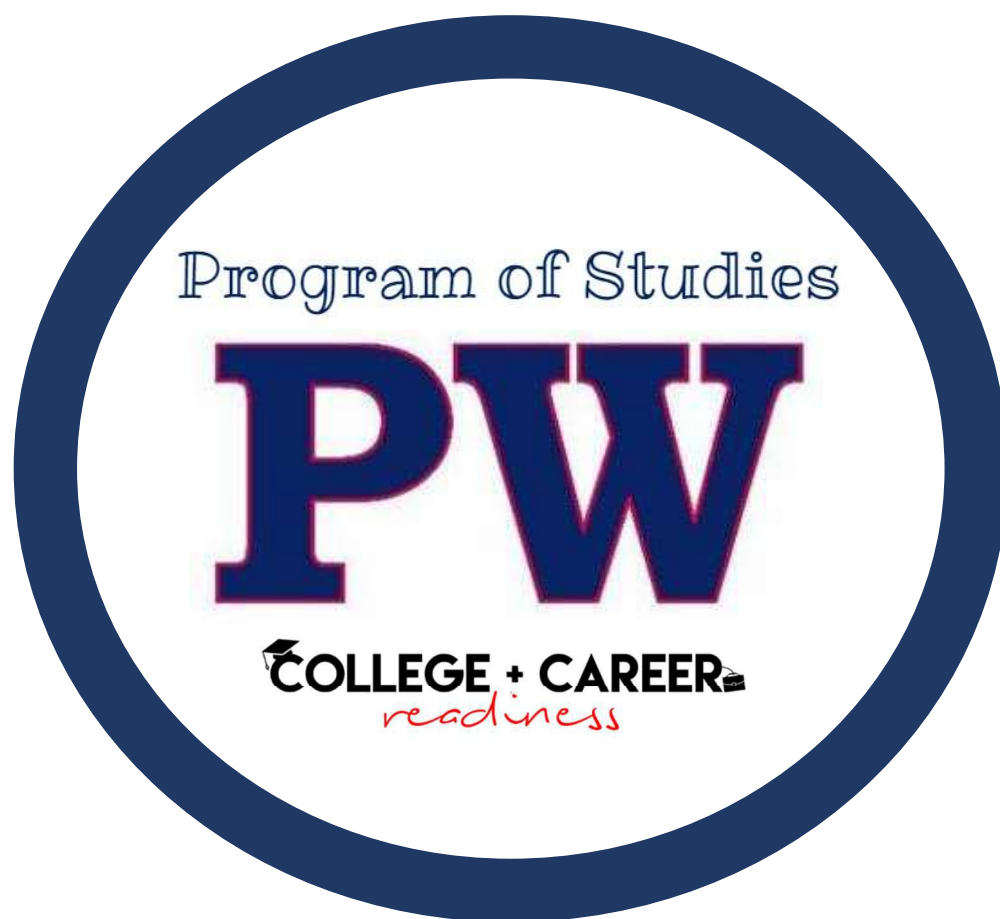


Plymouth Whitemarsh ★ High School ★



8th to 9th Abridged
Electives only

2026-2027

Dear Students and Families,

Please find here an “abridged” version of Plymouth Whitemarsh High School’s Program of Studies for 2026-2027. While all incoming 9th grade students will be recommended by teachers for CORE content classes in English, Math, Social Studies, and Science, all students will need to select additional elective classes. This abridged version focuses solely on elective options for incoming 9th graders. Additional venues for elective course information are;

- CMS Electives Presentation to students – January 21 at CMS
- **Now Available Online!** Canvas Page/Course - “Class of 2030” (Course Selection Tab)
 - o <https://colonialsd.instructure.com> > courses
- Program Planning Night – February 17 at PWHS (5:05 PM)

We hope that students find this resource valuable. The administration, counselors and teachers are committed to providing each student guidance and support throughout the course selection process. Please attempt to visit us on Program Planning Night which is an opportunity for parents to investigate courses of study presented by PWHS faculty. We look forward to welcoming you officially to PWHS next year!

Sincerely,



Dr. Jason Bacani



PWHS Administration

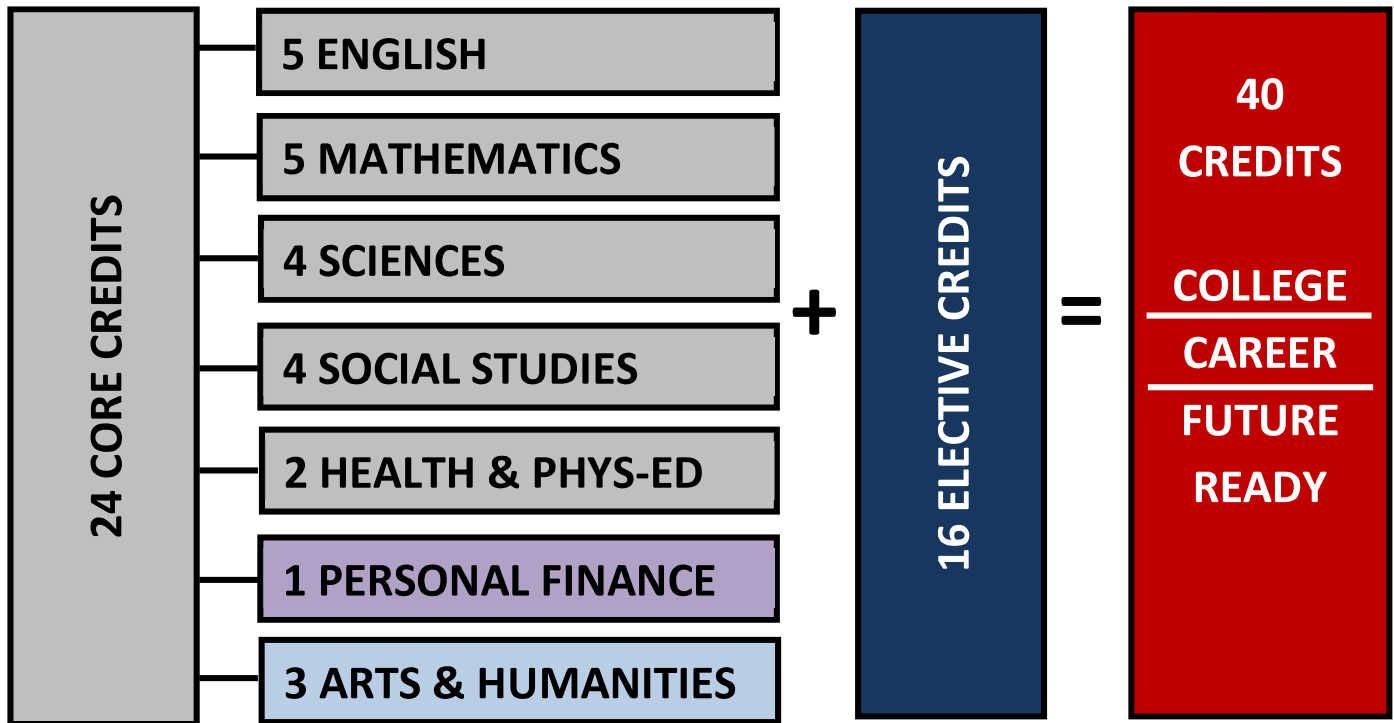
Dr. Jason Bacani, Principal
Mr. Maico Azcona, Assistant Principal
Mr. Ralph Bretz, Assistant Principal (Athletics)
Mrs. Heather King, Assistant Principal
Mr. Stephen Price, Assistant Principal
Mr. Dan Balek, Dean of Students

PWHS Counselors

Mr. Jeff Blizzard, Counselor A-C
Mrs. Caitlin Parenti, Counselor D-He
Mr. Chris Jackson, Counselor Hi-Mc
Mrs. Peggy Benn, Counselor Me-R
Mr. M.J. Gourke, Counselor S-Z
Mrs. Beth Lynch, College Counselor
Mrs. Tracy Borkowski, Community Counselor
Mrs. Fawn Cornielle, Community Counselor

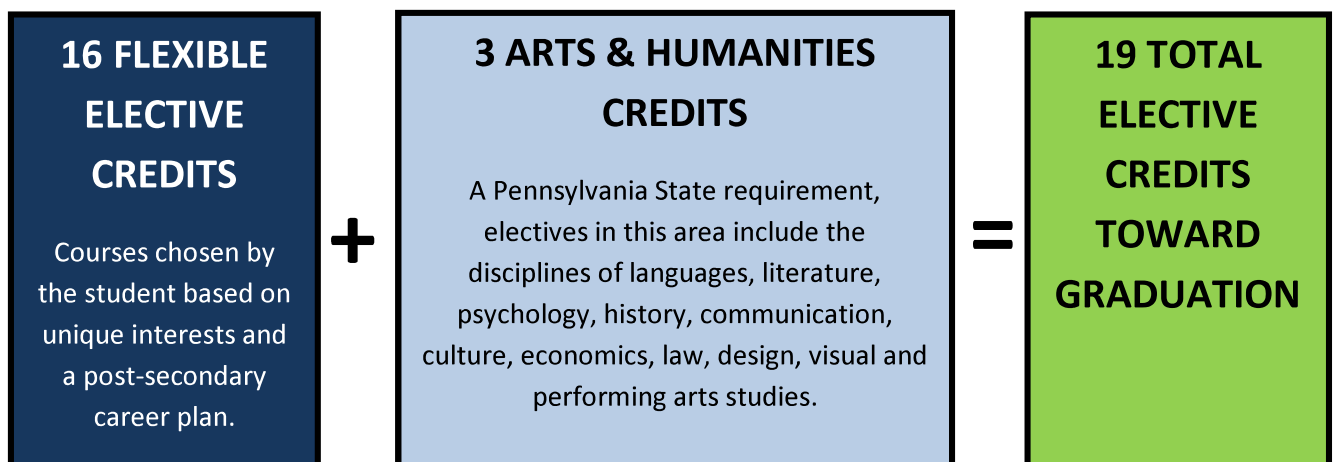
How Do Credits and Graduation Requirements Add Up?

$$24 + 16 = 40$$



Elective Choice Focused on Developing and Evaluating Career Options

$$16 + 3 = 19$$



9th GRADE ELECTIVES CATALOG
PLYMOUTH WHITEMARSH HIGH SCHOOL

ENTREPRENEURSHIP, DESIGN & INNOVATION

ART STUDIO 1 (Grades 9-12)

(EDI6000)



This course is a foundation and an exploratory course for students considering careers in the fine arts, architecture, interior design, graphic design, digital arts, ceramics, photography, animation, and other fields related to art. The course focuses on developing observational drawing skills, the elements and principles of design, aesthetic awareness, and creative problem solving. This will be done while acquiring technical skills in drawing, painting, 3D building, and mixed media. Research and reflective analysis of their own work and works created by historically significant artists will enhance students' awareness of their relationship to the history of art. Student interested in pursuing the H Art Major or AP Drawing pathway should complete this course by Grade 10.

APPLIED CERAMICS TECHNOLOGY 1 (Grades 9-12)

(EDI6010)



This introductory 3D course focuses on the processes for hand building and wheel-thrown ceramic as students will learn and understand how clay translates into form and how various states of clay affect the hand building process. Students create multiple pieces around clay states and innovation. Students will work with glazing techniques and research historical/modern ceramic artists to create unique works of art.

JEWELRY & FINE METALS 1 (Grades 9-12)

(EDI6011)



This introductory 3D course will have students working with nonferrous metals using basic hand tools and three-dimensional design concepts. Students will be introduced to the elements of principles of art and design and gain an understanding of how to translate a two-dimensional design to a three-dimensional product using Adobe Illustrator. Techniques covered will include designing, sawing, filing, piercing, hammering, riveting to create jewelry and small metal sculptural pieces.



PHOTOGRAPHY 1 (Grades 9-12)

(EDI6005)

Photography 1 is both an exploratory course and foundational course for the 2D Design pathway. Students will learn how to take fine art photographs by enhancing digital photographs using Photoshop. Students will learn how to use the modes and settings on their digital cameras and smart phone cameras while learning the importance of composition, and the difference between a fine art photograph and a snapshot. The history of photography, famous photographers will be used as inspiration for projects and students will learn how to critique photographs. In addition to photography projects, students will print and mat color photos, make collages and complete a research project as a final exam.



INTRODUCTION TO BUSINESS (Grades 9-12)

(EDI6216)

This is an introductory business course for students and the prerequisite for subsequent business courses; Accounting 1, Marketing 1, Business Law 1, and Sports Management designed for students potentially interested in a business career pathway. Students will gain an understanding of the main concepts behind accounting, business law, finance, management, marketing, entrepreneurship, and technology used in the business setting. Students will also be introduced to the many business-related clubs that are offered at the high school (DECA, FBLA, Mock Trial, etc.). Upon completion of the course (**Grade of "C" or better**), students will be recommended to select a specific business pathway.

9th GRADE ELECTIVES CATALOG

PLYMOUTH WHITEMARSH HIGH SCHOOL



AP BUSINESS with PERSONAL FINANCE (Grades 9-12) (EDI6230, EDI6231) (2 credits – Full year course)



AP Business with Personal Finance is an introductory, college-level business and personal finance course developed with the intent of providing access to **ALL** students. Students will explore the business disciplines of marketing, finance, accounting, management, and entrepreneurship, through real-world business applications, case studies, and project-based learning. By engaging in real-world case studies and project-based learning, students gain the confidence and capability to make sound financial and business decisions in their personal and professional lives. This course fulfills Introduction to Business and Career and Financial Management requirements. Upon completion, students will be recommended by the teacher to continue to either Marketing 1 OR H Marketing 2 AND Accounting 1 OR H Accounting 2 based on demonstrated unit/assessment proficiency respectively. **Recommended for: Academically ambitious students taking Honors Integrated Math 2 and additional Honors courses. Note: Students taking this course are required to take the AP CollegeBoard Exam and earn Industry Recognized Credentials via AP Kickstart Initiative.**



COMPUTER SCIENCE 1: WEB DESIGN AND ANIMATION (Grades 9-12) DUAL ENROLLMENT (CIS 114) (EDI6400)



This project-based introductory level course teaches students the fundamentals of computer science and programming while allowing them to use their creativity to design and develop web sites and 2D animation. The course is aimed at students with little or no programming experience who wish to develop their creative expression skills in conjunction with professional-level software development techniques. Students will learn the basics of HTML, CSS, JavaScript, and image editing through the development of well designed, highly functional web sites and creative and fun images and animations. ***Dual Enrollment: Students who choose to pursue this option will earn 3 college credits from MCCC.**



H COMPUTER SCIENCE 2: WEB APPS AND GAMES (Grades 9-12) DUAL ENROLLMENT (CIS 140) (EDI6401)



This second level honors course is designed to build on the HTML, CSS, JavaScript, and general programming knowledge gained in CS1. Students in this course will learn how to develop dynamic web applications and web-based games. In addition, students will learn about server-side scripting languages and basic data storage. Finally, students will learn how to prepare their games and apps to be delivered in both a browser based and stand-alone environment on a variety of platforms and devices. **Prerequisite: Completion of Computer Science 1 with a minimum grade of "B" or recommendation of Computer Science Teacher.** ***Dual Enrollment: Students who choose to pursue this option will earn 3 college credits from MCCC.**



AP CYBERSECURITY (Grades 10-12) (EDI6412, EDI6413) (2 credits – Full year course)



AP Cybersecurity is an introductory, college-level course that introduces students to the foundational concepts of cybersecurity, computer systems, and networks. Designed for **ALL** students as an entry level course, students learn about common threats and vulnerabilities and how personal data, devices, and digital systems are protected from unauthorized access, as well as how to apply principles of privacy, security, and ethics to real-world problems. Throughout the course, students consider the impact of cybersecurity on individuals, organizations, governments, and societies. The course emphasizes problem-solving, critical thinking, and ethical reasoning through project-based and inquiry-driven learning. **Note: Students taking this course are required to take the AP CollegeBoard Exam and do earn Industry Recognized Credentials via AP Kickstart Initiative.**

9th GRADE ELECTIVES CATALOG

PLYMOUTH WHITEMARSH HIGH SCHOOL

GAME DESIGN & DEVELOPMENT (Grades 9-12)

(EDI6405)



Gaming is known for video games, but it doesn't just mean video games. Gamers also play board games, card games, simulations and participate in interactive stories. This is a Level 1 course in the Game Design and Animation pathway where students will explore the process of creating games before transitioning to designing and building mobile/digital games.

GAMEMAKER PROGRAMMING (Grades 9-12)

(EDI6406)



This Level two course in the Game Design and Animation pathway focusing on concepts taught in a "Programming 101" course, but all the projects are games! GameMaker is a 2D game engine based on a scripting language that builds techniques that can be transferred to any other programming language such as Python, Java, and C++. Students will design and finish, complete stand-alone games that can be played with friends. **Prerequisite: Successful completion of Game Design & Development.**

3D ANIMATION AND DIGITAL MEDIA 1 (Grades 9-12)

(EDI6609)



This is a Level 1 course in the Game Design and Animation pathway, introducing students to the growing field of 3D animation. Students will have the opportunity to develop and produce 3D animations like those in video games, special effects, advertising and animated movies. Included in the course is the creation and publication of 2D and 3D digital stills and multimedia animations. A broad array of software will be utilized throughout the semester, including (but not limited to) 3D Studio Max, Photoshop, and online video editing.

ROBOTICS 1: DESIGN, BUILD AND PROGRAM (Grades 9-12)

(EDI6608)



Robotics Design, Build and Program is an introductory Level one course in the Design Technology pathway, focused to incorporate hands-on opportunities to build in the exciting field of robotics. Utilizing VEX robots, students will work individually and collaboratively to complete robotic challenges provided by the instructor. A variety of skills and techniques will be introduced and exercised to design, build and program autonomous and remote-controlled robots to complete various tasks.

ARCHITECTURAL DRAWING AND DESIGN 1 (Grades 9-12)

(EDI6600)



This Level one course in the Design Technology pathway. Through manual drawing techniques and computer-aided drafting software (CAD), the student will develop an understanding of the various processes employed to create and communicate with geometry. Students will work through a series of design problems, while developing working drawings for residential construction through CAD. The entire course is built around the importance of communicating between the design phase and the production and/or the construction phase.

9th GRADE ELECTIVES CATALOG
PLYMOUTH WHITEMARSH HIGH SCHOOL

CADD 1: COMPUTER AIDED DRAWING AND DESIGN 1 (Grades 9-12)
(EDI6601)



This is a Level one course in the Design Technology pathway designed to explore the world of drafting and design. Through manual drawing techniques and computer aided drafting software (cad) the student will learn different ways to create and communicate with geometry. The students will be using the latest in 2D and 3D solid modeling CAD software to complete a series of design problems. The design problems will cover geometric construction, orthographic projection, pictorial drawings, and 3-Dimensional solid modeling. The entire course is built around the importance of communicating precise, accurate messages between the design and production phase of industry. If you are interested in the areas of Engineering, Architecture, and/or Construction this course is a great place to start.

PRODUCT DESIGN 1 (Grades 9-12)
(EDI6606)



This Level one course in the Design Technology pathway combines the fields of art, business, and engineering to design the products that people use every day. This course tackles the design and problem-solving process through fun and innovative hands-on activities. Students will gain experience using all types of technology throughout the semester including the use of our state-of-the-art prototyping facility. Students should get excited by the opportunities to create models on computers and then make them a reality through use of 3D printers, laser cutters, and CNC rapid prototyping machinery. Traditional production tools are also available to create and fabricate solutions to all types of design problems. If you enjoy working with your hands and want to bring your imagination to life, this is the class for you.

H ENGINEERING 1: INTRODUCTION (Grades 9-12)
(EDI6612)

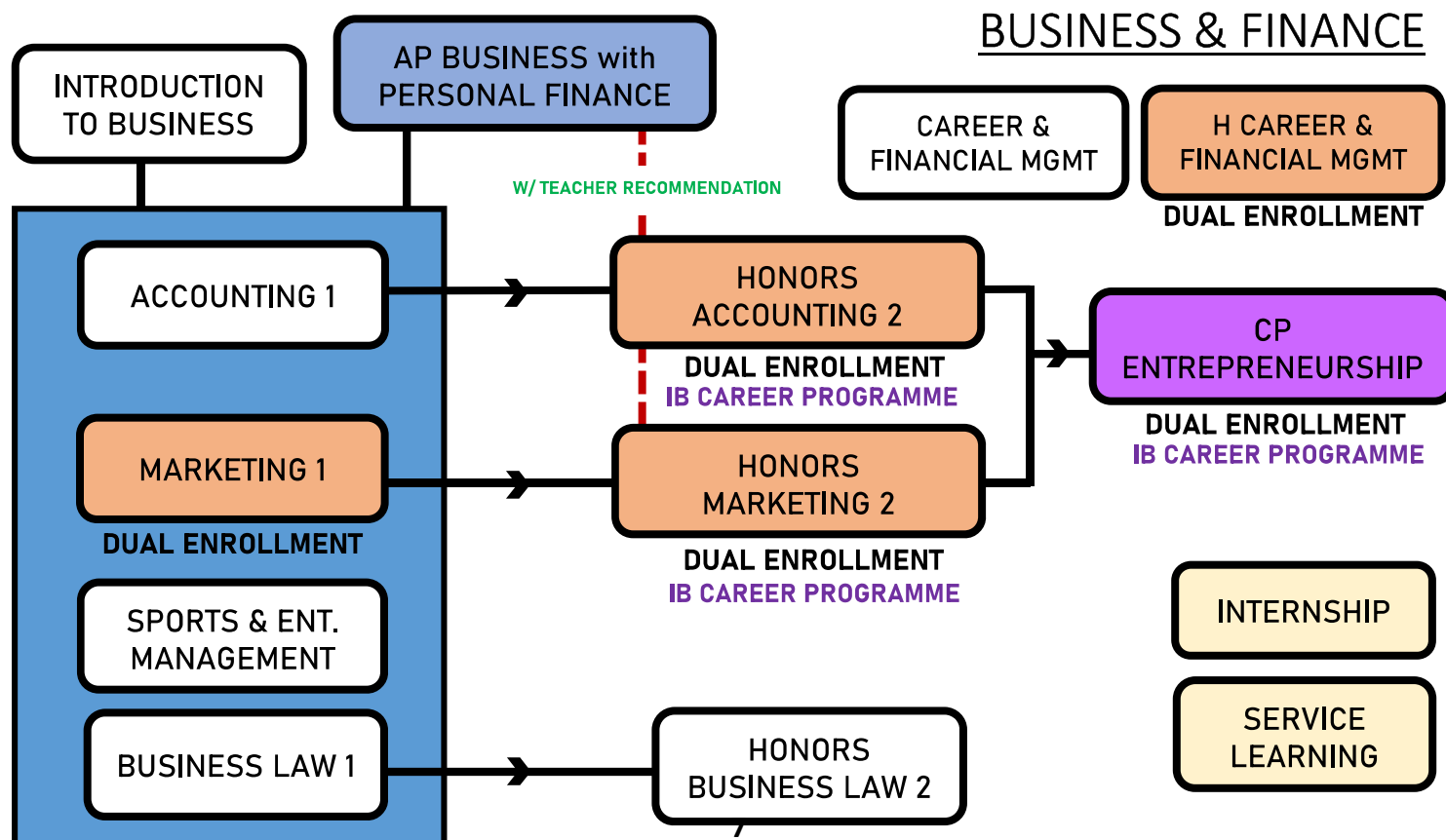


This Level one course in the Honors Engineering pathway immerses students in the engineering design process through hands-on, project-based learning built around five core themes: Engineering Design, Engineering Analysis, Technical Communication, Prototyping and Fabrication, and Project Management. Students learn to think and work like engineers as they apply scientific and mathematical principles to design, build, and test solutions such as balsa structures, mousetrap-powered vehicles, water filtration systems, and mechanical sorting mechanisms.

ENTREPREURSHIP, DESIGN & INNOVATION ELECTIVE SEQUENCE OFFERINGS

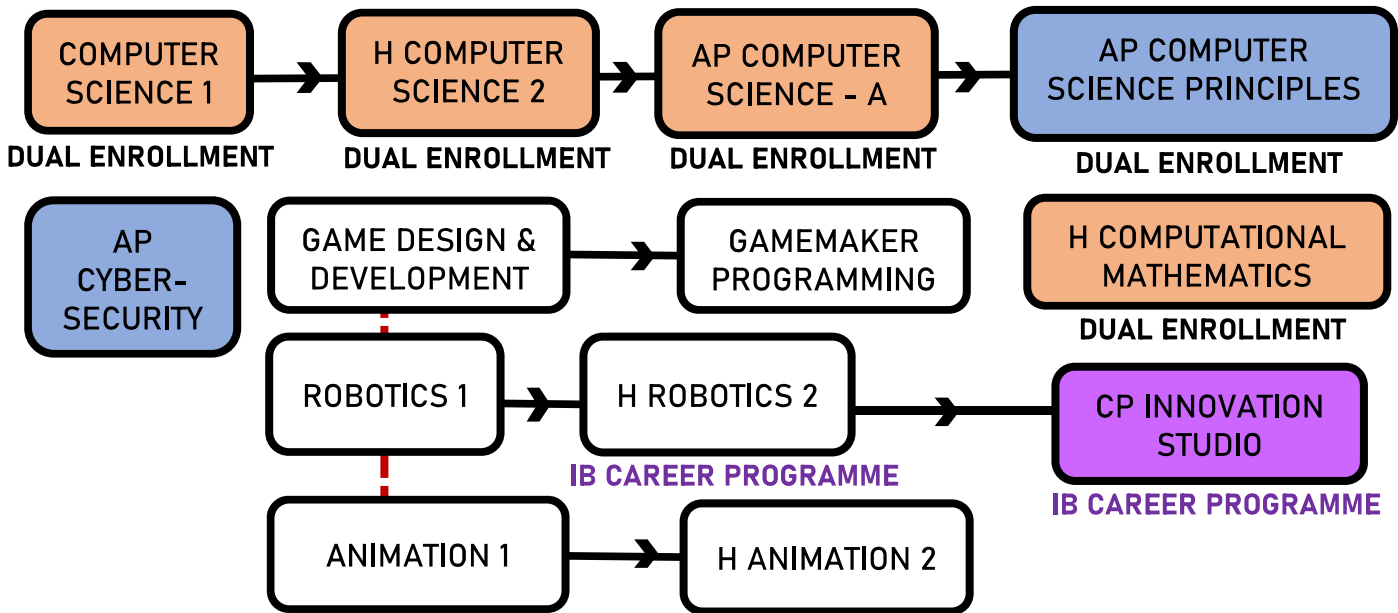
****Courses highlighted (yellow) are additional electives that support a career pathway**

ART & DESIGN

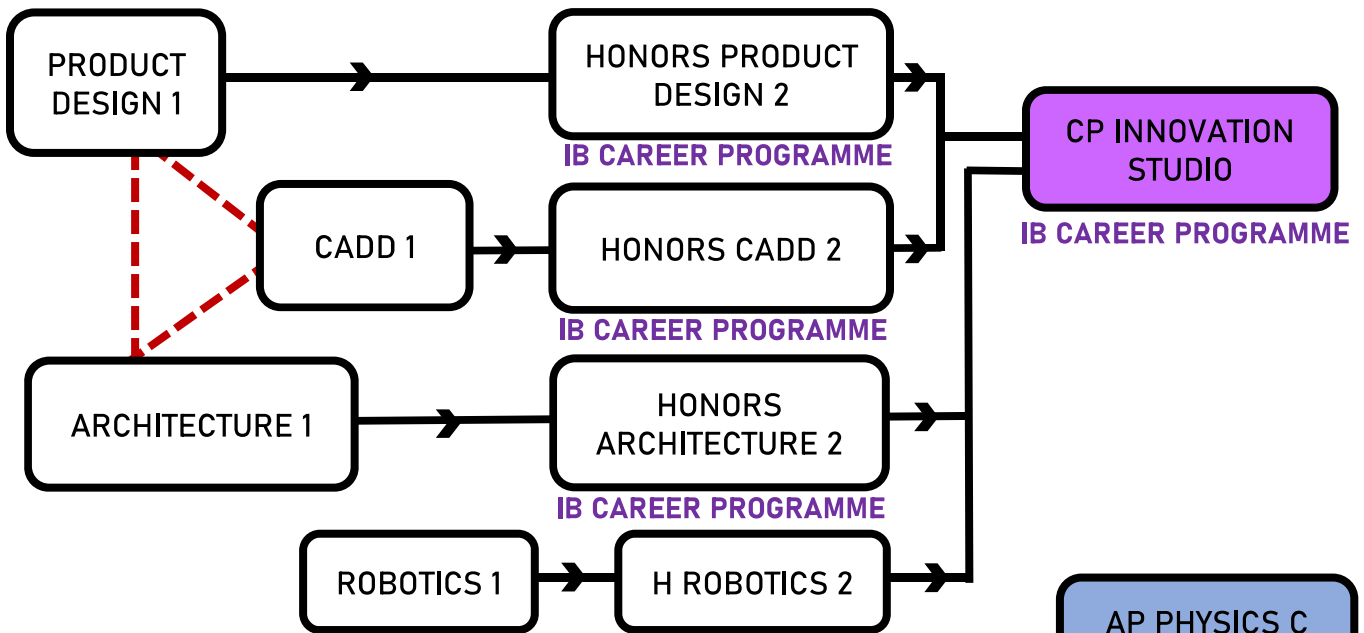


9th GRADE ELECTIVES CATALOG
PLYMOUTH WHITEMARSH HIGH SCHOOL

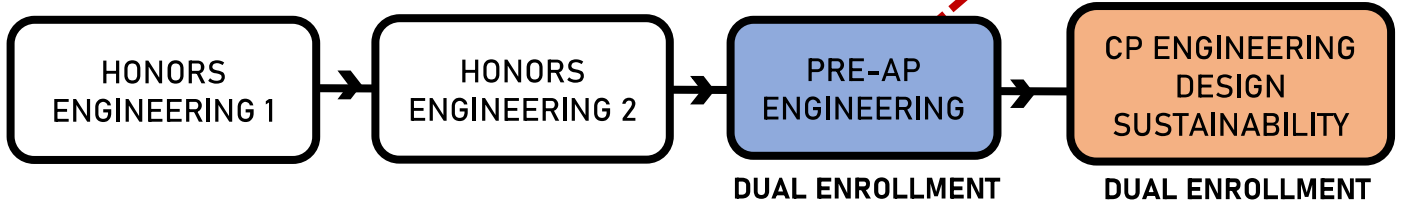
COMPUTER SCIENCE & GAME DESIGN



DESIGN TECHNOLOGY



ENGINEERING

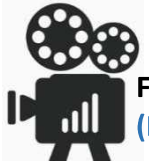


9th GRADE ELECTIVES CATALOG
PLYMOUTH WHITEMARSH HIGH SCHOOL
ENGLISH/LANGUAGE ARTS

INTRO TO THEATRE (Grades 9-12)
(ENG1027)



Intro to Theatre is designed to familiarize students with an array of theatre-related experiences and to increase their appreciation, critical perception, and understanding of the skills required to mount a theatrical production. Students begin the course with a study of the craft of improvisation, acting technique, monologue analysis. Students examine the role and function of theatre, musical theatre, and performance art in our society. The course will also explore technical theater craft such as lighting, set, and costume design as well as stage management. Students are required to perform in front of peers, to contribute time to a school production outside of class time, to attend productions outside of the school day, and to participate in a final project wherein they will perform and/or contribute to a performance piece.



FILM APPRECIATION (Grades 9+)
(ENG1063)

Film appreciation focuses on analyzing movies as an art form by exploring cinematic techniques (editing, cinematography, sound), film history, genres, and cultural impact, moving beyond simple viewing to critical interpretation, discussion, and written analysis of storytelling, aesthetics, and filmmaking's role in society, often blending classic and contemporary films with elements of literature analysis.



MEDIA PRODUCTION 1 (Grades 9-12)
(ENG1100)

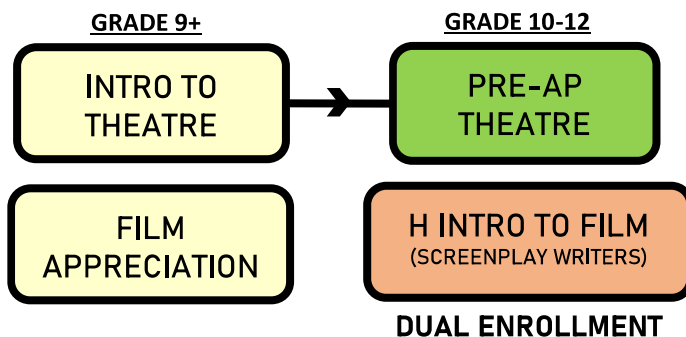


In this introductory course, students explore the fundamentals of mass media and develop essential skills in communication, audio and video editing, and scriptwriting. Through hands-on activities and projects, students gain an understanding of media analysis, studying the techniques used to shape public perception. The course also covers key concepts in media ethics, examining how ethical considerations influence media content and impact society. This foundational course prepares students for more advanced study in media production and analysis.

MEDIA PRODUCTION



THEATRE & FILM



9th GRADE ELECTIVES CATALOG

PLYMOUTH WHITEMARSH HIGH SCHOOL

HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION

HEALTH & FITNESS 1: HEALTH-FITNESS-SWIMMING

(HPE7004, HPE7005, HPE7006)

This fitness based course is **required** by all students to be taken either in 9th or 10th grade. The students will alternate classes between health, fitness, and swimming. This course provides students with classroom instruction dealing with a variety of current health related issues. Topics will include physical fitness, body systems, wellness, drugs/alcohol and tobacco, and variety of fitness activities, including muscular strength and endurance training, circuit training, and cardiovascular endurance training. The swimming section of the course is based upon **skill level** and geared toward aquatic safety, stroke development, and/or refinement. Please refer to the chart below to help aide in deciding which course is most appropriate for course selection. The health component for all three swimming levels is the same.

LEVEL 1 (BEG SWIM)

- Limited/no prior swimming experience
- Prefers a floatation device to swim in shallow end or deep end
- Focused primarily on stroke development and survival swimming

LEVEL 2 (INT SWIM)

- Can swim freestyle and backstroke comfortably in both shallow and deep ends
- Focused primarily on stroke technique and refinement
- Students will gain additional survival swimming skills

LEVEL 3 (ADV SWIMMING)

- Potential high school swim team member
- Advanced in swimming freestyle, backstroke, elementary backstroke, sidestroke, and breaststroke
- Focused primarily on fitness based aquatic skills
- Students will gain the skills to prepare them for the lifeguarding course



LIFEGUARDING (Grades 9-12)

(HPE7008)

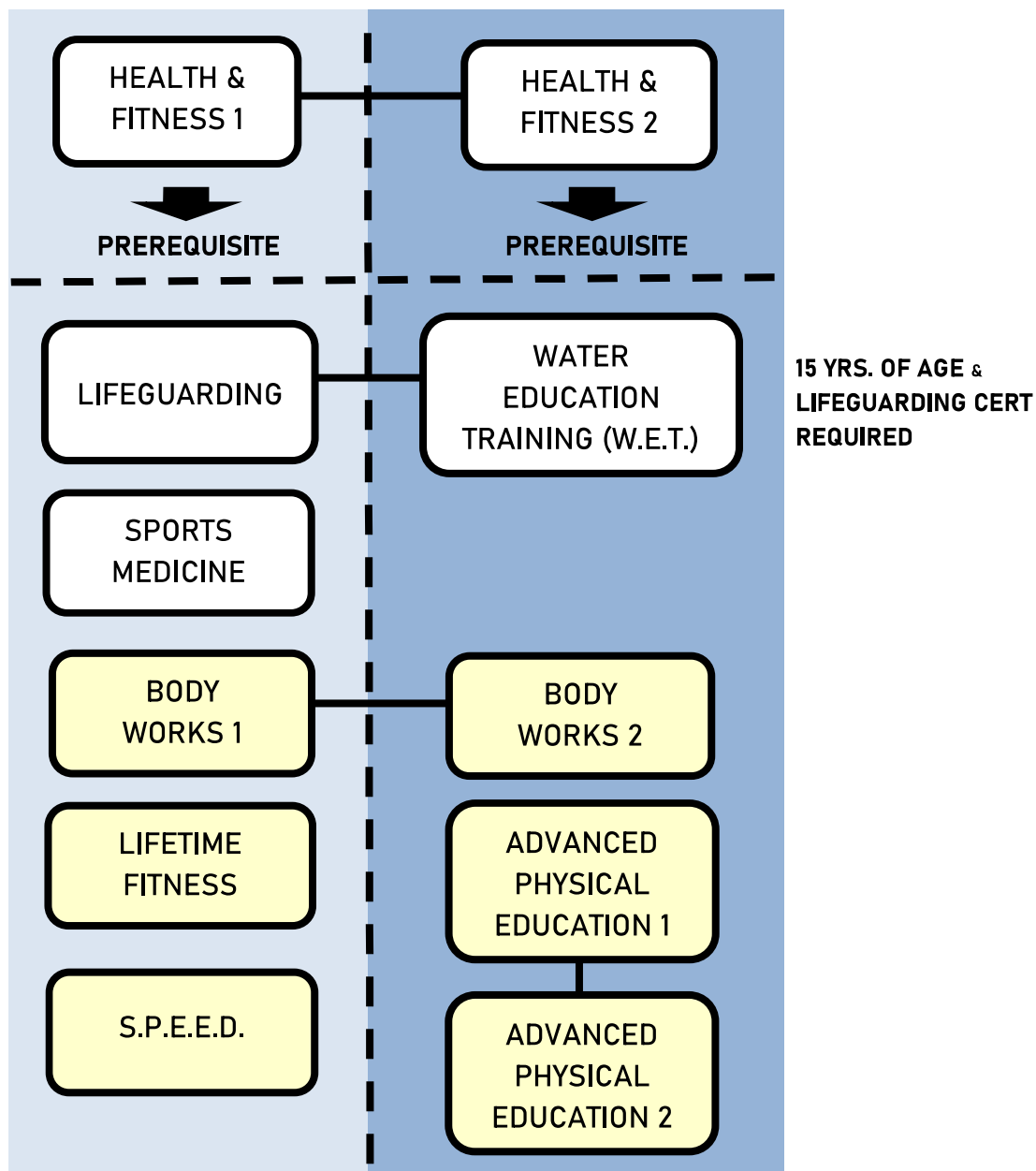
This elective course is a prerequisite for any student wishing to select the W.E.T. program as a junior or senior. This course offers students the opportunity to earn American Red Cross certification in First Aid, Professional Rescuer CPR/AED, and Lifeguarding. The course will provide the student with the knowledge of instructional techniques for teaching aquatic lessons. The course will cover aquatic fitness, personal fitness, water sports, water games, and activities outside of the pool. Each student is provided a textbook, a one-way CPR mask, and their certification cards (upon completion of the course). The total cost of the class is \$70. **Prerequisites: Health & Fitness 1. Students must be at 15 years old by May 15th.**

9th GRADE ELECTIVES CATALOG
PLYMOUTH WHITEMARSH HIGH SCHOOL

HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION SEQUENCE AND ELECTIVE OFFERINGS

Students must complete 2.0 credits of HPE by taking HEALTH AND FITNESS 1 & 2 as seen below

**Courses highlighted (yellow) are electives outside of a dedicated pathway sequence*



9th GRADE ELECTIVES CATALOG
PLYMOUTH WHITEMARSH HIGH SCHOOL
MUSIC & PERFORMING ARTS

CHORUS, H CHORUS (1 credit – Full year/alternating BLUE days)
(MUS8011, MUS8012)



CHORUS provides students with the opportunity to improve basic musicianship skills and to perform chorus literature of different time periods and styles. Students improve their music reading skills and vocal techniques by exploring solo/duet literature during sectional lessons. Sectional lessons are provided on a rotating schedule during the school day. Evening performances are required.

HONORS CHORUS accelerates the musical performance skills of gifted and talented students. The honors sections will exist within the performance ensembles and will receive weighted credit towards graduation. The student must meet at least three of the following criteria (see instructor for more detailed list): practice at least five days per week for 45 minutes per day; perform appropriate solo repertoire; participate in music festivals such as Districts; take weekly private lessons; participate in an extracurricular or community music organization. **Prerequisite:** Audition with at least two members of the PW music faculty, recommendation of a music instructor and participation in Mixed Chorus.

BAND, H CONCERT BAND (1 credit – Full year/alternating BLUE days)
(MUS8005, MUS8006)



CONCERT BAND provides students with the opportunity to improve basic musicianship skills and to perform concert band literature of different time periods and styles on standard concert band instruments. Folk, classical, pop, march and contemporary music is prepared for the winter, and spring concerts. Evening performances are required. Sectional lessons are provided on a rotating schedule during the day.

HONORS CONCERT BAND accelerates the musical performance skills of gifted and talented students. The honors sections will exist within the performance ensembles and will receive weighted credit toward graduation. The student must meet at least three of the following criteria (see instructor for more detailed list): practice at least five days per week for 45 minutes per day; perform appropriate solo repertoire; participate in music festivals such as Montco or Districts; take weekly private lessons; participate in an extracurricular or community music organization. **Prerequisite:** Audition with at least two members of the PW music faculty, recommendation of a music instructor and participation in Concert Band.

ORCHESTRA, H ORCHESTRA (1 credit – Full year/alternating BLUE days)
(MUS8017, MUS8018)



ORCHESTRA provides students with the opportunity to improve basic musicianship skills and to perform orchestra literature of different time periods and styles on standard orchestra instruments. Folk, classical, pop, march and contemporary music is prepared for the winter and spring concerts. Evening performances are required. Sectional lessons are provided on a rotating schedule during the day.

HONORS ORCHESTRA accelerates the musical performance skills of gifted and talented students. The honors sections will exist within the performance ensembles and will receive weighted credit towards graduation. Some after school practice is required. The student must meet at least three of the following criteria (see instructor for more detailed list): Practice at least five days per week for 45 minutes per day; perform appropriate solo repertoire; participate in music festivals such as Districts; weekly private lessons; participate in an extracurricular or community music organization. **Prerequisite:** Audition with at least two members of the PW music faculty, recommendation of a music instructor and participation in Orchestra.

9th GRADE ELECTIVES CATALOG

PLYMOUTH WHITEMARSH HIGH SCHOOL



BLUES, JAZZ and MODERN BAND (Grades 9-12) (MUS8022)

This course will teach students to read lead sheets and improvise over the chord changes while building a foundation of the roots of Blues and Jazz music, which then extends to the Modern Band genre. Students will work with their instrumental/vocal backgrounds to create in-class collaborative ensembles. **Prerequisite: Students must have an instrumental/vocal background either through the learnings in a school offered ensemble course (concert band orchestra, chorus, CMS guitar class or keyboard & chords) OR outside private instruction (i.e piano students).**



DIGIBEATS FACTORY (Grades 9-12) DUAL ENROLLMENT (MUSIC 1444) (MUS8051)



Utilizing the Music Lab and the industry standard Ableton Digital Audio Workspace (DAW), students will transform our workstations into powerful music production tools. No prior musical background or instrumental skills are required. In this course, students will explore concepts such as music production, loops, beats, copyright laws, commercial music, music synchronization, publishing, and MIDI keys, while creating and composing their own digital music. Students will gain a basic understanding of the music industry, different electronic music genres and leave with a portfolio of collaborative works. Projects will contribute to a community stock audio folder for use by media productions, CITV for sweeps and audio needs for our songwriter's collective course. ***Students who pursue the dual enrollment option will earn 3 college credits from the University of Pittsburgh.**



HISTORY OF ROCK AND ROLL (Grades 9-12) (MUS8024)

This course provides an overview of the history and development of rock and roll music. Students discuss and learn the elements of music that contribute to the rock style as well as the important historical and political events that influenced artists and their music. The course begins with the emergence of rock and roll and chronologically addresses rock music through the present. Styles of rock music include Fifties, Sixties, British Invasion, Folk, Soul, Motown, San Francisco, Art, Jazz, Seventies, Eighties and current trends.



KEYBOARDS & CHORDS: READING MUSIC THROUGH THE PIANO (Grades 9-12) (MUS8052)

Many students develop a love for music but cannot read or understand it. In this course, students will learn all of the musical basics such as how to read rhythms, notation, chords, scales and more through a beginner piano course. This course will also open the opportunity to join music ensembles, music theory courses and enrich learning in the songwriting collective or Modern band course. No musical background is necessary for enrollment. The only requirement is the student interest, effort to play and willingness to collaborate in a culminating end of semester performance.

9th GRADE ELECTIVES CATALOG

PLYMOUTH WHITEMARSH HIGH SCHOOL



SONGWRITERS COLLECTIVE (Grades 9-12) (MUS8053)

Students will explore the process, skills, format, fundamental ingredients and techniques of songwriting. Students will begin by analyzing a wide range of genres then work to create their own. We will utilize basic piano, guitar, digital instruments and vocal skills while working on our projects and the culmination of the class will have a student created collection of songs with a performance/showcase opportunity. Students will also learn to cover the topics of writer's block, creativity stimulation, performance anxiety, rhyming, publishing, copyright, demo production, computer aids for the songwriter and collaboration. Students should be open to performing and have an interest in the subject of music.



PRE-AP MUSIC THEORY (Grades 9-12) (MUS8058)

CollegeBoard

Pre-AP

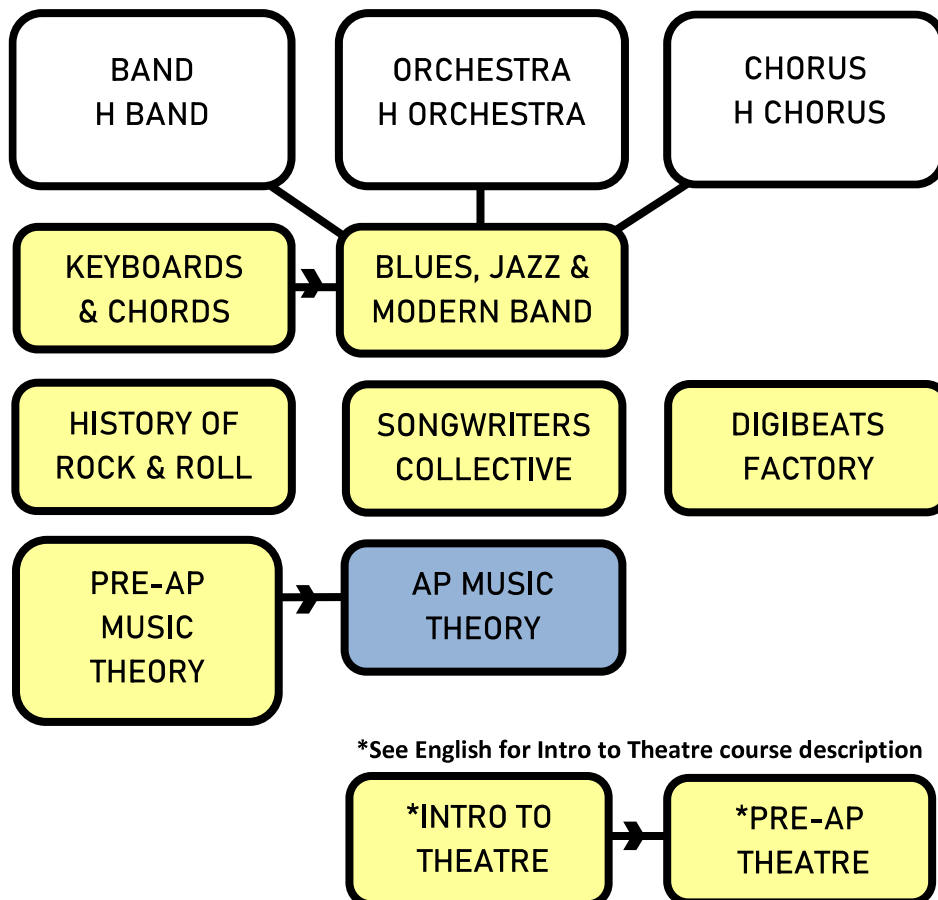
Students will be introduced to various concepts of music theory, aural skills, and sight singing. These concepts include but are not limited to pitch, rhythm, scales, chords, as well as other musical terms and symbols. This course is intended for 9th-12th grade students with previous musical experiences, who intend on later enrolling in the AP class and/or want a focused and challenging look into the basic structure and design of music.

MUSIC & PERFORMING ARTS SEQUENCE AND ELECTIVE OFFERINGS

Students are encouraged to continue with MUSIC based on their previous experience

**AP Music Theory is a full year course and worth 2 elective credits (blue)*

***Courses highlighted (yellow) are additional electives that support a career pathway*



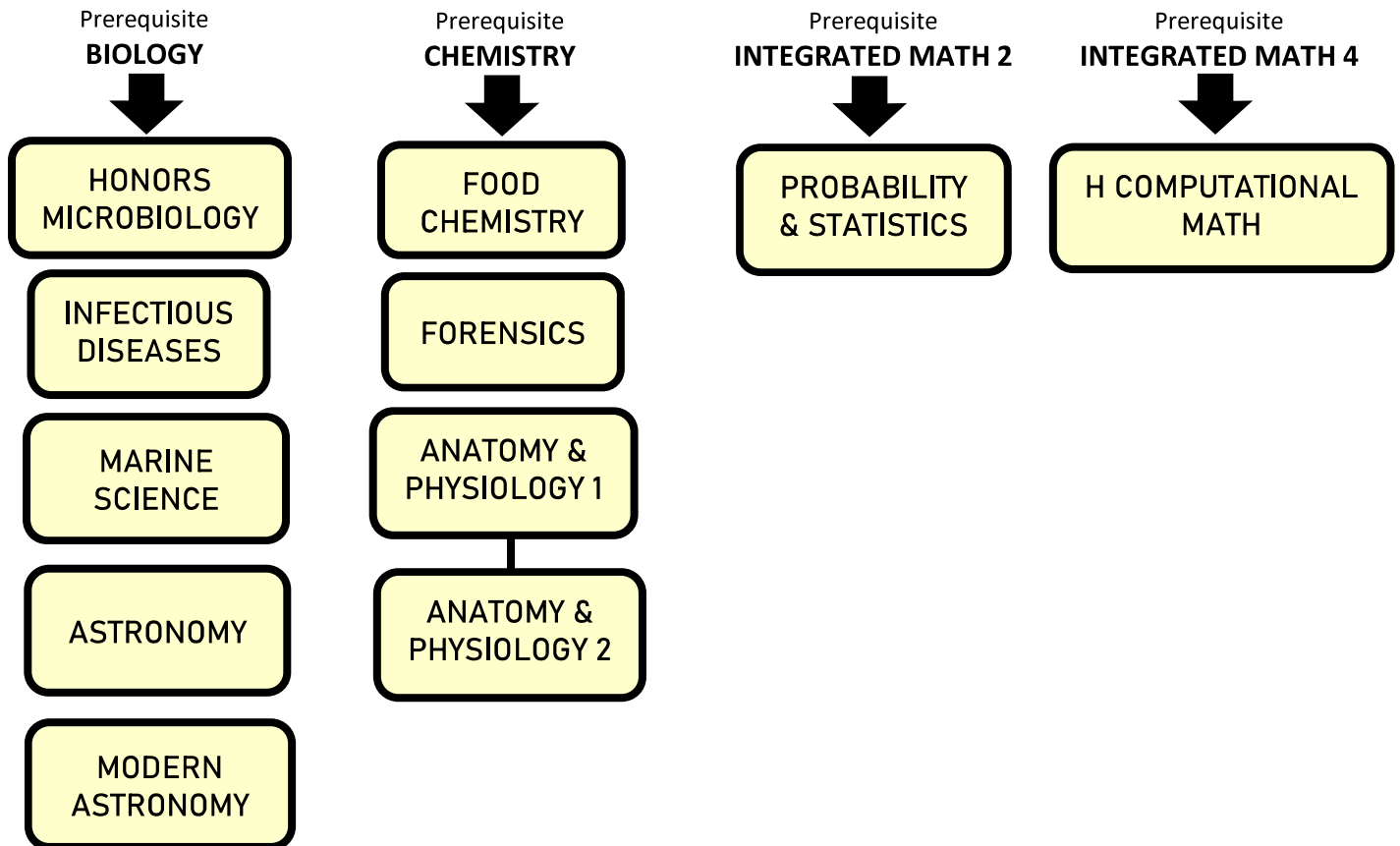
9th GRADE ELECTIVES CATALOG
PLYMOUTH WHITEMARSH HIGH SCHOOL
SCIENCE & MATH



ELECTRONICS (Grades 9-12)
(SCI3024)

Science and technology fields often require individuals to have a working understanding of electrical components and their functions. Students who are curious about how electrical circuits may be used to accomplish simple and even complex tasks will be introduced to the principles of analog and digital electronics beginning at the most basic level. As the course progresses, more sophisticated circuits will be introduced as new concepts are mastered. Ultimately, the student will combine several of the circuit elements presented to construct and test a culminating project. **Prerequisites: Completion of/or currently enrolled in Biology or Applied Biology.**

ELECTIVES DOWN THE ROAD (Grades 10-12)



9th GRADE ELECTIVES CATALOG
PLYMOUTH WHITEMARSH HIGH SCHOOL
SOCIAL STUDIES



PSYCHOLOGY (Grades 9-12)
(SOC4030)

Psychology provides students with a practical knowledge of the basic psychological concepts necessary to help them understand human behavior. These concepts are further applied to the thinking process, the learning process and problems of society. The scientific approach to the study of human behavior allows students to examine numerous forms of human behavior in an objective arena.



PENNSYLVANIA HISTORY (Grades 9-12)
(SOC4041)

Pennsylvania is a remarkable state with a remarkable history that helped create the great nation of America. The course uses PA History as a basis for understanding current state policies, economic dynamics and cultural phenomenon. Students will experience history through the words of the people who lived it using primary documents and film/video. Pennsylvania geography will be studied as it helped and continues to shape the development of the state. This project-based course has students spending a large portion of the class working collaboratively to achieve stated goals.



WAR & SPORTS: US IN CONFLICT AND COMPETITION (Grades 9-12)
(SOC4035)

This will be an in-depth study of continuity and change in 20th and 21st Century America through the lenses of conflict and sports. The course will follow a chronological sequence of the last century. Students will learn and then evaluate US actions during major wars going into depth of events and personalities beyond their studies in US History. In addition to studying war, students will also evaluate social trends of different eras through the investigation of American sports and how sports represent our culture then and today.



ADVANCED PLACEMENT WORLD HISTORY (GRADE 9)
(1 core content credit / 1 elective credit*)
(SOC4058, SOC4059)



AP World History: Modern is a modern world history course from c. 1200 CE to the present. Students will analyze historical sources 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. The course is writing and reading-intensive with essays and document-based questions at the core of study. **Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation. Students recommended for this course and who opt to select this course to fulfill the 9th grade social studies requirement will receive 1 core content credit and 1 elective credit as it is a full year course.**

9th GRADE ELECTIVES CATALOG
PLYMOUTH WHITEMARSH HIGH SCHOOL

WORLD LANGUAGES

FRENCH 1A, FRENCH 1B
(WLA5000, WLA5001)



The Level 1A French course focuses on the development of communicative competence in the French language and understanding of the culture of French speaking people. It assumes that the students have minimal or no prior knowledge of the language and culture. The major means of communication between students and instructors will be in the target language. In addition to classroom communication, students will be expected to utilize the resources of the language laboratory to improve their speaking and listening skills. By the end of Level 1A, students will exhibit Novice Mid-level proficiency in listening, speaking, reading, and writing according to the ACTFL Proficiency Guidelines.

The Level 1B French course focuses on the development of communicative competence in the French language and understanding of the culture of French speaking people. It is expected that students have completed French 1A or have had some previous study of the language. The major means of communication between students and instructors will be in the target language. In addition to classroom communication, students will be expected to utilize the resources of the language laboratory to improve their speaking and listening skills. By the end of Level 1B, students will exhibit Novice High level proficiency in listening, speaking, reading and writing according to the ACTFL Proficiency Guidelines.

FRENCH 2
(WLA5002)



The Level 2 French course focuses on the development of communicative competence in the French language and understanding of the culture of French speaking people. Students begin to show a greater level of accuracy when using basic language structures and when exposed to more complex features of the language. They continue to focus on communicating about their immediate world and daily life activities, read material on familiar topics, and write short, directed compositions. It assumes that the students have successfully completed a Level 1 course and/or are at a Novice-High level of proficiency. The major means of communication between students and instructors will be in the target language. In addition to classroom communication, students will be expected to utilize the resources of the language laboratory to improve their speaking and listening skills. By the end of Level 2, students will exhibit Intermediate-Low level proficiency in listening, speaking, reading, and writing according to the ACTFL Proficiency Guidelines.

H FRENCH 3
(WLA5005)



This course focuses on the development of communicative competence in the French language and understanding of the culture of French speaking people. Students use basic language structures with accuracy and recombine learned material to express their thoughts. They are exposed to more complex features of the language, moving from concrete to some abstract concepts. It assumes that the students have successfully completed a Level 2 course and/or are at an Intermediate-Low level of proficiency. The major means of communication between students and instructors will be in the target language. In addition to classroom communication, students will be expected to utilize the resources of the language laboratory to improve their speaking and listening skills. By the end of Level 3, students will exhibit Intermediate-Mid level proficiency in listening, speaking, reading, and writing according to the ACTFL Proficiency Guidelines.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of French 2 and/or proficiency level of Intermediate Low



9th GRADE ELECTIVES CATALOG

PLYMOUTH WHITEMARSH HIGH SCHOOL

SPANISH 1A, SPANISH 1B (WLA5010, WLA5011)



The Level 1A Spanish course focuses on the development of communicative competence in the Spanish language and understanding of the culture of Spanish speaking people. It assumes that the students have minimal or no prior knowledge of the language and culture. The major means of communication between students and instructors will be in the target language. In addition to classroom communication, students will be expected to utilize the resources of the language laboratory to improve their speaking and listening skills. By the end of Level 1A, students will exhibit Novice Mid-level proficiency in listening, speaking, reading, and writing according to the ACTFL Proficiency Guidelines.

The Level 1B Spanish course focuses on the development of communicative competence in the Spanish language and understanding of the culture of Spanish speaking people. It is expected that students have completed Spanish 1A or have had some previous study of the language. The major means of communication between students and instructors will be in the target language. In addition to classroom communication, students will be expected to utilize the resources of the language laboratory to improve their speaking and listening skills. By the end of Level 1B, students will exhibit Novice High level proficiency in listening, speaking, reading, and writing according to the ACTFL Proficiency Guidelines.

SPANISH 2 (WLA5012)



The Level 2 Spanish course focuses on the development of communicative competence in the Spanish language and understanding of the culture of Spanish speaking people. Students begin to show a greater level of accuracy when using basic language structures, and they are exposed to more complex features of the language. They continue to focus on communicating about their immediate world and daily life activities, read material on familiar topics, and write short, directed compositions. It assumes that the students have successfully completed a Level 1 course and/or are at a Novice-High level of proficiency. The major means of communication between students and instructors will be in the target language. In addition to classroom communication, students will be expected to utilize the resources of the language laboratory to improve their speaking and listening skills. By the end of Level 2, students will exhibit Novice-High to Intermediate-Low level proficiency in the three modes of communication according to the ACTFL Proficiency Guidelines.

H SPANISH 3 (WLA5015)



HONORS SPANISH 3 focuses on the development of communicative competence in the Spanish language and understanding of the culture of Spanish speaking people. Students use basic language structures with accuracy and recombine learned material to express their thoughts. They are exposed to more complex features of the language, moving from concrete to some abstract concepts. It assumes that the students have successfully completed a Level 2 course and/or are at a Novice-High to Intermediate-Low level of proficiency. The major means of communication between students and instructors will be in the target language. In addition to classroom communication, students will be expected to utilize the resources outside of the classroom to improve their speaking and listening skills. By the end of Level 3, students will exhibit at least Intermediate-Low level proficiency in the three modes of communication according to the ACTFL Proficiency Guidelines. **Prerequisite: Successful completion of Spanish 2 and/or a proficiency level of Novice-High to Intermediate Low.**

9th GRADE ELECTIVES CATALOG

PLYMOUTH WHITEMARSH HIGH SCHOOL

LATIN 1 (WLA5021)



This course introduces the vocabulary of basic daily Roman life and simple sentences using present, imperfect, and perfect verb tenses in all four conjugations. Nouns in the first three declensions are used in the nominative, dative, accusative, and ablative cases. Short Latin passages are read and comprehended. Cultural aspects of Roman life are studied with a concentration on the city of Pompeii circa 78 A.D.

LATIN 2 (WLA5022)



This course extends vocabulary with increased complexity of sentences. The pluperfect tense, genitive case, ablative case, vocative case, relative pronouns, commands, and participles (present and perfect passive) are introduced. Longer passages are read and comprehended encompassing multi-cultural diversity within the Roman Empire, specifically Roman Britain and Egypt. Roman mythology and history are studied.

H LATIN 3 (WLA5024)



This course builds upon the vocabulary and grammatical concepts learned in previous Latin courses. It introduces such grammatical concepts as all remaining tenses, the passive voice, deponent verbs, indirect statement, uses of the subjunctive mood, and the supine. The cultural and historical aspects of the course focus primarily on the Roman military and engineering in the early empire. Students begin to read authentic Latin texts and are prepared to read more challenging passages in the original Latin.



SEQUENCING AND AGE APPROPRIATENESS

The World Languages curriculum establishes what students will be able to do at designated benchmarks, Levels 1A through Advanced Placement, throughout their middle and/or high school career.

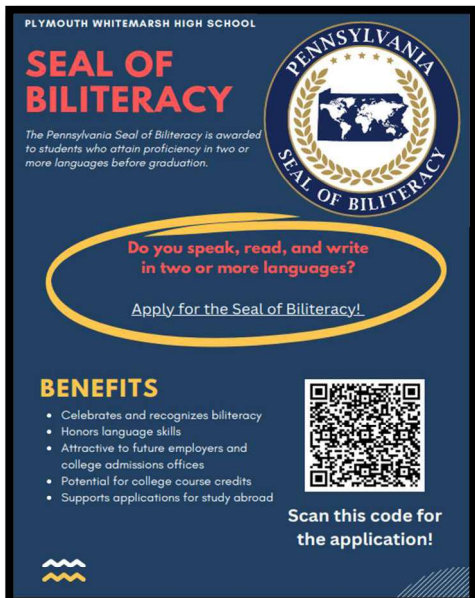
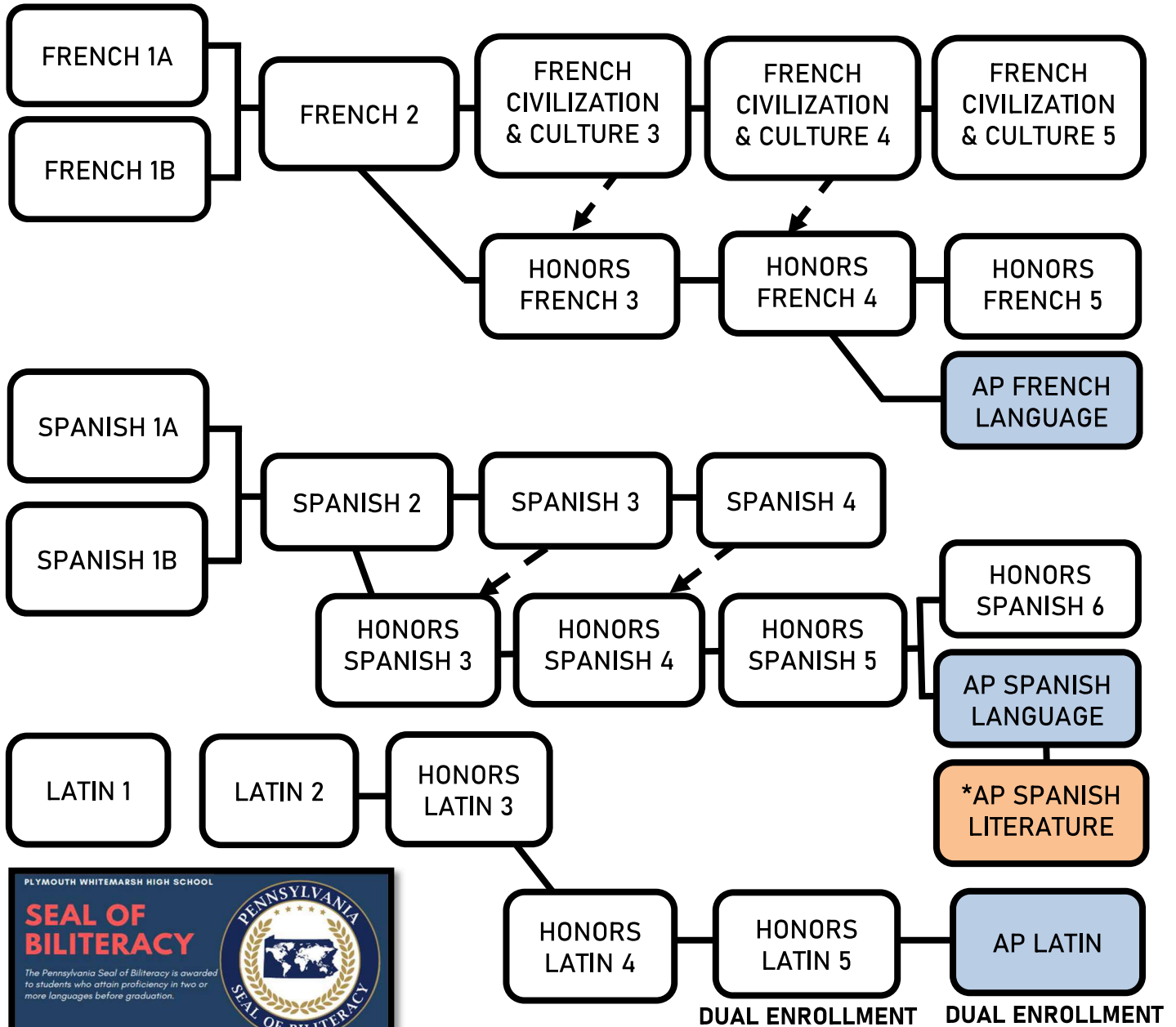
To enroll in a course, students must either have successfully completed the previous level of instruction or have demonstrated the required proficiency designated in the course description. Because students may begin formal language learning at various stages of development, content and vocabulary may be adjusted to reflect age-appropriate interests.

Course levels do not correspond to a student's grade level. Any student may begin study of a world language at any point in their academic career. Course levels offered at the middle school and the high school are sequential. Therefore, if a student successfully completes a course at the middle school, that student should enroll in the next course in sequence at the high school. In the case of block scheduling, students may study two course levels within one academic year if they choose to take a world language in both the fall and spring semester.

9th GRADE ELECTIVES CATALOG
PLYMOUTH WHITEMARSH HIGH SCHOOL

WORLD LANGUAGES SEQUENCE / ELECTIVE OFFERINGS

Students are encouraged to complete 2.0 credits of WORLD LANGUAGES (college required) as seen below.



GRADE 10-12

