

2026-2027 Van Buren High School Course Catalog



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Calculations for GPA

Van Buren High School reserves the right to make changes as required in course offerings and curriculum. GPA will be figured with State Endorsed Weighted Credit Courses using 5.0 scale, and all other courses will use the 4.0 scale. Class rank will be calculated using the state GPA scale. Calculations of GPA will be based on grades earned in academic courses in grades 9 through 12. See Board Policy for complete GPA calculation policy.

AP/CONCURRENT COURSES	HONORS/ON-LEVEL COURSES
A: 5.0 points	A: 4.0 points
B: 4.0 points	B: 3.0 points
C: 3.0 points	C: 2.0 points
D: 2.0 points	D: 1.0 point
F: 0 points	F: 0 points

ADVANCED PLACEMENT = AP: Courses are taught on a college level. AP courses stress critical thinking, writing, and analytical skills. Students may receive college credit by taking and successfully passing the College Board AP exam. The student must pass both semesters of the AP course and take the appropriate AP exam to receive weighted credit. Weighting will be reduced to a 4.0 scale on the final transcript for students who do not meet these conditions.

CONCURRENT CLASSES: Courses taught on a college level through Arkansas Tech University or University of Arkansas Fort Smith. Students receive college credit upon completion of the class with a C or above. Concurrent Courses are weighted on a 5.0 scale.

HONORS COURSES Courses are more rigorous than on-level courses. Students are introduced to higher order thinking skills and are prepared for AP Courses.

ATHLETIC ELIGIBILITY STANDARDS Eligibility rules apply to all students competing in athletics or non-athletic activities.

For the fall semester of 9th grade, students are required to have passed 4 courses. For the spring semester of 9th grade, students must have passed 4 academic courses.

Students in grades 10-12 must have passed at least 4 academic courses and have a minimum 2.0 GPA for the previous semester to be eligible to compete.

 **ARKANSAS TECH** Indicates concurrent credit courses through Arkansas Tech University Russellville Campus. Students can earn 27 college credits towards transferable college credit at no cost to the family. Courses include: US History I, US History II, World Civ I, World Civ II, College Algebra, Plane Trigonometry, Health, Physical Education, English Composition I, and English Composition II, and Biology.

VAN BUREN HIGH SCHOOL TOP 40 CRITERIA

(CHANGES TO BE BEGIN WITH VBHS CLASS OF 2027)

Van Buren High School's "Top 40" program is an established tradition and tremendous honor for our graduates. Historically, honorees have been selected solely based on their grade point average (GPA). In an effort to encourage students to seek a well-rounded educational experience, the Van Buren School District (VBSD) has elected to modify its future selection criteria for the Top 40 program.

Additional factors will now include ACT score, attendance, extracurricular involvement, and credits earned. A new rubric (see back) has been devised to help remove subjectivity and provide a balanced scoring framework for determining Top 40 eligibility. Please note that these criteria will NOT impact this year's graduating class. New scoring guidelines will begin with this year's freshmen (Class of 2027).

VBSD enjoys celebrating the achievements of its most dedicated students and the educators who helped them achieve their goals. The annual spring banquet will continue to include special recognition of both the Top 40 honorees and the teachers that inspired them throughout the educational career.

LISTED BELOW ARE THE REVISED CRITERIA FOR STUDENTS TO QUALIFY FOR THE TOP 40:

GPA

Grade Point Average (GPA) will still carry the most weight and will account for **50%** of the total eligibility score. Previously, GPA was the sole criterion for the Top 40.

ATTENDANCE

Attendance is an important factor in college and career success. VBSD believes Top 40 students should maintain excellent attendance. Attendance will account for **15%** of the eligibility score. Students will be awarded five to ten (5 to 10) points based on their four-year cumulated attendance rate.

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Extracurricular activities
Many students take classes such as band, athletics, ROTC, etc. that require extra time away from school and study. VBSD's goal is for every student to have the opportunity to take activity classes without it adversely impacting their GPA or hindering them from earning a Top 40 spot. Students will be awarded 0 (zero) points for no classes in this category or five (5) points for any class that meets this criterion. This will account for **5%** of the eligibility score.

ACT

A student's ACT Superscore will be factored into the criteria and will account for **25%** of the total score. VBSD believes that Top 40 students will score well on the ACT and will be awarded anywhere between five (5) and 25 points based on their ACT score.

CREDITS

To graduate with an "Honors" or "High Honors" distinction, a student must have a minimum of 23 credits. VBSD believes Top 40 students should be held to this standard, as well. Students will receive zero (0) points for less than 23 credits and five (5) points for attaining 23 credits. This criterion will account for **5%** of the eligibility score.

TOP 40 SCORING RUBRIC

DATE _____

RANK _____

STUDENT NAME _____

Category	Points Possible	Total
GPA		
4.5-5.0	50	☐
4.0-4.49	40	☐
3.5-3.99	30	☐
3.0-3.49	20	☐
	Points Earned GPA	_____
		Points Earned GPA
ACT		
34-35	25	☐
31-33	20	☐
28-30	15	☐
24-27	10	☐
21-23	5	☐
	Points Earned ACT	_____
		Points Earned ACT

Attendance	Points	
97-100%	15	☐
93-96%	10	☐
90-92%	5	☐
	Points Earned Attendance	_____
		Points Earned Attendance
Extra Curricular Class	5	☐
	Points Earned Class	_____
		Points Earned Class
23 Credits	5	☐
	Points Earned Credits	_____
		Points Earned Credits

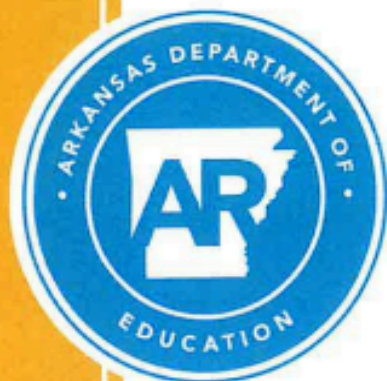
TOTAL POINTS (100 POSSIBLE) _____



VAN BUREN
POINTERS
HIGH SCHOOL

ARKANSAS

Graduation Requirements



For more information, visit
<https://dese.ade.arkansas.gov/>

Last Update: 12.3.25

Course Requirements	Credit
English Language Arts	4
ADE-Approved English I	1
ADE-Approved English II	1
ADE-Approved English III	1
ADE-Approved English IV	1
Mathematics	4
Algebra I	1
Geometry	1
Algebra II or Quantitative Reasoning (Transitional)	1
ADE-Approved Mathematics or Computer Science Flex Credit	1
Science	3
ADE-Approved Biology	1
ADE-Approved Physical Science (Physical Science, Chemistry, or Physics)	1
ADE-Approved Science or Computer Science Flex Credit	1
Social Studies	3
ADE-Approved World History	1
ADE-Approved U.S. History	1
ADE-Approved Civics	0.5
ADE-Approved Economics with Personal Finance	0.5
Physical Education	0.5
Fine Arts	0.5
Oral Communication	0.5
Health & Safety	0.5
Career Focus or Content Electives	6
Total	22

Other Requirements

- An AR graduate shall complete a minimum of 75 clock hours of documented community service in grades 9-12; requirement begins for 2027 graduates. - A.C.A. § 6-16-1901
- An AR graduate must earn credit in a course that includes Personal and Family Finance Standards in grades 9-12. - A.C.A. § 6-16-135
- An AR graduate must pass with a 60% the Arkansas Civics Exam. - A.C.A. § 6-16-147
- An AR graduate must complete CPR training. - A.C.A. § 6-16-143
- An AR graduate must earn one credit of ADE-Approved Computer Science or computer science-related career and technical education course; requirement begins for 2026 graduates. - A.C.A. § 6-16-152

General Diploma	Honor Diplomas	Diploma of Merit	Diploma of Distinction
English—4 Credits English 9 English 10 English 11 English 12 Mathematics—4 Credits Algebra I Geometry Algebra II ADE approved fourth Math credit or Computer Science Flex Science—3 Credits ADE approved Physical Science ADE approved Biology ADE approved third Science or Computer Science Flex Social Studies—3 Credits Civics .5 credit Economics .5 credit World History American History State Required Oral Communications .5 credit Physical Education .5 credit Health and Safety .5 credit Fine Arts .5 credit Digital Learning Course Computer Science Course (2026) Career Focus Electives - 6 <i>*22 Credits needed to Graduate</i>	College Prep 23 Credits 4 Honors (PAP) , Concurrent, AP, or state endorsed weighted credit courses 3.0 GPA at the end of 8 semesters College Prep Honors 23 Credits 8 Honors (PAP), Concurrent, AP, or state endorsed weighted credit courses (2 must be state endorsed weighted credit courses) 3.5 GPA at the end of 8 semesters College Prep High Honors 23 Credits 12 Honors (PAP), Concurrent, AP, or state endorsed weighted credit courses (3 must be state endorsed weighted credit courses) 3.9 GPA at the end of 8 semesters <i>*23 Credits needed to Graduate</i>	1. Complete a Success-Ready Pathway with 3 sequential credits 2. Demonstrate Readiness via ONE of the following: - Identified High Wage, High Demand Industry-Recognized Credential 12 or more postsecondary credits - Arkansas Certified Pre-Apprenticeship leading to a Registered Apprenticeship - AP Scholar Designation - AP Scholar with Honor Designation - ASVAB Score of 31 and completion of approved Enlistment Pathway - Cambridge Scholar - IB Career-related Programme Certificate - IB Scholar - Seal of Biliteracy <i>Can qualify students to receive the Arkansas Challenge Scholarship</i> <i>Must meet General Diploma Requirements</i>	1. Complete a Success-Ready Pathway with 3 sequential credits 2. Demonstrate Readiness via ONE of the following: - Technical Certificate or higher (e.g., Associate's Degree) - Cambridge Advanced International Certificate of Education (AICE) Diploma - International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma - AP Scholar with Distinction Designation - AP Capstone Diploma Designation - ASVAB Score of 31 and currently enlisted in the Armed Forces - Youth Apprenticeship leading to a Registered Apprenticeship <i>Can qualify students to receive the Governor's Scholarship</i> <i>Must meet General Diploma Requirements</i>

State Endorsed Weighted Courses (5.0 Scale)

VBHS OFFERS THE FOLLOWING COURSES THAT ARE RECOGNIZED BY ADE AS WEIGHTED COURSES. THESE COURSES WILL BE AVERAGED INTO YOUR GPA ON THE 5.0 SCALE

**AP LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION
AP LANGUAGE AND COMPOSITION
AP BIOLOGY
AP CHEMISTRY
AP ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE
AP PHYSICS
AP STATISTICS
AP PRECALCULUS
AP CALCULUS AB
AP CALCULUS BC
AP WORLD HISTORY
AP US HISTORY
AP GOVERNMENT & POLITICS
AP EUROPEAN HISTORY
AP COMPUTER SCIENCE A
AP PSYCHOLOGY
AP SPANISH LANGUAGE
AP SPANISH LITERATURE
AP STUDIO ART DRAWING
AP STUDIO ART 2D DESIGN
AP STUDIO ART 3D
COMPUTER INTEGRATED MANUFACTURING
MEDICAL INTERVENTIONS
CASE PRINCIPLES OF AG SCIENCE PLANT
CASE NATURAL RESOURCES & ECOLOGY
SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT
MOBILE APP DEVELOPMENT
GAME DEVELOPMENT & DESIGN
AP COMPUTER SCIENCE
CONC ENGLISH COMP II
CONC COLLEGE ALGEBRA/TRIGONOMETRY
CONC WORLD CIVILIZATION
CONC AMERICAN HISTORY
CONC PHYSICAL ACTIVITY
CONC BIOLOGY
CONC HEALTH
CONC CTE COURSES**

English Courses

ENGLISH COURSE OFFERINGS

*4 English credits are required for graduation.

*Professional Oral Communication is required for graduation.

COURSE CODE	COURSE DESCRIPTION	PREREQUISITE	CREDITS	9	10	11	12
411000	English II Study of reading, writing, speaking across World cultures, periods and genres.		1		■		
411001	Honors English II Study of reading, writing, speaking across World cultures, periods and genres with extension projects, research, and additional readings.		1		■		
412000	English III Study of reading, writing, speaking across American cultures, periods and genres.		1			■	
412001	Honors English III Study of reading, writing, speaking across American cultures, periods and genres with extension projects, research, and additional readings.		1			■	
517040	AP Literature & Composition College level study of imaginative literature; preparation for the AP exam.		1			■	
413000	English IV Study of reading, writing, speaking across British cultures, periods and genres.		1				■
413010	Transitional English Designed to accelerate students' literacy skills essential for college and career readiness. This is an Honors level course.		1				■
517030	AP Language & Comp College level study of language, rhetoric, and expository writing; preparation for the AP exam.		1				■
519940 	Concurrent English Composition I/II Study of reading, writing, speaking for concurrent college credit through ATU. (College Credit for English Composition 6 hours).	ACT 19 IN READING & ENGLISH & 2.0 GPA	2				■
414210	Professional Oral Communication This one semester graduation requirement course provides career exploration, interests, and programs of study.		.5	■	■	■	■

ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS

*4 English credits are required for graduation.

COURSE CODE	COURSE DESCRIPTION	PREREQUISITE	CREDITS	9	10	11	12
596600	English Language Development 1 Focus on early language acquisition for students with beginning or early intermediate English proficiency.						
596610	English Language Development 2 Focus on further language acquisition for students with early intermediate English proficiency						
596620	English Language Development 3 Focus on further language acquisition for students with intermediate English proficiency						
596630	English Language Development 4 Focus on further language acquisition for students with early advanced English proficiency						
510040	ELL English I Language arts for students with limited English proficiency.		1	■			

511030	ELL English II Language arts for students with limited English proficiency.		1		■		
512030	ELL English III Language arts for students with limited English proficiency.		1			■	
513030	ELL English IV Language arts for students with limited English proficiency.		1				■

Math Courses

MATH COURSE OFFERINGS

*4 Math credits are required for graduation.

COURSE CODE	COURSE DESCRIPTION	PREREQUISITE	CREDITS	9	10	11	12
430000	Algebra 1 Study of properties of equality, solving equations, graphs, tables, functions, patterns, relations, and polynomial operations.		1	■			
431000	Geometry Study of dimensional shapes, perimeter, area, volume, relationships involving triangles, quadrilaterals, polygons, circles, and trigonometric ratios.	ALGEBRA I	1		■		
431002	Honors Geometry In depth study of dimensional shapes, perimeter, area, volume, triangles, quadrilaterals, polygons, circles, and trigonometric ratios.	ALGEBRA I	1	■	■		
432000	Algebra 2 Study of functions both graphically and algebraically; preparation for Algebra 3 and Pre-Calculus.	ALGEBRA I	1		■	■	
432001	Honors Algebra 2 In depth study of functions both graphically and algebraically; preparation for College Algebra/Trig Concurrent.	ALGEBRA I	1		■	■	
439071	Honors Algebra 3 (Designed for <u>juniors</u> to increase ACT scores to become eligible to take concurrent in senior year) In-depth study of pre-calculus topics; preparation for College Algebra/Trig Honors. Satisfies fourth year math required for unconditional admission to Arkansas' colleges and universities.	ALGEBRA 2 GEOMETRY	1			■	■
539900 	College Algebra/Trig Concurrent Credit (Designed for <u>juniors or seniors</u> who have met the ACT requirement for concurrent credit) In-depth study of pre-calculus and trigonometric concepts. Satisfies the fourth year of Mathematics required for unconditional admission to Arkansas' colleges and universities. College Credit for Algebra and Trig (6 hours) Prerequisite for Calculus AB or BC	ALGEBRA I ALGEBRA 2 GEOMETRY ACT 19 IN READING & MATH	2			■	■
439130	Technical Math Designed for <u>seniors</u> to re-visit and improve basic Algebra 2 skills to meet the needs of graduation requirements. Focuses on the key readiness standards from the Common Core Standards. Addresses Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II.	ALGEBRA 2 GEOMETRY	1				■
439070	Algebra 3 Designed for <u>seniors</u> to build on skills learned in Algebra 2 that are essential for career or college readiness. Increase understanding of algebraic, graphical, and methods to analyze functions to use in careers or college.	ALGEBRA I ALGEBRA 2 GEOMETRY	1				■
539030	AP Statistics Statistics and probability; preparation for AP exam.	ALGEBRA 2	1			■	■
533030	AP PreCalculus Designed for <u>juniors or seniors</u> who do not have the qualifying ACT score for concurrent enrollment but still want to pursue college credit and become eligible for Calculus. The course emphasizes functions and mathematical modeling through multiple representations and aligns with foundational content found in college precalculus programs. Satisfies fourth year math required for unconditional admission to Arkansas Colleges and universities.	ALGEBRA 2	1			■	■

534040	AP Calculus AB Study of Calculus 1; preparation for AP Calculus AB exam. Students can earn 4 hours of college credit. (Double blocked)	COLLEGE ALG/TRIG OR AP PRE-CAL	1				■
534050	AP Calculus BC Study of Calculus 1 & Calculus 2; preparation for AP Calculus BC examination. Students can earn up to 8 hours of college credit. The course meets for two periods. Required: A on transcript in Con PreCal/Trig OR teacher recommendation to take BC. (Double blocked)	COLLEGE ALG/TRIG	1				■

Science Courses

SCIENCE COURSE OFFERINGS

*3 Science credits are required for graduation.

COURSE CODE	COURSE DESCRIPTION	PREREQUISITE	CREDITS	9	10	11	12
423000	Physical Science Integrated Study of matter and energy		1	■			
420000	Biology Integrated Study of cells, genetics, microorganisms, plants, animals and ecology		1		■		
42000H	Honors Biology Integrated Study of cells, genetics, microorganisms, plants, animals and ecology. This course also prepares students to be ready to take future college level AP courses.		1		■		
520030	AP Biology College level study of cells, biochemistry, energy, genetics, and ecology with extension projects, labs, lab report write ups, and readings; meets Biology credit requirement; preparation for AP exam.		1		■	■	■
529910 	Concurrent Biology This is a year long college level study of Biology. Topics covered are chemistry of life; cell structure and membranes; cellular functions; genetics; and evolution. This course covers both lecture and lab components. Concurrent credit through ATU. ***can count as Biology graduation requirement.	ACT 19 IN READING & SCIENCE & 2.0 GPA	1		■	■	■
424020	Environmental Science The study of the management of resources and impact of humans on the environment.		1		■	■	■
523030	AP Environmental Science Cultivate understanding of the interrelationships of the natural world through inquiry-based lab investigations and field work. Explore energy transfer, interactions between earth systems, interactions between different species and the environment, and sustainability.		1		■	■	■
425050	Astronomy The study of the local planets, moons, solar system, and galaxy; this course also covers cosmology, the life cycles of stars, and how humans study space.		1		■	■	■
421000	Chemistry Integrated Study of atomic structure, chemical reactions, and kinetic theory.		1			■	■
42100H	Honors Chemistry Integrated Study of atomic structure, chemical reactions, and kinetic theory; Meets third science credit requirement. This course also prepares students to be ready to take future college level AP courses.		1			■	■
521030	AP Chemistry This two semester course is a college level study of atomic structure, chemical reactions and kinetic theory with labs and outside of class work; meets third science requirement; includes preparation for AP exam, which can earn students college credit with a passing score. Prerequisites include successful completion of Algebra 2 . Recommended prerequisites include successful completion of a general high school chemistry course. Course meets for two periods daily.	ALGEBRA 2	1			■	■

422010	Physics <i>Study of the laws that govern the universe.</i>	ALGEBRA I CO-REQ ALGEBRA 2	1			■	■
522080	AP Physics <i>Study of the laws that govern the universe with extension projects, labs and readings. It is recommended that students have passed college algebra/trigonometry or currently be enrolled in College Algebra/Trigonometry. Algebra based math is used in this course.</i>	GEOMETRY CO-REQ ALGEBRA 2	1			■	■

Social Studies Courses

SOCIAL STUDIES COURSE OFFERINGS

*3 Social Studies credits are required for graduation.

COURSE CODE	COURSE DESCRIPTION	PREREQUISITE	CREDITS	9	10	11	12
471000	World History <i>This two semester course provides an overview of the major world events from the Renaissance period to present day</i>		1		■	■	■
471001	Honors World History <i>This two semester course provides an overview of the major world events from the Renaissance period to present day. This course also prepares students to be ready to take future college level AP courses</i>		1		■	■	■
571020	AP World History <i>Introductory college-level modern world history course. Students cultivate their understanding of world history from c. 1200 CE to the present through analyzing historical sources and learning to make connections and craft historical arguments as they explore concepts like humans and the environment, cultural developments and interactions, governance, economic systems, social interactions and organization, and technology and innovation.</i>		1		■	■	■
579910 	Concurrent World History 1 & 2 <i>College level study of world history from 1000 to present; concurrent credit through ATU; up to 6 hours credit ***can count as the World History graduation requirement</i>	ACT 19 READING	2		■	■	■
470000	United States History Since 1929 <i>This two-semester course will trace our nation's history from 1929 to present.</i>		1			■	■
47000H	Honors United States History Since 1929 <i>This two semester course provides a more in depth overview of the major U.S. events from the Great Depression to present day. Students will participate in primary and secondary source analysis, historical discussions, document-based writing, and project-based learning. This course will prepare students to be ready to take future college level AP courses.</i>		1			■	■
570020	AP United States History <i>This two-semester college-level course examines the evolution of the American republic from the initial European incursions into North America to the present. Students will use historical investigation to find clues in historical documents and make judgments about how people lived and the reason/outcome of major events in our nation's history. Students will have the opportunity to earn college credit by taking the AP exam at the end of the year.</i>		1			■	■
579920 	Concurrent United States History 1 & 2 <i>This is a college-level two semester survey history course. The first semester covers from the beginning through Reconstruction. The second semester covers from 1877 through present day. Each semester is worth three (3) credit hours through Arkansas Tech University.</i>	ACT 19 READING	2			■	■
472000	Civics/Government <i>This one semester course provides students with a basic understanding of civic life, politics, and government, and a short history of government's foundation and development in this country.</i>		.5		■	■	■
474300	Economics & Personal Finance <i>This one semester course studies the law of supply and demand, forms of business, labor unions, government finances and influence on the economy, money and prices, inflation and</i>		.5		■	■	■

	deflation cycles. The course relates history and politics to the study of economics.						
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Elective Courses

SOCIAL STUDIES ELECTIVES

COURSE CODE	COURSE DESCRIPTION	PREREQUISITE	CREDITS	9	10	11	12
473000	Arkansas History Discover why Arkansas is considered the "Land of Opportunity". This one semester course provides a study of the political and cultural history of the state of Arkansas from its earliest inhabitants to the Louisiana Purchase up until present day		.5		■	■	■
474600	World Geography A semester course on the world's natural and human features, as well as the cultural diversities that have impacted and shaped the world we live in today.		.5		■	■	■
579041	Street Law This one semester course is a social studies elective that serves as an introductory course to law and legal systems in the United States.		.5		■	■	■
474700	African American History. This one semester course examines the earliest origins of African Americans and their contributions in American history from the colonial period to the modern day.		.5		■	■	■
474500	Sociology Introduction to the study of humankind's most important creation-- the social group. Chances are that you awoke this morning within the confines of one group-- your family; went to school and met up with another-- your friends; and are now considering joining a different group--this class. Each of these groups influences your behavior in different ways. In this course, you will examine a wide variety of groups and the behaviors that characterize them.		.5		■	■	■
474400	Psychology This one semester course focuses on individual behavior and how an individual thinks, feels, and reacts to certain stimuli. Major emphasis will be placed on social psychology, research methods, altered states of consciousness, psychological disorders, personality and how the brain works.		.5		■	■	■
579010	American History Through Film This one semester course examines U.S. history by comparing full length feature films with traditional historical materials.		.5			■	■
579120	AP Psychology This two semester class covers the same material presented in a college level introductory psychology class.		1		■	■	■
572040	AP Government & Politics This two semester college-level course will help students cultivate their understanding of U.S. government and politics through analysis of data and text-based sources as they explore topics like constitutionalism, liberty and order, civic participation in a representative democracy, competing policy-making interests, and methods of political analysis. Emphasis is placed on class discussion, use of primary and secondary sources, U.S. Supreme Court case studies, critical reading, and analytical writing. Students will have the opportunity to earn college credit by taking the AP Exam at the end of the year. *** can count as the Civics graduation requirement		1			■	■
579170	AP European History This two-semester college-level course is the study of the political, social, and economic history of Europe from the High Renaissance to the present. This course stresses writing and critical thinking skills. Students will have the opportunity to earn college credit by taking the AP exam at the end of the year.		1			■	■

ENGLISH ELECTIVES

COURSE CODE	COURSE DESCRIPTION	PREREQUISITE	CREDITS	9	10	11	12
417020	Creative Writing Writing of poetry, short fiction, and personal narrative with an emphasis on developing reflection and creativity.		1	■	■	■	■
415000	Journalism 1 Introduction to multimedia journalism. Students will learn different writing styles and presentation styles (student-made websites, TedTalks, podcasts, documentaries). Students learn how to submit these works for publication, for the local, national, and sometimes international audiences. This course is a prerequisite to Journalism 2 (Pointer Pack News).		1	■	■	■	■
414020	Pointer Pack News This course will provide students with an opportunity to create a student-lead news production to broadcast to VBHS. Production includes original art, web design, music, filming & editing, public speaking, interviewing, and journalistic writing. This course does require some extracurricular activity. (Application only)	APPLICATION ONLY	1		■	■	■
415020	Yearbook Students will use journalistic skills such as interviewing, writing, photography, graphic design, and editing/revising to create and publish the school yearbook. Good time management, organizational skills, and work ethic are important. Recommended Journalism 1 and B in English. This course does require some extracurricular activity. Must apply with yearbook advisor.	APPLICATION ONLY	1		■	■	■
479050	Academic Study of the Bible A one semester English course that is designed to strengthen students' understanding of the Bible & its impact upon American culture. This nonsectarian, non-religious, academic course integrates the study of the Bible as a piece of literature.		.5	■	■	■	■
519063	Studies of the Holocaust Humanities-based study of World War II and the Holocaust through the writings and creative productions (e.g., fiction, non-fiction, poetry, journals, articles, primary source documents, art, drama photography) of the time period and beyond.		.5	■	■	■	■

WORLD LANGUAGE ELECTIVES

COURSE CODE	COURSE DESCRIPTION	PREREQUISITE	CREDITS	9	10	11	12
441500	French Through Art A one-year course structured for all levels from beginner to advanced. Students will learn words and phrases for basic concepts and how to communicate in common situations. There is an emphasis on communication, but grammar will also be addressed. The main theme of the course is art. Students will learn art-related vocabulary and examine and create a variety of French art forms. In addition, students will learn the history of French art and artists.		1	■	■	■	■
442550	German Through Games A one-year course structured for all levels from beginner to advanced. Students will learn words and phrases for basic concepts and how to communicate in common situations. There is an emphasis on communication, but grammar will also be addressed. The specific focus is on developing German language proficiency through games. Students will play interactive, social games and create their own games as a setting for learning and practicing German.		1	■	■	■	■
440000	Spanish 1 A one-year course structured for beginners with no experience with the Spanish language or culture. Students will learn necessary words and phrases for basic concepts such as the alphabet, numbers, weather, and telling time. Students will also learn to communicate both orally and written about topics like describing themselves, what they do and what they like, their school, their home, their goals, and the world around them. While grammar may be minimally addressed, this course is primarily to build vocabulary usage.		1	■	■	■	■
440020	Spanish 2 A one-year course structured for beginners with no experience with the Spanish language or culture which builds and	SPANISH I	1				

	<i>expands on concepts learned in Spanish 1.</i>				■	■	■
440031	Spanish 3 <i>Further Spanish language acquisition for novice to intermediate learners with emphasis on developing Spanish proficiency for success in AP courses.</i>	SPANISH 2	1			■	■
540080	AP Spanish Literature <i>Intended to develop proficiency and integrate language skills using authentic materials and sources in preparation for the AP Spanish Literature Exam.</i>	SPANISH 2	1		■	■	■

PERFORMING ARTS

COURSE CODE	COURSE DESCRIPTION	PREREQUISITE	CREDITS	9	10	11	12
459100	Theatre 1 <i>Introduction to theatre, acting, stage design and stage production. Counts as a Fine Arts credit.</i>		1	■	■	■	■
459110	Theatre II <i>Advanced level performance based course, working in depth on acting and breathing techniques.</i>	THEATRE I	1		■	■	■
459120	Theatre III <i>Advanced level performance based course, working in depth on acting, directing, resume building, college and work preparation.</i>	THEATRE 2	1			■	■
459130	Theatre IV <i>Senior level performance based course, working in depth on acting, directing, resume building, college and work preparation</i>	THEATRE 3	1				■
459240	Technical Theatre I <i>Intermediate technical theatre, sound, lighting, costumes, props and design work.</i>	THEATRE I	1		■	■	■
459250	Technical Theatre II <i>Advanced technical theatre, sound, lighting, costumes, props and design work.</i>	TECH THEATRE I	1			■	■
459260	Technical Theatre III <i>Advanced technical theatre, Stage and technical design along with stage management.</i>	TECH THEATRE II	1				■
453130	Theatre Appreciation <i>Introduction to theatre, playwriting, designing, and directing.</i>		.5	■	■	■	■

VISUAL ARTS

COURSE CODE	COURSE DESCRIPTION	PREREQUISITE	CREDITS	9	10	11	12
450060	Art History <i>A history course focusing on art starting in pre-history leading to the Renaissance. Some art making required.</i>		.5	■	■	■	■
453100	Visual Art Appreciation <i>Students will discuss art and make artwork in various media.</i>		.5		■	■	■
450000	Visual Art Foundations 1 <i>This course is the prerequisite for ALL other art making courses. Students will use a variety of media, techniques, processes, and tools to create original artworks. Students will learn basic concepts to build foundation for other courses</i>		1	■	■	■	■
450200	Drawing 1 <i>As students progress through each art course, they will develop, expand and increase real life applications of problem solving through drawing.</i>	VISUAL ART I	1		■	■	■
450210	Drawing 2 <i>As students progress through each art course, they will develop, expand and increase real life applications of problem solving through drawing</i>	VISUAL ART I & DRAWING I	1			■	■
450400	Painting 1 <i>As students progress through each art course, they will develop, expand and increase real life applications of problem solving through paintings</i>	VISUAL ART I	1		■	■	■

450410	Painting 2 As students progress through each art course, they will develop, expand and increase real life applications of problem solving through paintings.	VISUAL ART I & PAINTING I	1			■	■
450500	Ceramics 1 As students progress through each art course, they will develop, expand and increase real life applications of problem solving by making sculptures and pottery out of clay.	VISUAL ART I	1		■	■	■
450510	Ceramics 2 As students progress through each art course, they will develop, expand and increase real life applications of problem solving by making sculptures and pottery out of clay.	VISUAL ART I & CERAMICS I	1			■	■
450600	Sculpture 1 As students progress through each art course, they will develop, expand and increase real life applications of problem solving by making sculptures out of many different materials including wire, cardboard, paper mache, found objects, and clay.	VISUAL ART I	1		■	■	■
559040	AP Drawing Rigorous art making course with a college level focus on design skills and development of a portfolio for AP evaluation. Recommended "B" or better in Drawing or Painting.	VISUAL ART I	1			■	■
559050	AP 2-D Art & Design Rigorous art making course with a college level focus on 2-D design and development of portfolio for AP evaluation. Recommended "B" or better in Drawing or Painting.	VISUAL ART I OR OTHER ART COURSE	1			■	■
559060	AP 3-D Art & Design Rigorous art making course with a college level focus on 3-D design and development of a portfolio for AP evaluation. Recommended "B" or better in Sculpture or Ceramics.	VISUAL ART I OR OTHER ART COURSE	1			■	■

MUSIC

COURSE CODE	COURSE DESCRIPTION	PREREQUISITE	CREDITS	9	10	11	12
451140	Marching Band I Performing group participating in local, regional, state and national contests, concerts, band auditions, solo, and ensemble acts. Good standing in Jr Band or audition required. Enrollment in both fall and spring semester required. May count as a PE credit.		1	■			
451150	Marching Band II Performing group participating in local, regional, state and national contests, concerts, band auditions, solo, and ensemble acts. Enrollment in both fall and spring semester required.	BAND I	1		■		
451160	Marching Band III Performing group participating in local, regional, state and national contests, concerts, band auditions, solo, and ensemble acts. Enrollment in both fall and spring semester required.	BAND 2	1			■	
451170	Marching Band IV Performing group participating in local, regional, state and national contests, concerts, band auditions, solo, and ensemble acts. Enrollment in both fall and spring semester required.	BAND 3	1				■
45204B	Boys' Vocal Ensemble II Performance group to learn and perform all types of Choral literature and perform and compete at the regional, state, and national level.		1		■	■	■
45205B	Boys' Vocal Ensemble III Performance group to learn and perform all types of Choral literature and perform and compete at the regional, state, and national level.		1			■	■
45206B	Boys' Vocal Ensemble IV Performance group to learn and perform all types of Choral literature and perform and compete at the regional, state, and national level.		1				■
45204G	Girls' Vocal Ensemble II Performance group to learn and perform all types of Choral literature and perform and compete at the regional, state, and national level.		1		■	■	■
45205G	Girls' Vocal Ensemble III Performance group to learn and perform all types of Choral literature and perform and compete at the regional, state,		1			■	■

	<i>and national level.</i>						
45205G	Girls' Vocal Ensemble IV <i>Performance group to learn and perform all types of Choral literature and perform and compete at the regional, state, and national level.</i>		1				■
452060	Chamber Choir <i>Advanced ensemble, public performances, concerts, individual & festival competitions required.</i>	AUDITION	1		■	■	■
453030	Music Appreciation <i>Students will study general music forms.</i>		.5		■	■	■
459010	Music Theory <i>This course introduces fundamental music theory concepts, including rhythm, scales, intervals, chords, and key signatures. Students will develop the skills to analyze musical notation, building a strong foundation for more advanced study.</i>	BAND OR CHOIR ENROLLMENT REQUIRED	1		■	■	■

PHYSICAL EDUCATION & HEALTH

*Only 1 PE OR Athletic credit counts toward graduation and GPA.

COURSE CODE	COURSE DESCRIPTION	PREREQUISITE	CREDITS	9	10	11	12
480000	Health <i>Personal health, safety and fitness, including first aid, nutrition, drug and alcohol abuse, STD's, eating disorders, mental disorders, First Aid & CPR.</i>		.5	■	■	■	■
68500A	Archery <i>Introduction to the sport by learning about bows, arrows and shooting at targets.</i>		1	■	■	■	■
68500F	Sport Fishing <i>Introduction to fishing via the picking of lure for certain fish, water temp and learning to fish.</i>		1		■	■	■
68500P	Pickleball <i>A fun sport that uses a small paddle and a plastic ball with holes. It combines many elements of tennis, badminton, and ping-pong.</i>		1		■	■	■
685000	Physical Activity <i>Active participation in aerobic, strength training, and flexibility development; various individual and team activities.</i>		1	■	■	■	■
68500T	Total Fitness <i>A complete body workout course that includes cardio fitness, core strength and weight training.</i>		1		■	■	■
68500R	Recreational Sports <i>Pick up basketball, disc golf, corn-hole, dodgeball, kickball, and other indoor and outdoor sports</i>		1		■	■	■
68500W	Weightlifting		1		■	■	■
585900 	Concurrent Physical Education <i>One semester course. ACT Scores of 19 in Reading is required.</i>	ACT 19 READ	1			■	■
580900 	Concurrent Health <i>One semester course. ACT Scores of 19 in Reading is required.</i>	ACT 19 READ	1			■	■

ATHLETICS

*Only 1 PE OR Athletic credit counts toward graduation and GPA.

COURSE CODE	COURSE DESCRIPTION	PREREQUISITE	CREDITS	9	10	11	12
999820	Baseball <i>Two semester sport.</i>		1	■	■	■	■
999810	Basketball Boys <i>Two semester sport.</i>		1	■	■	■	■

999811	Basketball Girls <i>Two semester sport.</i>		1	■	■	■	■
999850	Cheerleading <i>Two semester sport</i>		1	■	■	■	■
999812	Cross Country Boys <i>Fall semester sport</i>		.5	■	■	■	■
999813	Cross Country Girls <i>Fall semester sport</i>		.5	■	■	■	■
999851	Dance <i>Two semester sport</i>		1	■	■	■	■
999814	Football <i>Two semester sport</i>		1	■	■	■	
999815	Football <i>Fall semester sport; 12TH grade</i>		.5				■
999821	Golf <i>Two semester sport</i>		1	■	■	■	■
999822	Softball <i>Two semester sport</i>		1	■	■	■	■
999823	Soccer – Boys <i>Two semester sport</i>		1	■	■	■	■
999824	Soccer – Girls <i>Two semester sport</i>		1	■	■	■	■
999825	Tennis <i>Two semester sport</i>		1	■	■	■	■
999816	Track – Boys <i>Spring semester sport</i>		1	■	■	■	■
999817	Track – Girls <i>Spring semester sport</i>		1	■	■	■	■
999826	Volleyball <i>Two semester sport.</i>		1	■	■	■	■
999827	Wrestling <i>Two semester sport.</i>		1	■	■	■	■
696005	E-sports <i>Two semester sport in the computer lab; competitive video gaming.</i> *Non Credit Course*		1		■	■	■

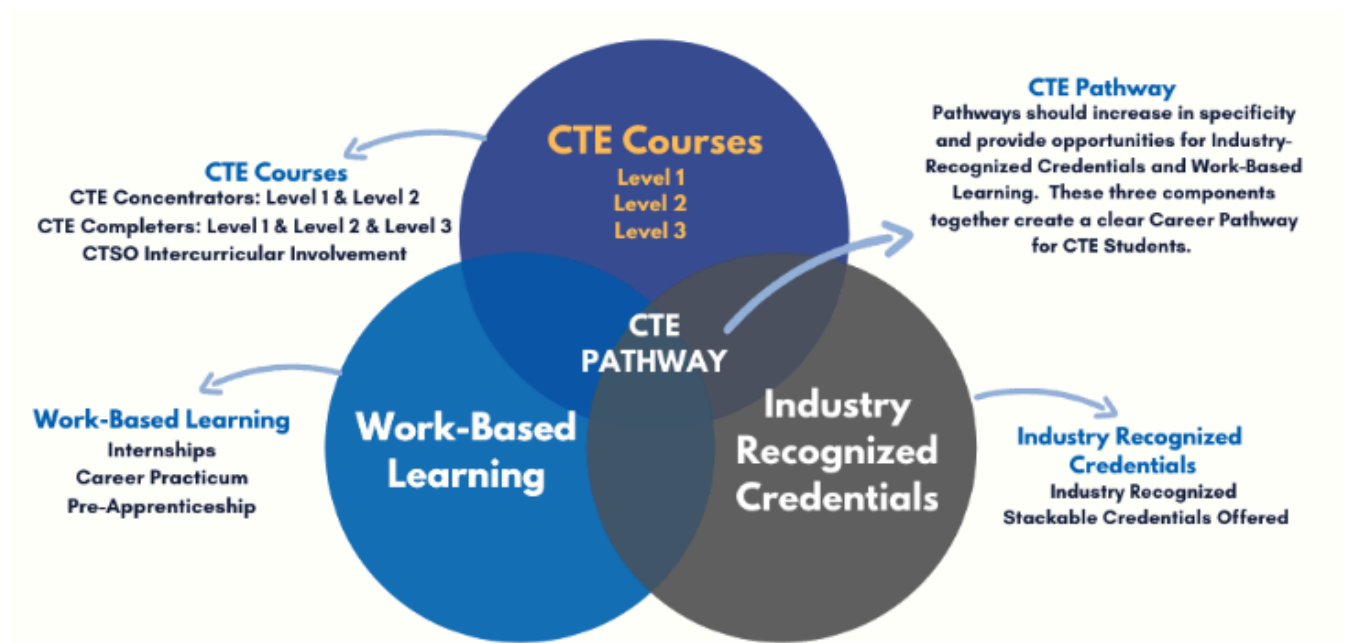
MISCELLANEOUS

COURSE CODE	COURSE DESCRIPTION	PREREQUISITE	CREDITS	9	10	11	12
493860	Internship <i>The Internship course is a paid or unpaid experiential learning experience. The course will serve as an introductory work experience course for 12th grade students. A student may enroll in the Internship course for up to two years and earn a maximum of four credits. This course is not considered an elective course for CTE completer status. The Internship course includes both classroom instruction and worksite experience. The student and Internship teacher must develop an Internship agreement. The Internship teacher and the workplace mentor will evaluate the student. The students must be employed prior to enrolling in the class.</i>	JOB REQUIRED	2				■
696003	ACT Prep <i>One semester course designed to help students achieve a composite score of at least "19" on the ACT. Focus will be to improve students in weak areas of the test by breaking down the semester into 9 week focus areas.</i> *Non Credit Course*		0		■	■	■
690040	Drivers Education <i>30 hours of classroom instruction & practical driving experience, local credit only.</i> *Non Credit Course*	PERMIT REQUIRED	0			■	■
493900	Career Readiness <i>Preparing today's high school students with the essential skills, knowledge, and certifications needed for successful</i>		.5				

	transitions to college and careers in the modern Arkansas economy. This comprehensive one-semester course offers students 0.5 credit per semester while focusing on developing crucial 21st-century employment skills and informed career decision-making strategies.				■	■	■
493880	College & Career Readiness This course is designed to provide the student with the necessary skills to evaluate who they are, what they need in a career, and what they need from education to be prepared to refine their choices through a decision-making process. It helps the student master the skills most needed by 21st century employers. This course is recommended for the junior or senior year to assess labor market information, personal academic and career ready potential, and make application to postsecondary institutions.		.5		■	■	■

Career & Technical Pathways

Van Buren High School offers several career and technical pathways to cultivate student success after graduation. In order to be considered for a Diploma of Merit or a Diploma of Distinction, students **must** complete three sequential courses in a success-ready pathway. Additionally, students who complete two courses in a pathway, earn “Concentrator” status while students who complete three courses in a pathway earn “Completer” status upon graduation.



LEVEL 1	LEVEL 2	LEVEL 3	LEVEL 4
ARMY JROTC I OR JROTC HEALTH/PE	ARMY JROTC 2	ARMY JROTC 3	ARMY JROTC 4

COURSE CODE	COURSE DESCRIPTION	PREREQUISITE	CREDITS	9	10	11	12
480950	Army ROTC Health <i>Meets state graduation requirement for Health & Safety credit</i>		.5	■	■	■	■
485950	Army ROTC PE <i>Meets state graduation requirement for Physical Education credit</i>		.5	■	■	■	■
495790	Army ROTC I <i>Responsible leadership roles, rights and privileges as American citizens.</i>		1	■	■	■	■
495800	Army ROTC II <i>Responsible leadership roles, rights and privileges as American citizens.</i>	JROTC I	1		■	■	■
495810	Army ROTC III <i>Responsible leadership roles, rights and privileges as American citizens.</i>	JROTC 2	1			■	■
495890	Army ROTC IV <i>Senior cadets serve/learn as commanders and as cadet staff officers at battalion level.</i>	JROTC 3	1				■

FASHION AND HOUSING DESIGN

LEVEL 1	LEVEL 2	LEVEL 3
INTRODUCTION TO DIGITAL ARTS	FASHION & INTERIOR DESIGN I	FASHION & INTERIOR DESIGN II

COURSE CODE	COURSE DESCRIPTION	PREREQUISITE	CREDITS	9	10	11	12
493680	Introduction to Digital Arts <i>The purpose of this course is to assist students in making informed decisions regarding their future academic and occupational goals and to provide information regarding careers in the Arts, A/V Technology and Communication Career Cluster. The content includes, but is not limited to, technology literacy; understanding the importance of Arts and A/V; understanding the role of science, math, reading, writing, history, and technology in Arts and A/V; and Digital Media. Reinforcement of academic skills occurs through classroom instruction and applied laboratory procedures. Instruction and learning activities are provided through theory and hands-on experiences with the equipment, materials and technology appropriate to the course content and in accordance with current practices.</i>		1	■	■	■	■
490890	Fashion & Interior Design I <i>Designed to assist students in developing skills necessary for management of individual and family wardrobes, for decision making as a clothing consumer, and for understanding the role of the clothing and textile industry in the economy.</i>	INTRO TO DIGITAL ARTS	1		■	■	■
490900	Fashion & Interior Design II <i>A creative course in which students will learn the elements, principles and psychology of design. Students will then be given the freedom to apply these concepts in the areas of both fashion and interiors. In addition, students will explore careers in both fields.</i>	FASHION I	1			■	■

CULINARY ARTS

LEVEL I	LEVEL 2	LEVEL 3
FOOD SAFETY & NUTRITION	CULINARY ARTS I OR FOOD PRODUCTION, MANAGEMENT, & SERVICES	CULINARY ARTS II

493111	Food Safety & Nutrition <i>Skills needed to select, prepare, and serve food to meet nutritional needs of individuals and families.</i>		1		■	■	■
493120	Food Production, Management & Services <i>Development of competencies related to employability; technology in food production, management, and services; sanitation and safety; nutrition as related to food service; servicing of food; purchasing, receiving, and storing of food supplies; production and management of food; use, care, and storage of large and small commercial foodservice equipment; menu planning; and modified diets.</i>	FOOD SAFETY	1			■	■
493260	Culinary Arts I <i>This course is designed to expand students' knowledge in the culinary arts profession. The course emphasizes the study of kitchen staples, principles of cooking, soups, stocks and sauces, dairy products, eggs, fruit and vegetables, grains and pasta cookery, meat cookery, and principles of baking. Upon completion of this course, students should have attained basic skills needed for entry-level employment in the food service industry, customer relations, purchasing and storage of foods, cooking techniques and principles of baking.</i>	FOOD SAFETY	1			■	■

PRE-EDUCATOR

LEVEL 1	LEVEL 2	LEVEL 3
INTRODUCTION TO EDUCATION (WEIGHTED CREDIT)	EDUCATION TECHNOLOGY (WEIGHTED CREDIT)	CHILD GROWTH & DEVELOPMENT (WEIGHTED CREDIT) OR CAREER PRACTICUM

590231 	Introduction to Education A class to prepare high school students to become prospective teachers. Areas of study include Foundations of American Education, professional behavior, student diversity, instructional methods, communication skills, and reflective practices that support learning. All students enrolled in this class are required to engage in 30 hours of field experience. (Level One) Students who score 19 or higher on the Reading section of the ACT will be eligible for CONC credit.		1		■		
590521 	Education Technology Project based course that introduces students to the role of technology in the classroom. Students will explore various digital learning tools used in online, face-to-face, and hybrid learning environments. Students will develop skills and strategies needed to integrate technology into the classroom and develop methods of digital communication and collaboration. Field experience will include both online and face-to-face classroom observations. All students enrolled in this class will be required to engage in 25 hours of field experience. (Level Two) Students who score 19 or higher on the Reading section of the ACT will be eligible for CONC credit.	INTRO TO EDUCATION	1			■	■
592021 	Child Growth & Development Child Growth and Development students study the physical, intellectual, social, and emotional development of a child from conception to five years of age. This course teaches parenting and caregiving roles in relation to the developing child as well as guiding them in the learning process. Students who score 19 or higher on the Reading section of the ACT will be eligible for CONC credit.	INTRO TO EDUCATION & ED TECH	1				■
490660	Career Practicum: Education and Training Third year pathway course that is a paid or unpaid experience designed to assist students pursuing a career in education. A student must be at least 16 years of age. The student must have completed at least Level 1 and Level 2 courses in Education Technology.	INTRO TO EDUCATION & ED TECH					■

SUPPLY CHAIN AND LOGISTICS

LEVEL I	LEVEL 2	LEVEL 3
INTRODUCTION TO BUSINESS	SUPPLY CHAIN & LOGISTICS I (CONCURRENT/WEIGHTED CREDIT)	SUPPLY CHAIN & LOGISTICS II (CONCURRENT/WEIGHTED CREDIT) OR CAREER PRACTICUM

COURSE CODE	COURSE DESCRIPTION	PREREQUISITE	CREDITS	9	10	11	12
492120	Introduction to Business <i>Business applications necessary to live and work in a technological society. This course is required for all business completers and it is required that the course be taken before other business courses.</i>		1	■	■	■	■
591380 	Supply Chain and Logistics I <i>This course prepares students with knowledge of the supply chain industry. It focuses on an understanding of global logistics, supply chain technology, the transportation industry and regulations, understanding of planning and routing of shipments, communication skills, and customer service skills.</i>	INTRO TO BUS	2		■	■	■
591390 	Supply Chain and Logistics II <i>This year-long course covers concepts and skills related to planning and management of transportation and distribution activities affecting business operations. Students will learn essential knowledge for entry into careers in the transportation, distribution, and logistics fields.</i>	SUPPLY CHAIN I	2			■	■
490650	Career Practicum: Transportation, Distribution, and Logistics <i>Third year pathway course that is a paid or unpaid experience designed to assist students pursuing a career in logistics. A student must be at least 16 years of age. The student must have completed at least Level 1 and Level 2 courses in the supply chain and logistics pathway.</i>	INTRO TO BUS & SUPPLY CHAIN I					■

PRE-ENGINEERING

LEVEL 1	LEVEL 2	LEVEL 3	LEVEL 4
INTRODUCTION TO ENGINEERING	ENGINEERING I	ENGINEERING II	COMPUTER INTEGRATED MANUFACTURING (WEIGHTED CREDIT) OR ENGINEERING CAPSTONE

COURSE CODE	COURSE DESCRIPTION	PREREQUISITE	CREDITS	9	10	11	12
493960	Introduction to Engineering Students will work both independently and in teams as they learn problem-solving skills using the design process. They get to use industry-standard 3D modeling software to create their own designs including puzzle cubes, Automoblox vehicles, miniature trains, and their own creation which can be printed out on our 3-D printer.		1	■	■	■	■
493970	Engineering I Students are exposed to the basic principles of electrical, chemical, civil, and mechanical engineering disciplines and apply their learning by building and programming VEX robotics structures, such as chocolate chip cookie topper, surgical robot arm, marble sorter, soccer goal light, compound lifting mechanism, 3-floor elevator, and donut-delivering robot.	INTRO ENG	1		■	■	■
493980	Engineering II Students will continue to develop engineering problem-solving skills that are involved in postsecondary education programs and engineering careers. They will explore engineering sub-types such as aerospace, environmental, civil, and electrical.	ENGIN I	1			■	■
495450	Computer Integrated Manufacturing Students will learn about modern manufacturing processes by utilizing a variety of software skills, the CAD skills they learned in IED, and CAM (which takes a CAD drawing file and uses the information to create g-code). A CNC machine then follows the instructions in the g-code and uses lasers or water jets to cut away metal from the stock block to physically create the machined part the student designed in CAD...a really neat process! Students will also build and program prototype manufacturing systems using VEX equipment, a Lynxmotion robot arm, and ROBOT-C programming they learned in POE. This course teaches skill sets in high demand by several manufacturers in the River Valley area.	ENGIN II	1				■
493990	Engineering Capstone In this capstone course, students apply the engineering design process and perform research to choose and justify a technical problem. The teams design, acquire materials, build, and test their solutions while working closely with industry professionals who provide mentoring opportunities. Finally, the student teams formally present and defend their original solution to an outside panel.	ENGIN II	1				■

AUTOMATION TECHNOLOGY

LEVEL 1	LEVEL 2	LEVEL 3
FUNDAMENTALS OF ELECTRICITY (DC & AC) (CONCURRENT/WEIGHTED CREDIT) & INTRODUCTION TO INDUSTRIAL ROBOTICS (CONCURRENT/WEIGHTED CREDIT)	INTRODUCTION TO INDUSTRIAL AUTOMATION (CONCURRENT/WEIGHTED CREDIT) AND INTRODUCTION TO MANUFACTURING COMPONENTS (CONCURRENT/WEIGHTED CREDIT)	PROGRAMMABLE CONTROLLERS (CONCURRENT/WEIGHTED CREDIT)

 590820	Fundamentals of Electricity (DC & AC) <i>A study of the fundamental principles of AC and DC, Ohm's law, and the power equation. Series, parallel, series parallel circuits, and DC meters are introduced. Students will learn how circuits work and how to troubleshoot any problems with the circuit, which will help them in the following semester with their soldering projects. THIS COURSE IS A Prerequisite TO ALL OTHER COURSES</i>		1		■	■	■
 590830	Introduction to Industrial Robotics <i>The course will develop the skills required to solder and solder electronic devices and circuit board mounted components, and will require the student to master the use of common electronic instruments in order to measure and troubleshoot circuits. In addition, students will learn to correctly select components and build a circuit on a bread board by following a schematic diagram. Students will demonstrate their soldering skills by successfully completing 3 soldering projects (My Place, Awesome USA, and The Awesome Cube) using both through-hole and surface mount soldering. Teaches the basic operation and programming of the six-axis ABB robotic arm using a teach pendant. The manufacturing engineer or technician of today is faced with the selection, operation, programming, and troubleshooting of robot systems on a factory floor. In the manufacturing facilities of the future, robotic literacy may become as important as personal computer literacy has become in the office of today. This class is very hands-on and a favorite among the students.</i>	FUND OF ELEC	1		■	■	■
 590781	Introduction to Industrial Automation <i>Covers fundamentals of motors and motor control. Includes switches, relays, transformers, three-phase power systems, DC motors, single-phase motors, three-phase motors, overload protection, and motor controllers. The National Electrical Code standards for all circuits are emphasized.</i>	FUND OF ELEC	2			■	■
 592551	Introduction to Manufacturing Components <i>This course provides a foundation in modern production processes, including hand and power tools, power transfer, precision measurement, blueprints and schematics, advanced automation controls, and troubleshooting. Students will learn the proper and safe use of various tools and test equipment. Students will also be exposed to Advanced Manufacturing concepts, equipment, and processes. The students are expected to be able to transfer the skills learned in this course into a wide range of automated workplaces.</i>	FUND OF ELEC	2			■	■
 593181	Programmable Controllers <i>Provides the student with an overview of the selection, programming, and operations of programmable logic controllers (PLCs). The student will learn how to program PLCs using "ladder logic" diagrams in computer simulations (utilizing LogixPro software) and then in the actual hardware wired up to a relay control system (which the students previously learned how to use in the Industrial Automation course).</i>	FUND OF ELEC	2				■

SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT

LEVEL 1	LEVEL 2	LEVEL 3
INTRODUCTION TO COMPUTER SCIENCE	SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT (WEIGHTED CREDIT) OR AP COMPUTER SCIENCE A	GAME DEVELOPMENT & DESIGN (WEIGHTED CREDIT) OR MOBILE APP DEVELOPMENT (WEIGHTED CREDIT)

COURSE CODE	COURSE DESCRIPTION	PREREQUISITE	CREDITS	9	10	11	12
465070	Intro to Computer Science Exposes students to a diverse set of computational thinking concepts, fundamentals, and tools, allowing them to gain understanding and build confidence. Students use visual, block-based programming and seamlessly transition to text-based programming with languages such as Python® to create apps and develop websites, and learn how to make computers work together to put their design into practice. They apply computational thinking practices, build their vocabulary, and collaborate just as computing professionals do to create products that address topics and problems important to them. Students will work with MIT App Inventor, VEX Robots and text based programming (Python). (Level One)		1	■	■	■	■
465080	Software Development This course provides an introduction to software development, covering core programming concepts, professional skills, and the software development lifecycle. Students will gain practical experience with data structures, algorithms, object-oriented programming, and software testing. They will also explore secure coding practices, ethical considerations, and emerging technologies, building a strong foundation for a career in the field. ***weighted with a 5.0 by the ADE.**	INTRO TO COMP SCI	1		■	■	■
565130	AP Computer Science A Introductory college-level computer science course. Students cultivate their understanding of coding through analyzing, writing, and testing code as they explore concepts like modularity, variables, and control structures. (Level Three)) ***weighted with a 5.0 by the ADE.**	INTRO TO COMP SCI	1		■	■	■
465690	Game Development and Design This course provides a foundation in game development and design, covering the creative, technical, and professional aspects of the industry. Students will learn game design principles, programming, asset creation, and user interface design. Through hands-on projects using industry-standard game engines, students will develop and test their own games. Upon completion, students will be prepared for further studies or entry-level positions in game development. ***weighted with a 5.0 by the ADE.**	SOFT DEV	1			■	■
465390	Mobile Application Development This course provides an introduction to mobile application development, from design to implementation. Students will learn UI design, software architecture, data management, and security best practices. Upon completion, students will be prepared for further study or entry-level positions in the field. ***weighted with a 5.0 by the ADE.**	SOFT DEV	1			■	■

BIOMEDICAL

LEVEL 1	LEVEL 2	LEVEL 3	LEVEL 4
PRINCIPLES OF BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES	HUMAN BODY SYSTEMS	MEDICAL INTERVENTIONS (WEIGHTED CREDIT)	BIOMEDICAL INNOVATIONS

COURSE CODE	COURSE DESCRIPTION	PREREQUISITE	CREDITS	9	10	11	12
495000	Principles of Biomedical Sciences Students analyze the evidence found at a crime scene and help the medical examiner uncover clues both on and off the body to solve a mystery. Taking on the role of medical professionals, students will access, diagnose, conduct and analyze tests, and care for patients in a variety of situations.		1	■	■		
495010	Human Body Systems Students examine the interactions of human body systems as they explore identity, power, movement, protection, and homeostasis in the body. Exploring science in action, students build organs and tissues on a skeletal Maniken®; use data acquisition software to monitor body functions such as muscle movement, reflex and voluntary action, and respiration; and take on the roles of biomedical professionals to solve real-world medical cases. ***can take place of the 3rd year science requirement for graduation per ADE.**	PBS	1		■	■	■
495020	Medical Interventions Students follow the life of a fictitious family as they investigate how to prevent, diagnose, and treat disease. Students explore how to detect and fight infection; screen and evaluate the code in human DNA; evaluate cancer treatment options; and prevail when the organs of the body begin to fail. Through real-world cases, students are exposed to a range of interventions related to immunology, surgery, genetics, pharmacology, medical devices, and diagnostics. *weighted with a 5.0 by the ADE.	HBS	1			■	■
495030	Biomedical Innovations The final course of the PLTW Biomedical Science sequence, students build on the knowledge and skills gained from previous courses to design innovative solutions for the most pressing health challenges of the 21st century. Students address topics ranging from public health and biomedical engineering to clinical medicine and physiology. They have the opportunity to work on an independent project with a mentor or advisor from a university, medical facility, or research institution.	MED INT	1				■

AGRICULTURAL SCIENCE

PLANT SYSTEMS

LEVEL 1	LEVEL 2	LEVEL 3
INTRODUCTION TO AGRICULTURE	CASE PRINCIPLES OF AGRI SCIENCE PLANT (WEIGHTED CREDIT)	PLANT SCIENCE II

NATURAL RESOURCES

LEVEL 1	LEVEL 2	LEVEL 3
INTRODUCTION TO AGRICULTURE	CASE PRINCIPLES OF NATURAL RESOURCES (WEIGHTED CREDIT)	FORESTRY & WILDLIFE ECOSYSTEMS OR CAREER PRACTICUM

COURSE CODE	COURSE DESCRIPTION	PREREQUISITE	CREDITS	9	10	11	12
491150	Introduction to Agriculture A foundation course for all agricultural programs of study. Topics covered include general agriculture, FFA, leadership, supervised agricultural experiences, animal systems, plant systems, agribusiness systems, food products and processing systems, biotechnology, natural resources systems, environmental service systems and power, structural and technical systems.		1	■	■	■	■
491170	CASE Principles of Agri Science (Plant) a foundation-level course teaching students the form and function of plant systems. Students experience various plant science concepts through inquiry-based exercises filled with activities, projects, and problems utilizing laboratory and practical experiences. Student experiences will include the study of plant anatomy and physiology, classification, and the fundamentals of production and harvesting. ***can take place of the 3rd year science requirement and is weighted with a 5.0 by the ADE. ** (Level Two)	INTRO TO AG	1		■	■	■
491470	CASE Natural Resources & Ecology An agricultural class for students who are interested in earth sciences and man's interactions with nature. ***can be used as the 3rd science requirement for graduation and is weighted with a 5.0 by the ADE. (Level Two)	INTRO TO AG	1		■	■	■
490800	Plant Science II This course allows for an in-depth look at the Plant Science Industry while providing hands-on laboratories and opportunities to participate in FFA and Supervised Agricultural Experiences. (Level Three)	INTRO TO AG & PRIN OF AG	1			■	■
491260	Forestry and Wildlife Ecosystems This course provides an overview of the forestry and wildlife industry and it's important to the economy of the nation. Tree and wildlife identification, management practices, harvesting and marketing processes, and business applications are major topics.(Level Three)	INTRO TO AG & NRE	1			■	■
490600	Career Practicum: Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources Third year pathway course that is a paid or unpaid experience designed to assist students pursuing a career in logistics. A student must be at least 16 years of age. The student must have completed at least Level 1 and Level 2 courses in the supply chain and logistics pathway.	INTRO TO AG & NRE					■

WESTERN ARKANSAS TECHNICAL CENTER

**See Mr. Bradford in the Arena for information and to apply.*



Van Buren High School partners with the University of Arkansas Fort Smith to provide students with the opportunity to receive concurrent credit through The Western Arkansas Technical Center. WATC offers high school juniors and seniors the opportunity to graduate with certificates or associate degrees in their desired fields. Students attend half day concurrent courses at PEAK Innovation Center or the UAFS Campus.

UAFS CAMPUS

WELDING

PEAK INNOVATION CENTER

**CERTIFIED NURSING ASSISTANT
COMPUTER INTEGRATED MANUFACTURING
ELECTRONICS TECHNOLOGY
EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIAN
LICENSED PRACTICAL NURSING
NETWORK ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY**

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON PROGRAMS, PLEASE VISIT THE [WATC HANDBOOK](#).