AP ES) is a college-level, lab-based course that provides students with the scientific principles, concepts, and methodologies required to understand the interrelationships of the natural world. Students will work independently and cooperatively to identify, analyze, evaluate, and provide potential solutions to various environmental problems. AP ES is an interdisciplinary course that embraces a wide variety of topics from different areas of study (e.g. biology, chemistry, earth science, geography). Topics studied in this course include, but are not limited to: ecosystems and biodiversity, food resources and agriculture, human population dynamics, solid and hazardous wastes, air and water pollution, and environmental legislation. This course also has significant laboratory and field investigation components that

provide students with important opportunities to test concepts and principles that are introduced in the classroom, to explore specific problems with a depth not easily achieved otherwise, and to gain an awareness of the importance of confounding variables that exist in the “real world.” *As per our district policy, all AP students must take the College Board Advanced Placement exam to receive the AP weighting in their GPA. The completion of a summer assignment is required.*

<u>Physics CPA</u> Grades: 11-12 Credits: 6	Prerequisite: Successful completion of Chemistry CPA and teacher recommendation
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This lab-based course is designed to introduce students to classical, relevant, and dynamic topics in physics. Using basic mathematical modeling, physics topics are the tools for developing the student’s skills in observation, measurement, critical thinking, and problem-solving for application in any field of future study or work. Significant emphasis is placed on conceptual understanding and real-world application of physical principles through class discussions, demonstrations, collaborative group work, experiments, projects, and problem-solving. Topics covered in the course include: mechanics, energy, magnetism, optics, and waves.

<u>AP Physics 1*</u> Grades: 11-12 Credits: 6	Prerequisite: Semester 1 average of B- or better in Chemistry Honors AND Algebra II Honors OR semester one average of A or better in Chemistry CPA AND Algebra II CPA, and teacher recommendation <i>*This course does not follow the district’s course level placement criteria.</i>
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AP Physics 1 is a lab-based course designed to emulate the first semester of a typical introductory algebra-based physics college course. Emphasis is placed on the students’ deep conceptual understanding of the physical principles and their ability to apply these concepts to solve problems through student-centered and inquiry-based activities. The course follows the curriculum framework developed by the College Board with additional topics included. Major topics covered in the course include, but are not limited to: kinematics, Newton’s laws of motion, torque, rotational motion and angular momentum, gravitation and circular motion, work, energy, and power, linear momentum, oscillations, mechanical waves and sound, and introduction to electric circuits. *As per our district policy, all AP students must take the College Board AP exam to receive the AP weighting in their GPA.*

<u>AP Physics 2*</u> Grade: 12 Credits: 6	Prerequisite: Semester one average of B+ or better in AP Physics I AND Pre-Calculus H OR semester one average of A or better in Pre-Calculus CPA, and teacher recommendation <i>*This course does not follow the district’s course level placement criteria.</i>
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AP Physics 2 is a lab-based course designed to emulate the second semester of a typical introductory algebra-based physics college course. Emphasis is placed on students’ deep conceptual understanding of the physical principles and their ability to apply these concepts to solve problems through student-centered and inquiry-based activities. The course follows the curriculum framework developed by the College Board. Topics covered in the course include fluid statistics and dynamics, thermodynamics with kinetic theory, PV diagrams and probability, electrostatics, electric circuits, magnetic fields, electromagnetism, physical and geometric optics, and topics of modern physics. *As per our district policy, all AP students must take the College Board AP exam to receive the AP weighting in their GPA.*

Science Electives

<u>Anatomy and Physiology Honors</u> Grades: 10-12 Credits: 6	Prerequisite: Successful completion of Biology H OR semester one average of A- or better in Biology CPA, and teacher recommendation <i>*This course does not follow the district's course level placement criteria.</i>
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This full-year lab-based elective is a rigorous study of the structure and function of the human body and the associated medical terminology that goes with the systems of the human body. The course curriculum follows the sequential development of major body systems in an organized anatomical sequence. Labs will include microscope work, dissection, and in-depth studies of the human skeletal and muscular systems.

****Note:** College credit can be earned by passing the Anatomy and Physiology end-of-course exam provided by Rutgers School of Health Professions for a fee of \$80.*

<u>Astronomy CPA</u> Grades: 10-12 Credits: 2.5	Prerequisite: Successful completion of Biology CPA
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This semester course is a scientific exploration of the human place in the universe. Students will explore the characteristics and creation of our solar system, stars, and the universe itself. Students will also examine the technology that is allowing us to discover new details about our solar system as well as provide information about life on earth. This content is covered through the use of presentations, independent projects, current event activities, documentaries, and various lab investigations.

<u>Big History Honors*</u> Grades: 9-12 Credits: 2.5	Prerequisite or Corequisite: Biology CPA <i>*This course does not follow the district's course level placement criteria.</i>
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How has the Universe and life within it grown more complex over the past 13.8 billion years? Where did we come from? What causes change? Where are we heading? These are some of the questions Big History students examine using an interdisciplinary approach to make connections between the actions of the universe and the Earth to events of today. This semester course will use online resources of the Big History program combined with inquiry and student-directed lessons to engage with claims to explore, develop, and test big answers. Students will examine and connect topics such as the Big Bang, stellar composition, evolution, the impacts of green and industrial revolutions, human culture, and advancements in warfare to evaluate the changes that are reshaping our world. Students will explore the steps that led us to where we are today.

<u>Biotechnology Honors*</u> Grades: 10-12 Credits: 2.5	Prerequisite: Successful completion of Biology Honors OR semester one average of B+ or better in Biology CPA <i>*This course does not follow the district's course level placement criteria.</i>
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This semester course introduces the principles and applications of biotechnology. Students will build upon their understanding of disciplinary core ideas, science and engineering practices, and crosscutting concepts that they learned in earlier courses. Through analysis of how the history of this field of science has brought us to today's applications of biotechnology, students will look to the possibilities for the future. Students will learn how genetically engineered microbes, plants, and animals are utilized in industry, agriculture, and medicine. Attention is given to the techniques employed in the field, how biotechnology is used to clean the environment and improve human health, as well as the social and ethical issues that arise from advances in biotechnology.

<u>Forensic Science CPA</u> Grades: 11-12 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: Successful completion of Chemistry CPA
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This full-year elective provides students with an understanding of the science behind crime detection. Students will learn how certain pieces of evidence help link the victim and suspect to the crime scene. This course is interdisciplinary, incorporating subject matter from Physical Science, Mathematics, Biology, and Chemistry in a hands-on approach to analyze physical evidence and solve crimes. Students will utilize techniques commonly employed by forensic investigators to examine physical evidence.

<u>Forensic Science Honors*</u> Grades: 11-12 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: Successful completion of Chemistry Honors OR semester one average of B+ or better in Chemistry CPA, and teacher recommendation <i>*This course does not follow the district's course level placement criteria.</i>
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This full-year honors elective provides students with an understanding of the science behind crime detection. Students will have the opportunity to explore specific cases and analyze data from actual crime scenes. This course is interdisciplinary, incorporating subject matter from Physical Science, Mathematics, Biology, and Chemistry in a hands-on approach to analyze physical evidence and solve crimes. Lab activities will be advanced and go in-depth with chemistry and physics analysis of evidence to challenge students and get a more real-life experience of crime scene investigations. Students will utilize techniques commonly employed by forensic investigators to examine physical evidence such as: statistical analysis, toxicology, mock crime scene analysis, pathology, handwriting, fingerprints, gunshot residue, ballistic calculations, blood spatters, DNA evidence, and much more. ****Note: Students will have the option to take the class through Syracuse University Project Advance for 4 college credits at \$115/credit.***

<u>Marine Science CPA</u> Grades: 10-12 Credits: 2.5	Prerequisite: Successful completion of Biology CPA
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This semester course is a specific exploration of the world's oceans. The course then examines the ocean micro and macroscopically, exploring ways that the ocean interacts with the earth's atmosphere and geosphere. Marine Science offers a view of fundamental principles of ocean science; the geography and geology of ocean basins; chemistry of seawater; physical dynamics of currents, waves, and tides; coastal processes; and the biology of diverse ecosystems such as deep sea vents, coral reefs, and estuaries. Students in the course examine marine biodiversity and biology as well as the structure and function of the ocean ecosystem. Finally, students research the role of law, government, and human communities in managing the ocean's resources.

<u>Sports Medicine CPA</u> Grades: 10-12 Credits: 2.5	Prerequisite: Successful completion of Biology CPA
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In this semester course, students explore how physical exercise can produce several desirable changes in many anatomic structures and increase an array of physiological functions. Students enrolled in this course will gain insight into the basics of exercise physiology including prevention, management, treatment and rehabilitation of athletic injuries, as well as develop a basic understanding of the human body and its systems. This course is strongly recommended for students interested in pursuing careers in medicine, sports training, nursing, kinesiology, physical therapy or other health-related professions.

Social Studies Course Descriptions

<u>World History CPA</u> Grade: 9 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: Successful completion of Social Studies 8
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The history of the world from Ancient Greece through World War I is studied. A study of religions and civilizations dictates the form and substance of the course. A major objective is to provide a broad understanding of the evolutionary interrelationships that make up the world's political and cultural entities. This course enables students to acquire knowledge and skills that are fundamental for the development of rational and informed decisions about economic, social, cultural and political questions facing our interdependent world. In addition, the study of human experiences, as found in the arts and in the humanities, constitutes a significant facet of the course. Students develop social studies and reading literacy skills in accordance with NJSLs using document based questions. Students engage in analytical discussion, integration of various forms of technology, Problem-based activities, Socratic dialogues, supplemental and primary source readings, map work, and independent research projects to demonstrate an understanding of historical events. Students will be expected to master research skills such as works cited and in-text citations.

<u>World History Honors</u> Grade: 9 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: Semester one average of A in Social Studies 8 and teacher recommendation
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This course is aimed at students who desire an in-depth study of world history from Ancient Greece through WWI. It includes the causes and impact of major events that have shaped the contemporary world. Students study the philosophy, science, political and cultural heritages that influenced the development of various events and attitudes in world history. This approach provides a framework within which students can make connections between an understanding of the past and the present. Students develop social studies and reading literacy skills in accordance with NJSLs using document based questions. Students engage in analytical discussion, integration of various forms of technology, Problem-based activities, Socratic dialogues, supplemental and primary source readings, map work, and independent research projects to demonstrate an understanding of historical events. Students will be expected to master research skills such as works cited and in-text citations.

<u>United States History I CPA</u> Grade: 10 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: Successful completion of World History CPA
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The course of study covers America's history from the origins of the first government under the Articles of Confederation through the Gilded Age. The important events in American history along with everyday acts of ordinary people are explored. The course places fundamental human experiences in a historical context and enables the student to assess the impact of history in daily life. The student learns history through the experiences of life and therefore gains a meaningful view of the past. Students develop social studies and reading literacy skills in accordance with NJSLs using document based questions. Students engage in analytical discussion, integration of various forms of technology, problem-based activities, Socratic dialogues, supplemental and primary source readings, map work, and independent research projects to demonstrate an understanding of historical events in the United States. Students will be expected to master research skills such as works cited and in-text citations.

<u>United States History I Honors</u> Grade: 10 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: Semester one average of C or better in World History Honors OR semester one average of A- or better in World History CPA, and teacher recommendation.
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The course of study covers America's history from the origins of the first government under the Articles of Confederation through the Gilded Age. The important events in American history along with everyday acts of ordinary people are explored. The course places fundamental human experiences in a historical context and enables the student to assess the impact of history on everyday life. Students develop social studies and reading literacy skills in accordance with NJSLs using document based questions. Students engage in analytical discussion, integration of various forms of technology, problem-based activities, Socratic dialogues, supplemental and primary source readings, map work, and independent research projects to demonstrate an understanding of historical events in the United States. Students will be expected to master research skills such as works cited and in-text citations.

<u>AP United States History I*</u> Grade: 10 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: Semester one average of A- or better in World History Honors OR semester one average of A or better in World History CPA, and teacher recommendation
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The course closely follows the rigorous curriculum established by the College Board and prepares students to take AP United States History II the following school year. AP U.S. History I covers the period of American history from its earliest people to the Progressive Era. Among the course objectives are: mastery of the subject matter, attention to the use of original and secondary source material, and writing. There is no end-of-year AP exam for AP US History I. *The completion of a summer assignment is required.*

<u>United States History II CPA</u> Grade: 11 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: Successful completion of U.S. History I CPA
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United States History II CPA surveys the major domestic and diplomatic trends in the history of the United States from the Gilded Age to the present. Students become acquainted with America's development as a world power during the 20th Century and the resolution of major domestic, economic, social, and political crises. Students develop social studies and reading literacy skills in accordance with NJSLs using document based questions. Students engage in analytical discussion, integration of various forms of technology, problem-based activities, Socratic dialogues, supplemental and primary source readings, map work, and independent research projects to demonstrate an understanding of historical events in the United States. Students will be expected to master research skills such as works cited and in-text citations.

<u>United States History II Honors</u> Grade: 11 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: Semester one average of C or better in U.S. History I Honors OR semester one average of A- or better in U.S. History I CPA, and teacher recommendation
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United States History II topically surveys the major domestic and diplomatic trends in the history of the United States from the Gilded Age to the present. Students, through problem solving activities, become actively engaged in learning about America's development as a world power during the 20th century and the resolution of major domestic, economic, social, and political crises. Students develop social studies and reading literacy skills in accordance with NJSLs using document based questions. Students engage in analytical discussion, integration of various forms of technology, problem-based activities, Socratic dialogues, primary source document based questions, map work, and independent research projects to demonstrate an understanding of historical events in the United States. Students will be expected to master research skills such as works cited

and in-text citations.

<u>AP United States History II</u> Grade: 11 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: Semester one average of C or better in U.S. History I AP OR semester one average of A- or better in U.S. History I Honors and teacher recommendation
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This course is designed to be the equivalent of a first-year college history course. The scope and sequence of the course is a chronological and thematic analysis of U.S. History from Reconstruction to the Present. After an intensive survey of early units of study, this course will closely examine a series of issues related to 20th Century America. This challenging curriculum will require the student to devote a great deal of time to reading and studying outside the classroom with an emphasis placed on analytical and critical thinking skills. NOTE: US History I Honors does not cover the unit “Three Worlds Meet.” Therefore, US History I Honors students who qualify for AP U.S. History II will be expected to learn the unit’s content independently. *As per our district policy, all AP students must take the College Board Advanced Placement exam to receive the AP weighting in their GPA. The completion of a summer assignment is required.*

Social Studies Electives

<u>AP American Government and Politics</u> Grades: 11-12 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: Semester one average of A- or better in U.S. History I or II Honors OR semester one average of A or better in U.S. History I or II CPA, and teacher recommendation.
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This college-level course is designed to educate students about government and its role within society and their everyday lives. Students will be expected to express and develop their individual thoughts as well as begin to shape their own political views. Students will begin their study of government by analyzing the various philosophies that have been proposed through the ages. These philosophies include, but are not limited to: Direct Democracy, Representative Democracy, Fascism, and Communism. Students will explore the real world implementation of these philosophies. *As per our district policy, all AP students must take the College Board Advanced Placement exam to receive the AP weighting in their GPA.*

<u>Constitutional Law Honors*</u> Grades: 11-12 Credits: 2.5	Prerequisite: Semester one average of C or better in U.S. History I Honors OR semester one average of B+ or better in U.S. History I CPA, and teacher recommendation *This course does not follow the district’s course level placement criteria.
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Constitutional Law is an Honors-level semester course that provides students with a concentrated learning of our nation’s founding documents. Students will explore the founding principles of our governmental ideals. They will examine various elements of the constitution, explore precedent-setting Supreme Court cases, and discuss contemporary applications.

<u>AP European History*</u> Grade: 12 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: Semester one average of A- or better in U.S. History II Honors OR semester one average of A or better in U.S. History II CPA, and teacher recommendation *This course does not follow the district’s course level placement criteria.
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This college-level course introduces students to cultural, economic, political and social developments that played a fundamental role in shaping the world in which they live. In addition to providing a basic narrative or events and movements, the goals of AP European History are to develop an understanding of some principal

themes in modern European history, an ability to analyze historical interpretation, and an ability to express historical understanding in writing. *As per our district policy, all AP students must take the College Board Advanced Placement exam to receive the AP weighting in their GPA. The completion of a summer assignment is required.*

<u>Genocide and Holocaust CPA</u> Grades: 10- 12 Credits: 2.5	Prerequisite: None
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This semester course investigates examples of genocide, Holocaust, and human rights. The students identify and analyze the causes: moral relativism, intolerance, and the ongoing process of technological rationalization in modern society. The specific episodes of genocide to be studied include: African-Americans and the institution of slavery, American Indians, Armenians in the Ottoman Empire, Ukrainian forced famine, Nazi Holocaust, and Pol Pot's Khmer Rouge in Cambodia and Bosnia. The course engages students in daily discussions, cooperative learning groups, and independent research.

<u>Global Studies CPA</u> Grades: 9-12 Credits: 2.5	Prerequisite: None
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This semester course engages students in the study of issues, events, and regions of the world relevant to understanding global economics and foreign policy in the modern era. Students will examine current events and related historical events. They will also practice analytical reading skills using textual evidence to demonstrate their understanding of topics including, but not limited to: economic interdependence, regional alliances, events in the Middle East, global terrorism, China/US relations, and humanitarian issues in Africa.

<u>AP Human Geography*</u> Grades: 10-12 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: Semester one average of A- or better in Honors History OR semester one average of A or better in CPA History, and teacher recommendation *This course does not follow the district's course level placement criteria.
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AP Human Geography is a college-level course that introduces students to the systematic study of patterns and processes that have shaped human understanding. Students employ spatial concepts and landscape analysis to examine socio-economic organization and its environmental consequences. They also learn about the methods and tools geographers use in their research and applications. *As per our district policy, all AP students must take the College Board Advanced Placement exam to receive the AP weighting in their GPA. The completion of a summer assignment is required.*

<u>AP Macroeconomics*</u> Grades: 11-12 Credits: 2.5	Prerequisite: Semester one average of A- or better in U.S. History I Honors AND successful completion of Geometry and teacher recommendation *This course does not follow the district's course level placement criteria.
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AP Macroeconomics is a college-level course which calls for students to think abstractly. This semester course provides a comprehensive understanding of the theoretical problems, principles, and perspectives of macroeconomics for students with both academic and/or career interests in business. Major units of work include: the market system, fiscal policies, money and banking, capital formation, price theory, and governmental policies toward business. This course fulfills the state's semester course requirement for Personal Finance Literacy. *As per our district policy, all AP students must take the College Board Advanced Placement exam to receive the AP weighting in their GPA. The completion of a summer assignment is required.*

<u>AP Microeconomics*</u> Grades: 11-12 Credits: 2.5	Prerequisite: Semester one average of A- or better in U.S. History I Honors AND successful completion of Geometry and teacher recommendation <i>*This course does not follow the district's course level placement criteria.</i>
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AP Microeconomics is a college-level course designed for students who desire an understanding of daily applications in the way that our economy functions. This semester course gives students a thorough understanding of the principles of economics that apply to the functions of individual decision makers, both consumers and producers, within the economic system. It places primary emphasis on the nature and functions of product markets and includes the study of factor markets and of the role of government in promoting greater efficiency and equity in the economy. This course fulfills the state's semester course requirement for Personal Finance Literacy. *As per our district policy, all AP students must take the College Board Advanced Placement exam to receive the AP weighting in their GPA.*

<u>Pop Culture in American History Honors</u> Grades: 10-12 Credits: 2.5	Prerequisite: None
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This semester course explores how events in American history have shaped sports, music, and film. Students will examine the integral role pop culture has played in the celebration, criticism, and amplification of seismic events in this country's collective history. The course will also highlight the ways in which pop culture has informed issues of race, class, gender, and ethnicity.

<u>Social Psychology CPA</u> Grades: 11-12 Credits: 2.5	Prerequisite: None
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Social Psychology is a semester course that engages students in the study of topics such as: personality theories, forms of conditioning, learning, memory, perception, dreams, and human social behavior. The program, through discussion and various activities, demonstrates sociological principles, and provides students with sufficient means to understand people as they participate in the normal routine of daily living.

<u>AP Psychology*</u> Grades: 11-12 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: Semester one average of A- or better in U.S. History I Honors OR semester one average of A or better in U.S. History I CPA, and teacher recommendation <i>*This course does not follow the district's course level placement criteria.</i>
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AP Psychology is a college-level course in which students cultivate their understanding of the systematic and scientific study of human behavior and mental processes through inquiry-based investigations. In this full-year course, students will explore concepts like the biological bases of behavior, sensation and perception, learning and cognition, motivation, developmental psychology, testing and individual differences, treatment of abnormal behavior, and social psychology. *As per our district policy, all AP students must take the College Board Advanced Placement exam to receive the AP weighting in their GPA. The completion of a summer assignment is required.*

World Language Course Descriptions

<u>Chinese I CPA</u> Grade: 9-12 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: None
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This course provides students with the fundamental background required to speak, read, write, and understand the target language. A great deal of stress is placed on the development of audio-lingual skills, including correct pronunciation, intonation, and accentuation. Through the communicative approach, the rudiments of grammar/characters are taught as they are needed for oral and written expression. General material for the development of reading skills is provided for each student. Through a thoughtful integration of culture and language studies, students will gain clearer insights and a better understanding of world civilizations.

<u>Chinese II CPA</u> Grade: 10-12 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: Successful completion of Chinese I
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This course builds on the foundation to speak, read and write which is provided in Level 1. Listening is extended to more difficult dialogue, narrative and description; speaking, to diversified expression of fact, interpretation and comment; reading, to varied types and topics; writing, to more complex and freer prose. Content and vocabulary expand background knowledge dealing with geographical, historical and cultural aspects of the regions and/or countries where language is used. All work is aimed at increasing knowledge and understanding of the cultural milieu of the language studied. This course helps solidify the basis of world language study to enable the student to pursue and succeed in the advanced levels.

<u>Chinese III Honors</u> Grade: 10-12 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: Semester one average of A- or better in Chinese II CPA and teacher recommendation
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Honors Chinese III, the beginning of the advanced, pre-AP study, will enhance the ability to communicate with proficiency through the development of the skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing. It will provide the students with a review of important grammatical materials, covered in greater depth and more complex patterns. Guided and free-style compositions and intensive conversation practice constitute an integral part of the course work. This course provides exposure to adapted authentic text which will complement the interpretive skill of the spoken and written Chinese language. Writing in either traditional or simplified characters will be further developed through increased regular practice. This course engages students in an exploration of both contemporary and historical Chinese culture.

<u>Chinese IV Honors</u> Grade: 10-12 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: Semester one average of C or better in Chinese III Honors and teacher recommendation OR placement assessment for accelerated proficiency students *This course does not follow the district's course level placement criteria.
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In Chinese IV Honors is a pre-AP level course in which students acquire increased comprehension and fluency to develop advanced language skills and functions. Students are required to speak, read, and write almost exclusively in Chinese while deepening their knowledge of the language, culture, history, and geography. The emphasis is on an intensive practical review of grammar and its application, and on the literature. Assigned readings and writings of short essays parallel the works dealt with intensively in the classroom.

<u>AP Chinese*</u> Grade: 11-12 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: Successful completion of Chinese IV Honors and teacher recommendation OR placement assessment for accelerated proficiency students <i>*This course does not follow the district's course level placement criteria.</i>
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AP Chinese Language and Culture is comparable to a fourth-semester, college-level course in Mandarin Chinese. This course is designed to deepen students' immersion into the language and culture of the Chinese-speaking world. Coursework provides students with opportunities to perform intermediate-high to advanced-low tasks to achieve proficiency in this range. AP Chinese Language and Culture prepares students to demonstrate proficiency across 3 modes of communication (Interpersonal, Interpretive and Presentational). The goal of this course is to provide students with varied opportunities to further develop their language acquisition skills within a cultural frame of reference reflective of the richness of Chinese language and culture. *As per our district policy, all AP students must take the College Board Advanced Placement exam to receive the AP weighting in their GPA. The completion of a summer assignment is required.*

<u>French II CPA</u> Grades: 9-12 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: Successful completion of French 8 and teacher recommendation
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This course builds on the foundation to speak, read and write which is provided in Level 1 and/or World Language 8. Listening is extended to more difficult dialogue, narrative and description; speaking, to diversified expression of fact, interpretation and comment; reading, to varied types and topics; writing, to more complex and freer prose. Content and vocabulary expand background knowledge dealing with geographical, historical and cultural aspects of the regions and/or countries where the language is used. All work is aimed at increasing knowledge and understanding of the cultural milieu of the language studied. This course helps to solidify the basis of world language study to enable the student to pursue and succeed in the advanced levels.

<u>French III CPA</u> Grades: 10-12 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: Successful completion of French II CPA and teacher recommendation OR placement assessment for accelerated proficiency students
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French III CPA will enhance the ability to communicate with proficiency through the development of the skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing. It will provide the students with a review of important grammatical materials, covered in greater depth, and more complex patterns. Guided and free-style compositions and intensive conversation practice constitute an integral part of the course work. This course provides a culturally enriched program in which oral, written and reading proficiency as well as cultural awareness are developed.

<u>French III Honors</u> Grades: 10-12 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: Semester one average of A- in French II CPA and teacher recommendation or placement assessment for accelerated proficiency students
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French III H, the beginning of the advanced, pre-AP study, is intended to further enhance the ability to communicate with proficiency through advanced development of listening, speaking, reading and writing skills. It provides students with practice of important grammatical materials, covered in greater depth, and more complex patterns. Guided and free-style compositions and intensive conversation practice constitute an integral part of the course work. This course provides a culturally enriched program in which oral, written and reading proficiency as well as cultural awareness are developed. The "Honors" program in Level III offers a more challenging and intensive study of the French language/culture than French III CPA.

<u>French IV Honors</u> Grade: 11-12 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: Semester one average of C or better in French III Honors OR semester one average of A- in French III CPA, and teacher recommendation or placement assessment for accelerated proficiency students
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The overall objective of Level IV Honors is to acquire an increased comprehension and fluency in the target language in order to prepare students for the AP Language course. Students are required to speak, read and write almost exclusively in the target language while deepening their knowledge of the language, culture, history and geography. The emphasis is on an intensive practical review of grammar and its application, and on the literature. Assigned readings and writings of short essays parallel the works dealt with intensively in the classroom.

<u>AP French Language and Culture*</u> Grade: 12 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: Successful completion of French IV Honors and teacher recommendation or placement assessment for accelerated proficiency students <i>*This course does not follow the district's course level placement criteria.</i>
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Coupled with an intensive review of grammar through practical application exercises and projects, students in AP French will survey and study various periods of French literature, history and civilization. Some of the literature selections are chosen from those suggested for the Advanced Placement program. Reading, vocabulary development, and composition work, both in and out of class, will be extensive. The course is conducted entirely in French, and students are expected to be able to participate fully in all classroom activities using solely the French language. *As per our district policy, all AP students must take the College Board Advanced Placement exam in May to receive the AP weighting in their GPA. The completion of a summer assignment is required*

<u>Italian I CPA</u> Grades: 9-12 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: None
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This course provides students with the fundamental background required to speak, read, write and understand the target language. A great deal of stress is placed on the development of audio-lingual skills, including correct pronunciation, intonation, and accentuation. Through the communicative approach the rudiments of grammar/characters are taught as they are needed for oral and written expression. General material for the development of reading skills is provided for each student. Through a thoughtful integration of culture and language studies, students will gain clearer insights and a better understanding of world civilization.

<u>Italian II CPA</u> Grades: 9-12 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: Successful completion of Italian I CPA OR semester one average of B+ or better in Italian 8, and teacher recommendation
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This course builds on the foundation to speak, read and write which is provided in Level 1 and/or World Language 8. Listening is extended to more difficult dialogue, narrative and description; speaking, to diversified expression of fact, interpretation and comment; reading, to varied types and topics; writing, to more complex and freer prose. Content and vocabulary expand background knowledge dealing with geographical, historical and cultural aspects of the regions and/or countries where the language is used. All work is aimed at increasing knowledge and understanding of the cultural milieu of the language studied. This course helps to solidify the basis of the foreign language study to enable the student to pursue and succeed in advanced levels.

<u>Italian III CPA</u> Grades: 10-12 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: Successful completion of Italian II CPA and teacher recommendation OR placement assessment for accelerated proficiency students
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Students who move into a third year of studying a language will be exposed to advanced grammar and expected to read, write and speak the language. Learning new vocabulary and special patterns are necessary to maintain and to improve the students' fluency. Reading selections are introduced. Added emphasis is placed on the student's oral and written compositions. Review and expanded units on necessary grammatical concepts are presented. It will provide the students with a review of important grammatical materials, covered in greater depth, and more complex patterns.

<u>Italian III Honors</u> Grades: 10-12 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: Semester one average of A- in Italian II CPA with teacher recommendation OR placement assessment for accelerated proficiency students
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Italian III Honors, the beginning of the advanced, pre-AP study, will enhance the ability to communicate with proficiency through the development of the skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing. It will provide the students with a review of important grammatical materials, covered in greater depth, and more complex patterns. Guided and free-style compositions and intensive conversation practice constitute an integral part of the course work. This course provides a culturally enriched program in which oral, written and reading proficiency as well as cultural awareness are developed. The "Honors" program in Level III offers a more challenging and intensive study of the target language/culture than World Language III CPA.

<u>Italian IV CPA</u> Grades: 11-12 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: Successful completion of Italian III CPA and teacher recommendation OR placement assessment for accelerated proficiency students
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This program will further the development of listening, speaking, reading and writing skills in order to help the students communicate more effectively in the target language. Intensive and conversational practice, intensive reading for comprehension and discussion, and guided composition are promoted. Grammatical structures previously studied are reviewed. Additional complex grammar patterns and structures are developed and/or reinforced at this level. Reading will be enhanced by the continuation of the study of literature and culture. An appreciation of the culture will form an integral part of the world language learning experience.

<u>Italian IV Honors</u> Grades: 11-12 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: Semester one average of C or better in Italian III Honors OR semester one average of A- or better in Italian III CPA, and teacher recommendation OR placement assessment for accelerated proficiency students
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The overall objective of Level IV Honors is to acquire an increased comprehension and fluency in the target language in order to prepare students for the AP Language course. Students are required to speak, read and write almost exclusively in the target language while deepening their knowledge of the language, culture, history and geography. The emphasis is on an intensive practical review of grammar and its application, and on the literature. Assigned readings and writings of short essays parallel the works dealt with intensively in the classroom.

<u>AP Italian Language and Culture*</u> Grade: 12 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: Successful completion of Italian IV Honors and teacher recommendation OR placement assessment for accelerated proficiency students <i>*This course does not follow the district's course level placement criteria.</i>
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Coupled with an intensive review through practical application exercises and projects, students in Italian Language and Culture AP will survey and study various periods of Italian literature, history and civilization. Reading, vocabulary development, and composition work, both in and out of class, will be extensive. The course is presented entirely in Italian, and students are expected to be able to participate fully in all classroom activities using solely the Italian language. *As per our district policy, all AP students must take the College Board Advanced Placement exam to receive the AP weighting in their GPA. The completion of a summer assignment is required*

<u>Conversational Spanish II CPA</u> Grades: 10-12 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: Successful completion of Conversational Spanish I CPA
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This course is designed for students who completed either Conversational Spanish I or Spanish I CPA and would like to continue their study of Spanish using communicative learning methodologies to meet their learning needs. Students will be able to express their learning of Spanish in the presentational, interpretive and interpersonal modes of communication. The program advances students' communication skills such as listening, speaking, writing and reading to further develop proficiency and expand understanding of Hispanic culture. Instructional strategies include student-centered instruction, cooperative learning, and computer and video-based instruction.

<u>Spanish I CPA</u> Grades: 9-11 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: None
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This course provides students with the fundamental background required to speak, read, write, and understand the target language. A great deal of stress is placed on the development of audio-lingual skills, including correct pronunciation, intonation, and accentuation. Through the communicative approach the rudiments of grammar/characters are taught as they are needed for oral and written expression. General material for the development of reading skill is provided for each student. Through a thoughtful integration of culture and language studies, students will gain clearer insights and a better understanding of world civilizations.

<u>Spanish II CPA</u> Grades: 9-12 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: Successful completion of Spanish I CPA OR semester one average of B+ or better in Spanish 8, and teacher recommendation
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This course builds on the foundation to speak, read and write which is provided in Level 1 and/or Spanish 8. Listening is extended to more difficult dialogue, narrative and description; speaking, to diversified expression of fact, interpretation and comment; reading, to varied types and topics; writing, to more complex and freer prose. Content and vocabulary expand background knowledge dealing with geographical, historical and cultural aspects of the regions and/or countries where the language is used. All work is aimed at increasing knowledge and understanding of the cultural milieu of the language studied. This course helps to solidify the basis of the foreign language study to enable the student to pursue and succeed in the advanced levels.

<u>Spanish III CPA</u> Grades: 10-12 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: Successful completion of Spanish II CPA and teacher recommendation
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Students who move into a third year of studying language will be exposed to advanced grammar and expected to read, write and speak the language. Learning new vocabulary and special patterns are necessary to maintain and to improve the students' fluency. Reading selections are introduced. Added emphasis is placed on the student's oral and written compositions. Review and expanded units on necessary grammatical concepts are presented. It will provide the students with a review of important grammatical materials, covered in greater depth, and more complex patterns.

<u>Spanish III Honors</u> Grades: 10-12 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: Semester one average of A- or better in Spanish II CPA and teacher recommendation OR placement assessment for accelerated proficiency students
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Spanish III Honors, the beginning of the advanced, pre-AP study, will enhance the ability to communicate with proficiency through the development of the skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing. It will provide the students with a review of important grammatical materials, covered in greater depth, and more complex patterns. Guided and free-style compositions and intensive conversation practice constitute an integral part of the course work. This course provides a culturally enriched program in which oral, written and reading proficiency as well as cultural awareness are developed.

<u>Spanish IV CPA</u> Grades: 11-12 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: Successful completion of Spanish III CPA and teacher recommendation or placement assessment for accelerated proficiency students
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This program will further the development of listening, speaking, reading and writing skills in order to help the students communicate more effectively in the target language. Intensive and conversational practice, intensive reading for comprehension and discussion, and guided composition are promoted. Grammatical structures previously studied are reviewed. Additional complex grammar patterns and structures are developed and/or reinforced at this level. Reading will be enhanced by the continuation of the study of literature and culture. An appreciation of the culture will form an integral part of the world language learning experience.

<u>Spanish IV Honors</u> Grades: 11-12 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: Semester one average of C or better in Spanish III Honors OR semester one average of A- or better in Spanish III CPA, and teacher recommendation or placement assessment for accelerated proficiency students
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The overall objective of Spanish IV Honors is to acquire an increased comprehension and fluency in the target language in order to prepare students for the AP language course. Students are required to speak, read and write almost exclusively in the target language while deepening their knowledge of the language, culture, history and geography. The emphasis is on an intensive practical review of grammar and its application, and on the literature. Assigned readings and writings of short essays parallel the works dealt with intensively in the classroom. Students will increase and improve their listening, reading, speaking and writing skills.

<u>Spanish for Heritage Speakers Honors A/B</u> Grades: 9-12 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: Department recommendation
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This course is designed for heritage speakers of Spanish who wish to improve their listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills in order to develop literacy and proficiency. The curriculum is student-centered, communicative, proficiency-based, and includes a wide variety of literature; it presents authentic language in context, including cultural perspectives. The study of grammatical structures and complex patterns, guided and free-style compositions, intensive conversational practice, and cultural enrichment are all integral parts of the course work. Taking this course for 2 consecutive years will more thoroughly prepare heritage speakers for success in AP Spanish Literature and Culture as well as AP Spanish Language and Culture.

<u>AP Spanish</u> Grade: 12 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: Successful completion of Spanish IV Honors or Heritage Spanish A & B sequence and teacher recommendation or placement assessment for accelerated proficiency students <i>*This course does not follow the district's course level placement criteria.</i>
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The emphasis of the Spanish AP course will be on conversation, literature, and composition along with an intensive review of grammar. Some of the literature selections are chosen from those suggested for the Advanced Placement program which emphasizes literature of Spain and South America. Reading and composition work will be extensive. The course is conducted entirely in Spanish, and students are expected to participate in all classroom activities using solely the Spanish language. *As per our district policy, all AP students must take the College Board Advanced Placement exam to receive the AP weighting in their GPA. The completion of a summer assignment is required.*

<u>World Language Exploration</u> Grades: 9-12 Credits: 5	Prerequisite: None
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World Language Exploration

This full-year course is an introduction to language and the connection between Western languages. This course emphasizes basic understanding of Western Languages, the connections between languages along with an understanding of the cultural aspects. Students will explore a range of foundational cultural topics and will be given opportunities to make connections between languages. Reading and writing activities are introduced as they support the understanding of language. Strategies will include student-centered, differentiated instruction, cooperative learning, kinesthetic activities and computer and video-based instruction. Units will be organized by themes, situations and scenarios.