ORONO PUBLIC SCHOOLS 2026-2027

ORONO HIGH SCHOOL COURSE CATALOG

REGISTRATION INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS ENTERING 9TH-12TH GRADE

WHERE EXCELLENCE IS A TRADITION AND A GOAL.

ORONO HIGH SCHOOL REGISTRATION GUIDE

2026 – 2027

Dr. Amy Steiner, Principal

Producing graduates who lead the nation and compete globally

SCHOLARSHIP GOAL

We will collaboratively develop critical thinking and problem-solving skills that empower students to apply their learning in a global and ethical framework.

CHARACTER GOAL

We will examine and improve school culture and climate through an understanding of character development theory and practice.

RELATIONSHIP GOAL

We will model, invite and honor personal responsibility and citizenship in and to the community.

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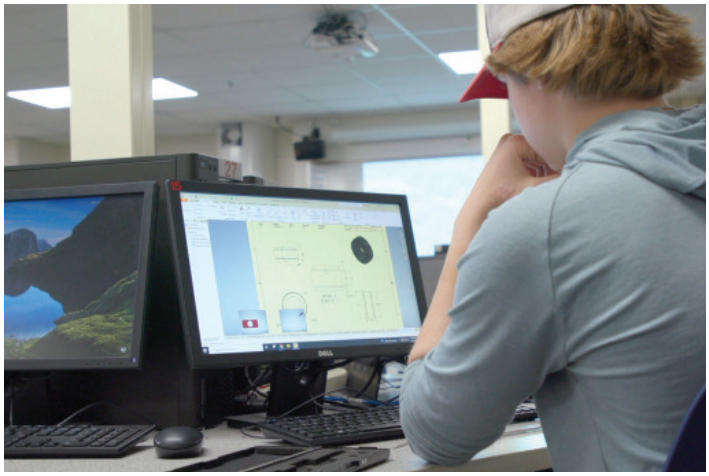
A MESSAGE FOR STUDENTS AND PARENTS

This guide is a catalog of courses and programs offered during the 2026-2027 school year at Orono High School. Please refer back to it throughout the year.

For the first many years of your education, almost all of your courses were required. However, in high school you have a chance to branch out with electives. Electives provide the opportunity to explore special fields of interest. These courses also make it possible for you to prepare for college as well as the world of work. These opportunities place greater responsibilities on both parents and students to plan wisely. In this guide you will find electives offered within each department.

Carefully read the information in the next few pages and browse through the course offerings, then begin planning a course of study for the next four years. Serious thought about an overall educational plan that will meet your post-secondary plans is essential. It is important that course selections for next year are made carefully.



REGISTRATION PROCESS AND POLICIES

REGISTRATION TIPS

To take full advantage of the educational opportunities offered at Orono High School, all students are required to register for seven courses. 9th-11th grade students may elect to take no more than one study hall per semester as part of their seven courses. Seniors may elect to take no more than two study halls per semester as part of their seven courses.

Students should not count on being able to request/enroll in a specific class after the initial registration period. Therefore, students should register for courses they really have an interest in taking.

Choose with your future in mind.

SOME POINTS TO CONSIDER

What kinds of interests do you have for life beyond high school? Ask people in the professions in which you have interests what kind of preparation they would recommend.

Make yourself attractive to the colleges you are interested in attending. Make contact with an admissions representative to see what they are looking for in candidates for their schools, particularly if you are interested in highly selective schools. Check out their websites for a profile of their freshman class as well as required and recommended high school courses.

Ask your counselor, teachers or parents to help. We are all here to assist you.

COURSE CHANGE PROCEDURES

Counselors will email all students regarding the schedule change procedure in the month prior to the start of the semester. Schedule errors will be addressed prior to the start of each semester. All other schedule change requests will be processed during the first week of the semester. Students will schedule a 5 minute individual meeting with their counselor to discuss their schedule. While parents and families play a key role in students' high school success, please know that these meetings are for students only. Students will be released from class 5 minutes prior to their meeting time and are expected to return directly after. Students must present the confirmation email they receive after scheduling the meeting to their teacher to be excused from class.

Schedule changes will only be made based on the following parameters:

- Seniors who need a course to meet a graduation requirement
- An inappropriate level or sequence placement
- Prerequisites have not been taken
- Any student who has been scheduled into a course they have already taken and passed

On a space-available basis, schedule changes will be made for:

- Any student who has failed a course and needs to retake the course
- Scheduling conflicts that have left an open period in a student's schedule

Schedule changes will NOT be made to:

- Teacher preferences
- Switch sections of the same course

ADD/ DROP/ LEVEL CHANGE PROCESS

Students may add a new course through the first Friday of the semester, if space is available. Students may drop a class for a study hall through the second Friday of the semester. Students may request a level change (for example, changing from an AP/honors class to a general section) through the fourth Friday of the semester. Students may withdraw from a class through the mid-point of the semester (November 1st or April 1st) without it affecting their GPA. A "W" for the dropped course will be recorded on the student's transcript. If a course is dropped after the mid-point of the semester, an F will be recorded on their transcript for that course.

FINAL SCHEDULES

In mid-August all final schedules will be available online in StudentVue. At this time seniors will receive a copy of their transcript in order to review their progress towards graduation. Freshmen will receive a copy of their schedule at New Student Orientation the week before school begins.

As students begin to review their final schedule they may find alternative courses or study halls were added to their schedule that they hadn't registered for. Please remember that after all course selections are tallied administration bases decisions regarding staffing and scheduling from those initial requests.

REGISTRATION PROCESS AND POLICIES

There could be several reasons for a student schedule to have different courses or study halls:

1. Two requested courses are offered at the same time and only one can be scheduled. Not all classes are offered every period of the school day leading to scheduling conflicts for some students.
2. Students might have registered for a course in which the number of requests exceeds the number of seats available.
3. Students might have registered for fewer than 14 courses.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS CLASS OF 2026-2027

In order to graduate from Orono High School students must meet the following credit requirements. Meeting Orono High School graduation requirements also fulfills all state graduation requirements. Graduation credit requirements include credits earned in grades 9-12.

Academic Area	Grade	Courses	Credits
ENGLISH (4 credits)	9	English -or- Enriched English	1.0
	10	American Literature & Composition A & B -or- AP Options	1.0
	11	World Literature & Composition A & B - or - AP Options (see page 16 for more details)	1.0
	12	English Electives or AP Options	1.0
SOCIAL STUDIES (3.5 credits)	9	American Government	.5
	10	American History - or - AP U.S. History	1.0
	11	World History/Geography or AP World History	1.0
	12	Senior Social Studies Electives	1.0
MATHEMATICS (3 credits)	9-12	Three years of math, through Algebra II. See the Math section for information on your specific math sequence.	3.0
SCIENCE (3 credits)	9-12	Three years of science, including one year of Physics or Chemistry, and one year of Biology.	3.0
PHYSICAL EDUCATION (.5 credit)	9-12	Physical Education I	.5
HEALTH (.5 credit)	9-12	Health	.5
FINE/PERFORMING ARTS (1.0 credit)	9-12	Fine Arts Electives	1.0
ELECTIVES	9-12	Students will need 8.5 elective credits throughout high school	8.5
		TOTAL CREDITS	24

BEGINNING WITH CLASS OF 2028 GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Academic Area	Grade	Courses	Credits
ENGLISH (4 credits) *see page 16 for AP Options	9	English -or- Enriched English	1.0
	10	American Literature & Composition A & B -or- AP Options	1.0
	11	World Literature & Composition A & B - or - AP Options	1.0
	12	English Electives or AP Options	1.0
SOCIAL STUDIES (3.5 credits)	9	Human Geography -or- AP Human Geography (year)	.5
	10	American History - or - AP U.S. History	1.0
	11	World History/Geography or AP World History	1.0
	12	Senior Social Studies Electives; including one semester of Civics and American Government (11 or 12)	1.0
MATHEMATICS (3 credits)	9-12	Three years of math, through Algebra II. See the Math section for information on your specific math sequence.	3.0
SCIENCE (3 credits)	9-12	Three years of science, including one year of Physics or Chemistry, one year of Biology, and one semester of Earth Science or AP Environmental Science	3.0
PHYSICAL EDUCATION (.5 credit)	9-12	Physical Education I	.5
HEALTH (.5 credit)	9-12	Health	.5
FINE/PERFORMING ARTS (1.0 credit)	9-12	Fine Arts Electives	1.0
PERSONAL FINANCE	10-12	Personal Finance or AP Business with Personal Finance	.5
ELECTIVES	9-12	Students will need 8.0 elective credits throughout high school	8.0
		TOTAL CREDITS	24

GENERAL INFORMATION

CREDIT

Courses are designated as semester or year-long courses. Credit is awarded on a semester basis. A half (.5) credit is granted for successful completion of a semester's work. 24 total credits are required for graduation.

NUMBER OF COURSES REQUIRED/ RECOMMENDED

A minimum of six credits each semester must be earned, unless you are a senior.

CREDIT OUTSIDE OF ORONO

Students planning to have outside credit applied to their Orono transcript must have their coursework approved by an administrator. Students will need to submit the course description for approval prior to enrollment. When students have completed the coursework, they must submit a transcript from the granting institution. For summer coursework, students must obtain approval prior to the close of the school year in June.

EARLY GRADUATION

A student may be certified for early graduation by completing a form requiring signatures of the applicant, applicant's parent(s) or guardian(s), counselor and principal. The forms are available in the counseling office. Applications for early graduation must be completed by November 1 of the academic year you plan early graduation.

SHORTAGE OF CREDITS

If a student fails a required course, it is the responsibility of the student to make up the deficiency. Students who fail a course should consult with their counselor to discuss credit recovery options. A student may not participate in graduation nor receive a diploma until the required deficiencies are completed.

GRADE POINT AVERAGE

Grade point averages are calculated on an unweighted 4-point scale. A grade point average is calculated by dividing the number of grade points by the number of credits earned. The weighted average is calculated on a 5-point scale for courses that have honors or Advanced Placement as a part of the course title.

Both the standard (unweighted) and weighted grade point average will be recorded on the student's transcript.

COMPARING GRADING SCALES

Standard Scale	Weighted Scale
A = 4.000	A = 5.000
A- = 3.666	A- = 4.666
B+ = 3.333	B+ = 4.333
B = 3.000	B = 4.000
B- = 2.666	B- = 3.666
C+= 2.333	C+ = 3.333
C = 2.000	C = 3.000
C- = 1.666	C- = 2.666
D+= 1.333	D+= 2.333
D = 1.000	D = 2.000
D-= .666	D-= 1.666

CLASS RANK

Orono High School does not report a class rank on transcripts. Therefore, a student's GPA, college admissions test scores, courses selected in high school, teacher recommendations, and a record of school and community activities form the basis for college admissions decisions. When necessary for scholarships or for admissions decisions made by some colleges, a class rank can be calculated.

MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS & HS CREDIT

Middle School students who are assigned to courses at the high school will earn high school credit. They do not earn high school credit for courses that are offered at both the middle school and high school.

MINNESOTA STATE ASSESSMENTS

Students will have the opportunity to participate in a district-provided ACT exam in 11th grade.

Standards-Based Accountability Assessments

The Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments (MCA) are the state tests that help districts measure student progress toward Minnesota's academic standards and also meet the requirements of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA).

- **10th grade – MCA Reading Test**
- **10th grade* – MCA Science Test**
- **11th grade – MCA Math Test**

* The MCA Science test is taken when students are enrolled in Biology, in most cases this is 10th grade.

SCHOOL COUNSELING RESOURCES

Orono High School counselors strive to deliver a proactive and personalized comprehensive curriculum to all students through classroom meetings, small group seminars and individual student/counselor meetings. Over a student's four years at OHS, counselors serve as partners, advisors and advocates, helping each student to accomplish their academic goals. This includes the following:

- Create and implement a four-year college readiness plan
- Set and meet academic and personal goals and help work through challenges
- Take time to reflect on ability, personality, and strengths and match those to post-secondary and career plans
- Build a balanced list of colleges that are a strong fit for each student and guide students through the application process
- Prepare for personal and academic success during and after high school

You can find more information on the OHS Counseling webpage:
https://www.oronoschools.org/academics/9-12/counseling

Orono High School Counseling Office: 952-449-8412 and 952-449-8413

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ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP)

AP courses offered at Orono High School:

AP English Language & Comp
AP English Literature & Comp
AP Psychology
AP U.S .History
AP World History
AP Human Geography
AP European History
AP Biology
AP Chemistry
AP Physics C
AP Environmental Science
AP Pre-Calculus
AP Calculus AB
AP Calculus BC
AP Calculus (BC) II
AP Statistics
AP Chinese Language
AP Spanish Language
AP German Language
AP Music Theory
AP Computer Sci. Principles
AP Intro to Business with Personal Finance
AP Macroeconomics
AP Seminar
AP Research
AP 2D Art and Design
AP Art 3D

The first and most important thing that college admission representatives consider when reviewing a student's application is the rigor of the coursework and the grades earned in those courses. Schools want to see challenging courses that will help a student grow academically. Successfully completing an AP course shows colleges that the student is ready for the rigor of college.

Students earning a qualifying score on an AP exam may be able to earn college credit for introductory coursework and move into advanced studies or pursue a second major or minor. See college websites for more specific information.

Students enrolled in AP courses are strongly encouraged to take the corresponding AP exam in May. There will be a fee for each AP exam a student takes.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP)

AP School Honor Roll

2025

AP

AP CAPSTONE

AP Capstone TM is an innovative diploma program from the College Board that equips students with the independent research, collaborative teamwork, and communication skills that are increasingly valued by colleges. AP Capstone is built on the foundation of two AP courses -AP Seminar and AP Research - and is designed to complement and enhance the in-depth, discipline-specific study experienced in other AP courses. In AP Seminar, students investigate real-world issues from multiple perspectives, gathering and analyzing information from various sources in order to develop credible and valid evidence-based arguments. AP Seminar is a prerequisite for AP Research. Completing AP Seminar and all its required assessment components is necessary for students to develop the skills to be successful in AP Research. In AP Research, students cultivate the skills and discipline necessary to conduct independent research and inquiry in order to produce and defend their scholarly work. Students who earn scores of 3 or higher in AP Seminar and AP Research and on four additional AP Exams of their choosing will receive the AP Capstone Diploma TM. Students who earn scores of 3 or higher in AP Seminar and AP Research but not on four additional AP Exams will receive the AP Seminar and Research Certificate TM.

AP SEMINAR A & B – GRADES 10-12 (YEAR)

AP Seminar is a foundational course that engages students in cross-curricular conversations that explore the complexities of academic and real-world topics and issues by analyzing divergent perspectives. Using an inquiry framework, students practice reading and analyzing articles, research studies, and foundational, literary, and philosophical texts; listening to and viewing speeches, broadcasts, and personal accounts; and experiencing artistic works and performances. Students learn to synthesize information from multiple sources, develop their own perspectives in written essays, and design and deliver oral and visual presentations individually and as part of a team. Ultimately, the course aims to equip students with the power to analyze and evaluate information accurately and precisely to craft and communicate evidence-based arguments.

BL AP RESEARCH A & B – GRADES 11 &12 (YEAR)

Prerequisite: AP Seminar A & B

This course allows students to deeply explore an academic topic, problem, or issue of individual interest. Through this exploration, students design, plan, and conduct a year-long research-based investigation to address a research question. Students will further develop their skills by practicing research methodology, employing ethical research practices, and accessing, analyzing, and synthesizing information as they address a research question. The course culminates in an academic paper of 4000-5000 words (accompanied by a performance or exhibition of product where applicable) and a presentation with an oral defense.

CONCURRENT/DUAL ENROLLMENT

These courses provide opportunities for students to earn college credit in addition to high school credit.
Please see the course description for more information.
Details about the credit process (registration, fees, etc) will be provided by the teacher at the start of the semester.
These credits can be applied to a degree or transferred to many college/universities around the country.
Students will want to ask their prospective colleges if they will accept the credit and what documentation will be needed.

College credit may also be earned at specific colleges in the following OHS courses:

Computer Applications for College
College Accounting
Introduction to Engineering Design
Computer Integrated Manufacturing
Principles of Engineering
Engineering Design and Development

LEARNING MODALITIES AT OHS

Orono students have increasing opportunities to take classes in a variety of modalities: traditional, blended and online. Traditional classes meet daily in the school building with the teacher. Blended courses allow students to work with the teacher on some aspects of the class to set the pace and place of learning, which may include being outside the classroom. Online course options have Orono teachers using Schoology as a platform to deliver Orono classes in an asynchronous format that students access at their own pace within a framework set up by a teacher. Unless denoted, courses will be offered as traditional classes.

BL BLENDED LEARNING

These courses offer a blend of structured class time and flexible learning time, giving students the opportunity to work closely with their instructor, independently, and collaboratively with peer groups. Students help set the path, place and pace of their learning to build self-discipline, resilience and ndependence required for college and career settings. These OHS courses will meet high standards of instruction and set the same curricular expectations of traditional courses.

OL ONLINE LEARNING:

Orono online courses are fully online, asynchronous learning experiences that support students who are looking to learn anywhere and anytime. These courses have been designed so that all essential course content that is provided in the face to face course is delivered in the online course. Taking an online course does not mean that you have to complete all of your coursework in isolation. You will be in your online course with other students from Orono High School. Students are encouraged to connect with one another and work together to complete work that is required for the course. For many students, this is a new way to approach learning and does require some additional planning to ensure that you complete the required work for the class. Successful students will think about and plan how to spend time working on your course, find some areas that you can dedicate to your online learning and think about how you will communicate and collaborate effectively.

OTHER LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

OHS IMPACT PROFESSIONAL STUDIES (3 CREDITS) OR ORONO PROFESSIONAL STUDIES: IMPACT (GRADE 12)

The Orono Professional Studies: Impact program will give seniors an opportunity to integrate curriculum, research, and professional experiences. This program transforms a rigorous, interdisciplinary curriculum into a series of truly exceptional experiences. By integrating real-world projects, expert guest instruction, and one-to-one professional mentorship with immersive site visits, IMPACT creates a uniquely engaging environment that bridges the gap between the classroom and the professional world. In addition to two OHS courses, students will take an online professional studies course. This course will cover professional competencies students need to be successful in the workplace and in postsecondary areas, including resume building and goal setting, mastering the art of the informational interview, academic research, and collaborative project management. Due to the nature of this program and the necessary commitment to mentoring and coursework, it will be important for students to have excellent attendance, behavior and time management skills.

To participate in this program, students must register for:
-Human Anatomy (full year: 1.0 credit))
-AP Research (full year: 1.0 credit)
AND
-Online Professional Studies (one semester .5 credit+ .5 credit for mentorship)

OTHER LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

HENNEPIN TECHNICAL PATHWAYS

Juniors and seniors have the opportunity to take technical pathways courses at Hennepin Technical College in Eden Prairie. Intermediate District 287's Career Courses focus on career skill development experiences and exploration. Career courses are designed to assist students in making career decisions. Hands-on instruction is emphasized. Each course offers a broad array of information from similar careers within an industry. From here, students could branch off into a major for their college career choice. Schedules may vary. Not all courses will be offered during the afternoon session. OHS provides transportation to the afternoon section. Students, with parent permission, can drive themselves. Students who are interested should see their counselor. For course descriptions please go to the Hennepin Technical Pathways Website. Please check website for updated course offerings at: Pathways Course Guide (https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Fb7OYnOFDJBgCPxuEUyeFs7Ly9FzTBgp/view)

Pathways courses OFFERED:

- Engineering, Manufacturing, and Technology
- Health Sciences
- Business, Management, and Administration
- Arts, Communications, and Information Systems

PROJECT LEAD THE WAY (PLTW)

PLTW's comprehensive curriculum emphasizes critical thinking, creativity, innovation, and real-world problem solving. The hands-on, project-based program engages students on multiple levels, exposes them to subjects that they typically would not pursue, provides them with a strong foundation for achieving their academic goals in any chosen field of study, and establishes a proven path to college and career success in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) related industries.

Upon completion of all PLTW courses, students with a minimum grade of a B and a score of 5 or higher on the final are eligible for 3 semester credits from St. Cloud State University.

PLTW courses offered at OHS:

- Introduction to Engineering Design (IED)
- Principles of Engineering (POE)
- Computer Integrated Manufacturing (CIM)
- Engineering Design and Development (EDD)

For course descriptions and information, please go to the Technology section of the registration guide.

OTHER ONLINE LEARNING

Students also have the opportunity to expand their learning by taking online courses through other Minnesota Department of Education-approved providers. Students can access MDE's Online Course Search at https://education.mn.gov/MDE/K12/index.htm or check with their counselor to learn more about online options. Please note, students must notify their counselor of their plan to enroll in an outside online course by the mid-point of the term (November 1st or April 1st). This will help ensure students are able to finish the course by the end of the term.

TESTING FOR CREDIT

In rare circumstances, students needing to test for credit must apply in the Counseling Office at least four weeks prior to the start of that course. A written contract between student, teacher, and counselor must be completed prior to approval. Depending on the subject a written, oral and/or a practical exam may be required. Successful completion of all course objectives is expected. More information is available from your counselor.

INDEPENDENT STUDY

When necessary, Independent Study programs provide the opportunity for students to enhance their learning, or to otherwise meet particular learning needs. Independent Study courses require cooperation and approval from a faculty member. Students are allowed to take no more than one Independent Study course per semester. Check with your counselor with any questions.

POST-SECONDARY ENROLLMENT OPTIONS (PSEO)

Postsecondary Enrollment Options (PSEO) is a program that allows 10th, 11th and 12th grade students to earn both high school and college credit while still in high school, through enrollment in and successful completion of college-level, nonsectarian courses at eligible participating postsecondary institutions. Most PSEO courses are offered on the campus of the postsecondary institution; some courses are offered online. Each participating college or university sets its own requirements for enrollment into PSEO courses. 11th and 12th-grade students may take PSEO courses on a full- or part-time basis; 10th graders may take one career/technical PSEO course. If they earn at least a C grade in that class, they may take additional PSEO courses the following semester.

There is no charge to PSEO students for tuition, books or fees for items that are required to participate in a course if it is taken during the . Students must meet the PSEO residency and eligibility requirements and abide by participation limits specified in Minnesota Statutes, section 124D.09. Funds are available to help pay transportation expenses for qualifying students to participate in PSEO courses on college campuses. Schools must provide information to all students in grades 8-11 and their families by March 1, every year. Students must notify their school by May 30 or October 30th if they want to participate in PSEO for the upcoming semester. For current information about the PSEO program, visit the Minnesota Department of Education's Postsecondary Enrollment Options (PSEO) webpage. Orono High School does not weight PSEO classes. Interested students can find more information by going to the counseling website or to https://education.mn.gov/MDE/fam/dual/pseo/

PLANNING FOR AFTER HIGH SCHOOL

FOUR-YEAR COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

Four-year colleges and universities offer courses and programs leading to Bachelor's, Master's and advanced degrees.

On average, 80-84% of OHS graduates attend a four- year institution after graduation. Being ready for college means adequate preparation in English, social studies, mathematics and science. Most colleges require study of a second language. The more selective the college, the more preparation they expect in these academic disciplines.

Students and parents are encouraged to research the colleges and universities in which they have an interest. This research can be done via MaiaLearning as well as visiting the college websites directly. The examples in the chart to the right are intended to show the differences between colleges in terms of their respective admission requirements.

NCAA ELIGIBILITY CENTER

Students who plan to participate in Division I or Division II athletics need to be certified by the NCAA Eligibility Center. To be certified as an amateur student athlete high school students must meet core course, GPA and ACT/SAT requirements as set by the Eligibility Center. A list of OHS courses that have been approved by the NCAA Eligibility Center can be found at www.eligibilitycenter.org. Our high school code is 241-410.

Students are responsible for ensuring that they meet the Eligibility Center's academic requirements in order to participate in intercollegiate athletics. Please notify your counselor as soon as possible of your intent to participate in college-level athletics and they can help ensure you are taking approved courses.

Prospective student athletes can register and find helpful information at: www.eligibilitycenter.org.

COLLEGE ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

OHS Graduation credit requirements		MN State Universities (Mankato, St. Cloud)	U of MN out state campuses (Duluth, Crookston)	Private Colleges & Universities (Gustavus)	U of MN (Twin Cities) or UW (Madison)
4	Language Arts	4	4	4	4
3.5	Social Studies	3	3	3	4
3	Math	3	3	3	4
3	Science	3	3	3	3
-	World Language	2	2	2	2*
.5	Physical Education	-	-	-	-
.5	Health	-	-	-	-
1.0	Fine Arts	1	1	-	1

*While world language is not a graduation requirement, it is, an admission requirement for the majority of four-year colleges/universities. You are recommended to take at least 2 years of a single world language to satisfy the college admission requirement.

PLANNING FOR AFTER HIGH SCHOOL

COMMUNITY AND TECHNICAL COLLEGES

Technical and community colleges offer numerous one and two-year programs. As a full-time student, you can graduate in two years or less with a certificate, diploma or degree in a career area. You can also earn an Associate's degree and then transfer to a four-year university to obtain a Bachelor's degree. Admission requirements at a technical or community college are less demanding (typically they require your high school diploma or GED) and tuition costs may be lower than at some four-year colleges and universities.

GAP YEAR

A Gap Year is a period of time between completing high school and beginning college when a student steps outside the traditional classroom experience. This is a time to explore the world, reflect on their personal values and goals, and prepare to take the next purposeful step in life. For many students, a Gap Year provides them with time to develop independence and confidence as well as pursue various fields of interest. Almost all Gap Year programs have a focus on education, service and personal growth. Many colleges allow students to defer their enrollment for one year if a Gap Year experience is planned. Check with your college or university to see if this option is available.

MILITARY SERVICE

For some students, the military offers them an opportunity to serve their country, obtain job training, and pursue a college education. Each branch has specific regulations and requirements to enlist. Students should research options thoroughly and understand the legal commitments before signing a contract. Students can also meet with military recruiters when they visit OHS.

CAREER/ WORK

Some students plan to enter the work force immediately following graduation. Students can find career information in MaiaLearning. They can also talk with their counselor about completing a job search, creating a resume and finding other job-related resources.

BEST HIGH SCHOOLS
U.S.News & WORLD REPORT
RANKINGS
2025-2026

BUSINESS & MARKETING

INTRODUCTION TO BUSINESS – GRADES 9 & 10 (SEMESTER)

This course is designed to provide students with an introduction to the world of business including business organization, economics, federal reserve and banking, marketing, record keeping, accounting, and business courses.

COMPUTER APPLICATIONS FOR COLLEGE – GRADES 9, 10, 11 & 12 (SEMESTER)

This course develops computer literacy and emphasizes its importance in today's society. Through hands-on experience, students will gain an understanding of computer concepts, capabilities, and applications, and will be able to implement this knowledge in their professional and personal lives. This course is Windows based NOT macOS based, ideally, students will have access to a Windows-based personal computer. Computer applications include word processing, spreadsheets, presentation graphics, databases, Windows/operating system, folder and file organization, and use of the internet. Computer concepts include understanding the basic hardware components of a computer, how a computer works, computer files and storage, application programs, input and output devices, how we store information, and internet basics. Hands-on experience will be provided on networked computers in the Windows environment using the most current version of Microsoft Office Suite, including Word, Excel, Access, and PowerPoint. Knowledge of the keyboard is recommended for this course. Check with your instructor for the software edition that will be used. This class is offered concurrently with the CIS1101 Business Computer Systems I from North Hennepin Community College. Students will be earning credit for both from Orono High School and at North Hennepin Community College.

PERSONAL FINANCE - GRADES 10-12 (SEMESTER)

The semester-long personal finance course covers all of the essential personal finance topics necessary to become a financially capable student. This class will include student understanding of goals and values, consideration of emotions, beliefs, behaviors. mindsets, habits, and biases in which financial decisions are made. Topics include learning about different types of employment related to income and how to file taxes, utilize deductions and credits, and meet deadlines to help students minimize tax liability: students will learn how to interact with various financial institutions to effectively learn how to manage their credit and money; and finally, students will explore various types of insurance, including homeowners, renters, auto, life, and health insurance highlights how diverse products mitigate different types of risk. By the end of this course, students will have a thorough understanding of personal finance topics and be prepared to handle the financial responsibilities that exist after graduation. *This course meets the personal finance requirement for the class of 2028 and beyond.

ACCOUNTING A & B – GRADES 10, 11 & 12 (YEAR)

This course is for any student interested in how businesses maintain their financial records or in maintaining their own personal financial records. It is especially pertinent for students with the following career objectives: Business Administration, Computer Science, Law, Accounting, Marketing, Self-Employment/Entrepreneurship, International Business, Banking and Finance, Administrative Assistant, and many entry-level positions in business. In the second semester, students will learn computerized accounting in a networked lab setting.

AP COMPUTER SCIENCE PRINCIPLES A & B – GRADES 9, 10, 11 & 12 (YEAR)

Computing affects almost all aspects of modern life and all students deserve access to a computing education that prepares them to pursue the wide array of intellectual and career opportunities that computing has made possible. Computer Science Principles (CSP) curriculum is a full-year, rigorous, entry-level course that introduces high school students to the foundations of modern computing. The course covers a broad range of foundational topics, such as programming, algorithms, the Internet, big data, digital privacy, and the societal impacts of computing.

BUSINESS & MARKETING

COLLEGE ACCOUNTING – GRADES 11 & 12 (YEAR)

This course uses an integrated approach to teaching accounting. Students first learn how businesses plan for and evaluate their operating, financing, and investing decisions and then how accounting systems gather and provide data to internal and external decision makers. This course covers all the learning objectives of a traditional college level financial accounting course, plus those from a managerial accounting course. Topics include an introduction to accounting, accounting information systems, time value of money, and accounting for merchandising firms, sales and receivables, fixed assets, debt and equity. Other topics include statement of cash flows, financial ratios, cost volume profit analysis and variance analysis. Students will take an exam in May. Students may earn transferable 4 college credits for Financial Accounting from North Hennepin Community College. This course may replace most financial accounting courses required for a business degree. *This class is offered concurrently with the ACCT 2111 Financial Accounting from North Hennepin Community College. Students will be earning credit both from Orono High School and at North Hennepin Community College.*

MARKETING (1) STRATEGIES A & B – GRADES 11 & 12 (YEAR)

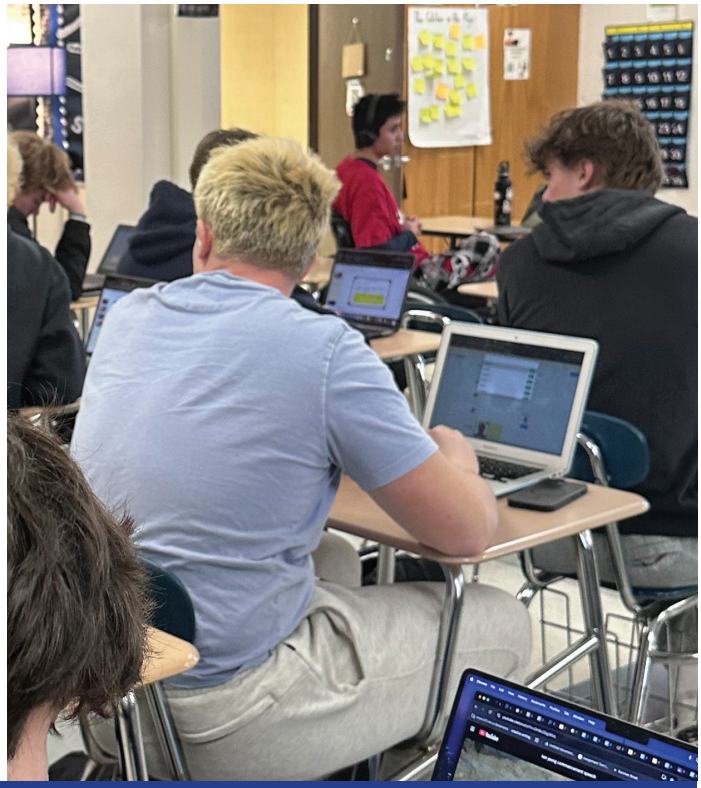
Marketing Strategies offers the student the opportunity to explore career possibilities and gain knowledge and skills in the areas of promotion, market research, human relations, international business, leadership, professional sales, business development, and business etiquette. This is an excellent course for students who would like to explore options that exist in business and marketing or to complement a student's analytical approach to problem solving. In addition to core material, students will gain and apply the soft skills needed in today's competitive culture. Students enrolled in a marketing course have the option of participating in the DECA organization. DECA is an international student-based organization that prepares emerging leaders and entrepreneurs for careers in marketing, finance, hospitality, and management in high schools and colleges around the globe.

AP BUSINESS WITH PERSONAL FINANCE - GRADE 12

AP Business is a yearlong business class that aligns closely with a college-level introduction to business course. Students explore the business disciplines of entrepreneurship, marketing, finance, accounting, and management through real-world business applications, case studies, and project based learning. The class will include an entrepreneurship project that incorporates business fundamentals and crosses over well with DECA projects. DECA has partnered with the College Board to sync up course content with DECA content and competitions. Students taking this course will have the opportunity to compete in DECA competitions as well as take the AP exam at the end of the year for a general business college credit. *Prerequisite: Marketing Strategies*
**This course meets the personal finance requirement for the class of 2028 and beyond*

AP MACROECONOMICS - GRADE 12

AP Macroeconomics is an introductory college-level macroeconomics course. Students cultivate their understanding of the principles that apply to an economic system as a whole by using principles and models to describe economic situations and predict and explain outcomes with graphs, charts, and data as they explore concepts like economic measurements, markets, macroeconomic models, and macroeconomic policies.



ENGLISH

MINIMUM HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS:
FRESHMAN: English IA & 1B -or- Enriched English IA & 1B
SOPHOMORE: American Literature & Composition A & B -or- AP Seminar for English A & B
JUNIOR: World Literature & Composition A & B -or- AP Literature & Composition A & B -or- AP Language & Composition A & B
SENIOR: AP Language & Composition A & B -or- AP Literature & Composition A & B -or- AP Research A & B -or- 2 English Electives
Juniors and seniors may carry more than one English class per semester if class size permits.

COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS:
Some colleges have restrictive requirements. Please check with your college or counselor for specifics. If you have any questions about the level of difficulty of these classes, please see an English teacher or counselor. Some courses are designed for students with difficulties in English. PLEASE CHECK individual course descriptions for this information.

REQUIRED COURSE SELECTIONS:

ELL (ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS)/ESL (ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE) IA & B – GRADES 9, 10, 11 & 12 (YEAR)

Prerequisite: Admission and placement in the ELL program is by means of a formal process involving the Home Language Questionnaire (HLQ) and testing, which may include the IDEA Proficiency Test (IPT), the Minnesota Test of Emerging Academic English (TEAE), and the Minnesota Student Oral Language observation Matrix (MNSOLOM).

This course is designed for students whose home language is other than English. The primary goals are the acquisition of listening, speaking, reading and writing skills, including basic interpersonal communication skills (BICS) and cognitive academic language proficiency (CALP). Cultural adjustment and success in mainstream classes are also emphasized. A student may enroll in this class for up to four years, depending on his/her level of English proficiency and individual needs. The ultimate goal of ELL is to help students acquire the ability to participate fully in the total school program.

ENGLISH IA & IB – GRADE 9 (YEAR)

This foundational course will emphasize the development of thinking, reading, and writing skills through the study of short stories, drama, poetry, and contemporary nonfiction and fiction. As students write expository, analytical, and creative compositions, they will further their understanding of grammar, punctuation, and usage. Vocabulary and literary terms will be studied in context. Students will learn and apply effective research and rhetoric skills. Along with the major units of study, students will be expected to engage in independent reading.

ENRICHED ENGLISH IA & IB – GRADE 9 (YEAR)

This course fosters the thoughtful examination and appreciation of literature. Students spend considerable time analyzing literature through discussions, creative projects, presentations, and formal essays. Students will learn and apply effective research and rhetoric skills. Vocabulary building and ongoing development of proficiency in grammar, punctuation, and usage are also featured. A significant amount of independent reading is expected throughout the year. This course is designed for students who have an affinity for humanities and literature.

AMERICAN LITERATURE & COMPOSITION A & B – GRADE 10 (YEAR)

This course is designed to build on the reading, writing, thinking and speaking skills developed in English I through the study of American literature. The genres of speeches, essays, poetry, and novels will be explored while promoting critical thinking and analysis of these American works. Exposure to analysis of this literature will provide valuable literary background, cultural and media literacy, and historical perspective in relationship to content studied in American history courses in the Social Studies Department. The course will focus on a variety of analytical perspectives that will encourage critical thinking, discussion, and writing about literature. Writing and mastery of composition will be heavily emphasized throughout the course, including narrative essay, inquiry/researched argumentative essays and literary analysis essays. Vocabulary, grammar, and usage are also areas of study.

AP SEMINAR ENGLISH A & B – GRADES 10-12 (YEAR)

AP Seminar is a foundational course that engages students in cross-curricular conversations that explore the complexities of academic and real-world topics and issues by analyzing divergent perspectives. Using an inquiry framework, students practice reading and analyzing articles, research studies, and foundational, literary, and philosophical texts; listening to and viewing speeches, broadcasts, and personal accounts; and experiencing artistic works and performances. Students learn to synthesize information from multiple sources, develop their own perspectives in written essays, and design and deliver oral and visual presentations individually and as part of a team. Ultimately, the course aims to equip students with the power to analyze and evaluate information accurately and precisely to craft and communicate evidence-based arguments.

ENGLISH

OL WORLD LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION A & B REGULAR OR ONLINE (YEAR)

This course is designed to build on the reading, writing, thinking, and speaking skills developed in English I and American Literature and Composition through the study of world literature. The genres of epic, short story, essays, poetry, novel and drama will all be explored while promoting critical thinking and analysis of these global works. Exposure to analysis of world literature will provide valuable literary background, cultural and media literacy, and historical perspective in relationship to content studied in world history courses in the Social Studies Department. The course will focus on a variety of global perspectives that will encourage critical thinking, discussion, and writing about world literature and global issues. Writing and mastery of composition will be heavily emphasized throughout the course, including narrative, argumentative and literary essays. Vocabulary, grammar, and usage are also areas of study.

ELECTIVE COURSE OFFERINGS:

Students enrolled in senior-level English electivies this fall will reeive teacher support for writing a college admissions essay and professional resume ensuring they are all prepared for Early Action and Early Decision deadlines in November.

AP LITERATURE & COMPOSITION- GRADE 10-12 (YEAR)

This course, suitable for college-bound students who have a strong interest in literature, focuses on close, critical readings of complex works of fiction, poetry, and drama. Students will read six or more major works of literature, as well as short stories and poems, and will analyze these works through extensive class discussions, critical essays, and creative projects. Students will keep a Critical Reading Journal to record what they notice when they read and how they read. The course library is drawn from world literature, giving students opportunities for richly rewarding interdisciplinary learning experiences with the World History courses most students take concurrently in the Social Studies Department. Students must enroll in both semesters of the course in the same year. The course prepares students both for college literature and composition classes and for the AP Exam in May. Students who perform well on the exam may earn college credit. *Note: Summer reading is encouraged.*

AP LANGUAGE & COMPOSITION – GRADE 10-12 (YEAR)

This course, suitable for college-bound students, engages learners in the development and revision of evidence-based analytic and argumentative writing, the rhetorical analysis of nonfiction texts, and the decisions writers make as they compose and revise. Students evaluate, synthesize, and cite research to support their arguments. Additionally, they read and analyze rhetorical elements and their effects in nonfiction texts from a range of disciplines and historical periods. Students will read 3-4 works of nonfiction, plus speeches, letters, historical documents, and numerous critical and persuasive essays. Students must enroll in both semesters of the course in the same year. The course prepares students for both college language and composition courses and the AP exam in May. Students who perform well on the exam may earn college credit.

BL + OL CREATIVE WRITING BLENDED OR ONLINE COURSE – GRADE 11 & 12 (SEMESTER)

Creative Writing is an elective designed to engage students' creativity while strengthening writing skills. Students are given the freedom to choose their own writing topics and encouraged to develop and strengthen a writing process that works for them. Over the course of the semester, students in Creative Writing will write 4-5 formal pieces of writing, including fiction, poetry, and creative nonfiction. These pieces will be developed through extension prewriting and revision, and will be shared at various points of the process with peers and teachers. In addition to writing, students read two novels of their selection and participate in small and large group discussions on these novels. The course also includes grammar and conventions practice and the reading of exemplary fiction, creative nonfiction, and poetry.

BL HUMANITIES – GRADES 11 & 12 (SEMESTER)

Humanities offers an interdisciplinary exploration of literature, film, philosophy, psychology, history, and other fields that shape human culture. This semester-long English elective seeks to deepen our understanding of human roles, behavior, ideals, and what we mean by the phrase "human nature". Through a critical study of Albert Camus' The Stranger, Anthony Doerr's Cloud Cuckoo land, and other texts, the course encourages students to reflect on society and themselves, fostering a deeper insight into the complexities of the human experience.

ENGLISH

JOURNALISM- GRADES 9-12 (SEMESTER)

Journalism, a one-semester elective, is designed for students who want to learn about the media in the US and practice journalistic reporting and writing by creating and publishing content for the OHS online newspaper The Spartan Speaks. In this course, students will use their organization and time-management skills while investigating, writing, and producing interesting stories in many formats including articles, info graphics, photo galleries, broadcasts and interactive story packages. Students will also study the history of journalism, the ethical principles that guide journalists, and functions of journalism in society today.

BL LANGUAGE AND COMPOSITION OF LEADERSHIP -GRADES 11 & 12 (SEMESTER)

This course examines the essential intersection of advanced communication and practical leadership. Students will analyze leadership theory through a semester-long book study, engage in deep textual analysis during two formal Socratic Seminars, and develop a persuasive voice via a formal speech and two analytical essays. Core instruction focuses on rhetorical devices, effective listening, group dynamics, and conflict resolution. The course culminates in a self-directed, semester-long Service Learning Project where students apply all planning, communication, and ethical leadership skills to a real-world community need. This course builds critical thinking and civic responsibility through applied communication.

BL LITERATURE IN FILM GRADES 11 & 12 (SEMESTER)

This course is a study of various genres and styles of literature turned film. Students will view and analyze several films based on popular books and plays. This course will also rely heavily on some parts of texts, scripts, and graphic novels as required reading prior to the film study. Substantial comparative analysis, written work, and discussion will be required with each film presented. Various genres will be explored, such as historical fiction, romantic comedy, adventure, science fiction, suspense, etc. This course does not substitute for the required grade-level English course for 11th grade. Juniors will be placed in this course in addition to World Lit & Comp or AP Lit & Comp on a space-available basis. Please be sure to choose an alternate elective.

BL MYTHOLOGY: MODERN MYTHMAKERS- GRADES 11-12 (SEMESTER)

Embark on a journey through the rich tapestry of world mythology in this engaging course that explores the epic narratives, legendary heroes, and cultural values of diverse civilizations. We'll delve into the well-known tales of Greek and Roman gods, the fierce sagas of Norse warriors, and the enchanting lore of Irish legends. Alongside these, we'll explore the profound storytelling traditions of Native American tribes, the ancient myths of China and Japan, and the vibrant narratives from African cultures.

Students will examine how myths shape cultural identity, address universal human experiences, and influence modern literature, art, and media. Through comparative analysis, creative projects, and in-depth discussions, this course will cultivate a deeper appreciation for the enduring power of myth.

Key Themes:

- Creation and origin myths
- Heroic journeys and transformations
- Interactions between gods and mortals
- Cultural values and societal norms reflected in myths

This course is perfect for students who love storytelling, history, and exploring diverse perspectives. No prior knowledge of mythology is required.

PHOTOJOURNALISM – GRADE 12 (SEMESTER)

In this course, students learn about all that goes into the development of the 2027 Spartan Annual yearbook. They will develop story ideas and angles while studying journalistic styles of writing and producing captions, infographics, and social media content for the Spartan Annual. Students will complete technical writing in relation to the technology utilized in producing this publication. Additionally, students will design business advertisements and communicate with local businesses through email correspondence. Purpose and audience will be a primary focus as students determine appropriate content for publication. Editing and proofreading are heavily emphasized. Beyond writing, students will also engage in photography, design, and marketing. This course may be taken as a Fine Arts or English for seniors.

ENGLISH

COMPOSITION AND PUBLIC DISCOURSE- GRADES 11 & 12 (SEMESTER)

Public Speaking & Communication is an elective that fulfills an English requirement. This course is an introduction to a variety of communication styles including persuasive speech, entertainment speech, and informative speech. Students will explore various delivery methods of communication such as podcasts, visual media, and vocal recordings. This class is for all levels of communicators and provides an excellent opportunity for students to build confidence in lifetime communication skills needed for personal, social, and work settings. A one semester course, this elective is an engaging and informative course that any student looking to explore or perfect their verbal and written communication is highly encouraged to attend.

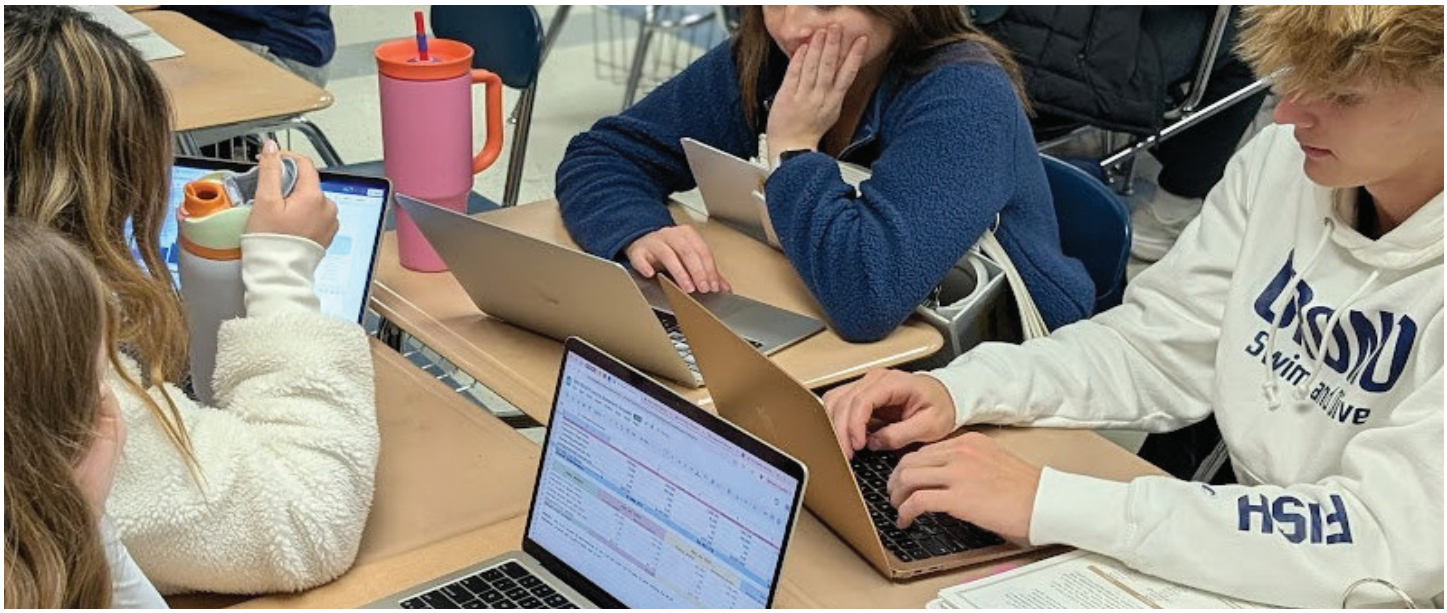
READING FOR HIGH SCHOOL GRADES

Through fiction and nonfiction, students will explore various genres as a class in book excerpts, short stories, essays, and articles to practice close reading strategies to build their comprehension and critical thinking skills around many kinds of texts in preparation for their core classes. The reading themes and topics students explore in an in-depth study will foster literacy skills that can transfer to a variety of courses and contexts. Students should expect to be an active learner on a daily basis as they will be annotating, writing, reviewing and discussing what they have read throughout the course. This is a year-long course based on counselor recommendation.

BL WRITERS WORKSHOP- GRADES 11&12 (YEAR)

Prerequisite: Successful completion of at least two years of Orono High School English courses OR teacher recommendation is required.

This course is designed around a workshop model to provide students with a guided structure in which to complete a writing project of their choice (e.g. a screenplay, a collection of short stories, essays, or poems, a multi-genre work, etc.) and guide them toward publication. Students will select reading and writing activities from instructor-provided resources according to their individual interests and proposed project. Participation in regular class workshops (process and feedback sessions) is required as well as training in and work as a writing tutor in the school's writing center during an open period, Spartan hour or study hall. This course does not substitute for the required grade level English course for 11th grade. Juniors will be placed in this course in addition to World Lit & Comp or AP Lit & Comp on a space available basis. Please be sure to choose an alternate elective.



FINE AND PERFORMING ARTS

DRAWING I – GRADES 9, 10, 11, & 12 (SEMESTER)
Students will work in a wide variety of media using both traditional and non-traditional methods. This class is recommended for those that like to draw and wish to enhance their skills through observation, practice and experimentation.

DRAWING II – GRADES 9, 10, 11, & 12 (SEMESTER)
Prerequisite: Drawing I
Students will further develop their drawing skills by exploring the human form and nature using both wet and dry media. Emphasis will be placed on each student developing their "artistic voice" through experimentation and abstraction. The work of 20th and 21st century art and artists will be examined, discussed and explored as it relates to drawing and painting.

AP STUDIO ART & DESIGN - GRADES 11, 12 (YEAR)
Prerequisite: Minimum of 2 art courses in portfolio area, recommended for senior year
This is a full-year college level course developed for art students who have completed all prerequisite requirements and show a strong dedication to creating artwork. The AP Art and Design Program includes three different courses and portfolio exams. Students in this course will complete an AP Studio Art portfolio in one of 3 categories: 2-D Art & Design, 3-D Art & Design or Drawing. This portfolio will be submitted to the College Board for scoring. Research, oral and written critiques will be integral parts of this course. Composite images that help document the student's work may be used to show process and growth. Students will complete a minimum of 16 artworks throughout the year.

PAINTING – GRADES 10, 11 & 12 (SEMESTER)
Painting students will refresh their drawing skills and learn about color. Painting will be explored through a wide variety of media such as watercolor, acrylic, ink, and mixed media. Art history, art criticism, and aesthetics will be covered in the class as it relates to painting.

PAINTING II - GRADES 10, 11, 12 (SEMESTER)
Prerequisite: Painting 1
Painting 2 will build on the skills learned in Painting 1 through the exploration of watercolor, acrylic, ink and mixed media. Students will further explore color theory, composition and art history with an emphasis on creation and self expression. Participation in critiques will be an integral part of this course.

CERAMICS I – GRADES 10, 11 & 12 (SEMESTER)
This course is designed to introduce students to hand building functional and decorative art via the use of slab, coil, sculpture, and pinch. Students will also be introduced to basic wheel throwing techniques. The historical and cultural origins of ceramics will be studied.

CERAMICS II – GRADES 10, 11 & 12 (SEMESTER)
Prerequisite: Students should have earned a minimum of C+ in Ceramics I
Students will continue their study of ceramics with further expansion and refinement of hand building techniques to include tile-making and mosaic design. They will learn beginning wheel-throwing techniques to enable them to create functional forms such as cups, mugs, bowls, and more. Emphasis is placed on skill development and creative expression.

CERAMICS III - GRADES 11-12
Prerequisite: Ceramics I and II (Should have a C+ in Ceramics II)
In this course students will be expanding upon wheel throwing skills begun in Ceramics II, and hand building and sculptural skills begun in Ceramics I for creating both functional and non-functional ware. Students will examine both contemporary and historical ceramic art with regards to form, function and expression. They will reinvent a historical form and create original ceramic works that demonstrate their skill, imagination and interests.

ADVANCED STUDIO ART IA & IB – GRADES 10- 12 (SEMESTER)
Prerequisite: Drawing 1&2 or Painting 1&2 or Ceramics 1-3. This course may be repeated.
This course is designed for students who have completed all art course offerings in a specific medium and are interested in further advancing their skills. Students will work independently in the media of their choice on a selection of projects. Research, oral and written critiques will be integral parts of this course. A digital portfolio will be created for contests, scholarships and college applications.

DRAMA

Acting classes fulfill graduation requirements related to Fine and Performing Arts. They are not considered English electives.

ACTING I – GRADES 9, 10, 11 & 12 (SEMESTER)

This course will introduce students to the theatre, acting, and the interpretation of dramatic literature. Content includes relaxation and concentration techniques, stage movement and sensory awareness, improvisation, the acting process, characterization, and the development of performance techniques. Course work will include daily homework, reading, memorization of scripts, rehearsal, and writing a 3-5 page essay.

ACTING II – GRADES 9, 10, 11 & 12 (SEMESTER)

Prerequisite: Acting I or instructor approval

This course is an in-depth exploration of the acting process and the interpretation of major periods in dramatic literature. Content includes the Stanislavski/Method technique, voice, movement, gesture, characterization, and the following major genres of dramatic literature: Classical Greece, Commedia del Arte, Shakespeare, Moliere, and Modern Realism. Course work will include daily homework, reading, memorization, rehearsal and several written assignments. Prerequisite requires successful completion of Acting I OR demonstrated prior acting experience at an equivalent level. Students wishing to fulfill the prerequisite through prior experience must reach out to the instructor to obtain written consent prior to registration.

TECHNICAL THEATER – GRADES 9, 10, 11 & 12 (SEMESTER)

This course will introduce students to stagecraft, the technical aspects of producing a play, and the organization of a theater's technical staff. Scenic design, props, costuming, sound design, and lighting will be covered. Students will receive hands-on experience in a variety of skills. The final project will give experience in the role of a member of a theatrical production team and will focus on teamwork and group collaboration to create a detailed end product.

BL DIRECTOR'S WORKSHOP - GRADES 11 & 12 (SEMESTER, BLENDED)

Prerequisite: Acting II, Technical Theater or Instructor Approval

Experienced theatre students will learn the fundamentals of directing a play for the stage. The course will cover choosing a play for production; studying and preparing a script; working with actors, designers and technicians; and directing for proscenium theaters, arena theaters, and thrust theaters. Students will direct short scenes and, as a final project, a one-act play. Prerequisite requires successful completion of Acting I or Technical Theatre, OR demonstrated prior theatrical experience at an equivalent level. Students wishing to fulfill the prerequisite through prior experience must reach out to the instructor to obtain written consent prior to registration.

MEDIA ARTS

PHOTOJOURNALISM – GRADES 9, 10, 11 & 12 (SEMESTER)

Prerequisite: Application and instructor approval required.

Students will design yearbook page layouts and advertisements using desktop publishing software, learn digital photography techniques and basic elements of graphic design, and determine appropriate and inappropriate material for publication of the *Spartan Annual*. Students will learn and use appropriate terminology and concepts as they relate to desktop publishing. This course may be taken as a Fine Arts or English credit.

MUSIC

Teachers will recommend placement in the proper course.

GUITAR STUDIO – GRADES 9, 10, 11, & 12 (SEMESTER)

This course provides students an opportunity to explore the basic fundamentals of guitar performance. Students in this class may have little or no prior music experience. During the course, students will learn both the melodic side of the guitar, as well as how to use the guitar as an accompaniment instrument. They will learn how to read and play standard music notation and tablature in first position, how to strum in several different styles, and how to play many standard chord progressions. Students will also gain knowledge in music history and basic music theory in order to enhance their guitar playing skills. School-owned guitars are used for this course, so it is not necessary that students have their own.

AP MUSIC THEORY – GRADES 10, 11, 12 (YEAR)

The AP Music Theory course is a study of advanced music literacy, focusing on aural and written musical skills. This course covers material typically taught at a college freshman level. For students who plan to continue musical studies at the college level, and for those who desire to learn more about music literacy, this course offers an essential opportunity for in-depth study and preparation. Current technological developments are used in the class to provide "state of the art" learning opportunities. It is the goal of this course to gain knowledge of musical elements (melody, harmony, form, rhythm, meter, texture, timbre, etc.) and use this knowledge through various listening, singing, writing, analytical, and creative activities to develop various speaking, listening, reading, and writing skills associated with the language of music. Students will take the AP Music Theory exam in May.

WORLD MUSIC AND DRUMMING - GRADES 9, 10, 11, 12 (SEMESTER)

The course provides students with the opportunity to learn more about the music they already love through playing West African Drumming Ensembles. Students in this course may have very little to no music experience, but are eager to learn. In a typical class, students learn through listening to music, watching documentaries, preparing small group presentations, independently writing, and of course - playing the drums.

POPULAR MUSIC ENSEMBLE I: SKILLS AND CONCEPTS - GRADES 9, 10, 11, 12 (SEMESTER)

The aim of this course will be to develop the foundational skills and concepts required of contemporary rock and other popular music. Music creation and songwriting skills will be emphasized, and students will learn how to operate a digital audio workstation (DAW). No prior experience is required; instruments will be provided for classroom use. The repertoire selected will primarily consist of the students' interests. Instrumentation will include but not be limited to vocals, guitar, bass, keyboard, and drum kit. Classes are conducted as coaching sessions, without the use of written scores, and the semester culminates in a live performance and/or recording session. Students can take this class multiple times.

BAND – GRADES 9, 10, 11, & 12 (YEAR)

Prerequisite: Audition and instructor approval

Band is an ensemble of musical instruments consisting of woodwinds, brass, percussion, piano and/or harp, no guitars. Key elements taught in band are music interpretation, performance skills, and music content. The primary objective of the course is excellent performance of music. Students will be required to 1) prepare for weekly lessons, 2) attend required performances, and 3) complete a performance evaluation each quarter. Private lessons outside the school are strongly encouraged. The band performs at least four major concerts each year, as well as at assemblies and commencement. There are three sections of band. Placement will be based on the student's audition. Members of all bands make up the marching band and pep band. All bands share concerts and other band activities.

WIND ENSEMBLE A & B

Wind ensemble is a performance class consisting of standard woodwind, brass, and percussion instruments. Students learn to perform a varied repertoire of music (difficulty level 3-6 on a scale of 1-6) with others and alone. Students learn to read and play music notation, culminating in series of concert performances. Students develop critical evaluation of their performances. Students learn music's relation to its context (i.e., history and culture).

SYMPHONIC BAND A & B

Symphonic Band is a performance class consisting of standard woodwind, brass, and percussion instruments. Students learn to perform a varied repertoire of music (difficulty level 2-5 on a scale of 1-6) with others and alone; learn to read and play music notation, culminating in a series of concert performances. Students develop critical evaluations of their performances. Students learn music's relation to its context (i.e., history and culture).

CONCERT BAND A & B

Concert Band is a performance class consisting of standard woodwind, brass, and percussion instruments. Students learn to perform a varied repertoire of music (difficulty level 2-4 on a scale of 1-6) with others and alone; learn to read and play music notation, culminating in series of concert performances. Students develop critical evaluations of their performances. Students learn music's relation to its context (i.e., history and culture).

CHOIR-GRADES 9,10,11 & 12 (YEAR)

Students in choir will be able to demonstrate correct singing techniques and skills, exhibit proper rehearsal and concert etiquette, gain a greater independence in performing music and will sing a wide variety of choral repertoire.

MUSIC

SPARTAN CHOIR A & B – GRADES 9, 10, 11, & 12 (YEAR)

Spartan Choir is a mixed ensemble of soprano, alto, tenor and bass voices that includes students who want the opportunity to experience singing in a large group. While this course is designed for the 9th grade developing voice, it is open to older students with little to no prior singing experience. Members of this group must be willing to explore their singing voices and choral literature. Students will develop their singing skills and will learn the basics of music notation and sight singing. Spartan Choir will perform four concerts per year. All performances are mandatory.

CONCERT CHOIR A & B – GRADES 9, 10, 11 & 12

Prerequisite: Audition and Instructor Approval

Concert Choir is an auditioned ensemble of mixed voices. Students should have enrolled for at least one year in a choir at the high school or middle school. Students will study, rehearse, and perform music of varying styles and will develop sight singing skills and music theory knowledge. Concert Choir will perform 4 concerts per school year. All performances are mandatory.

TREBLE CHOIR A & B - GRADES 10, 11 & 12

Prerequisite: Audition and Instructor Approval

Treble choir is an auditioned ensemble of treble voices. Students should have enrolled for at least one year in a choir. Students will study, rehearse, and perform music of varying styles and Ai will further develop sight singing skills and music theory knowledge. This group will perform four concerts per school year and will participate in the Minnesota State High School League and conference events. All performances are mandatory.

CHAMBER CHOIR A & B – GRADES 10, 11 & 12

Prerequisite: Audition and Instructor Approval

Chamber Choir is an advanced auditioned ensemble of mixed voices. Students should have enrolled for at least one year in a choir. Students will study, rehearse, and perform music of varying styles and will further develop sight singing skills and music theory knowledge. Chamber Choir will have many performances throughout the school year at both school sponsored and community functions. This group will participate in the Minnesota State High School League and conference events as well as other festivals throughout the school year. All performances are mandatory.

HENNEPIN TECHNICAL CAREER PATHWAYS

CULINARY ARTS (FALL)

This course is intended to introduce students to a variety of careers in the food service industry. Students will experience a number of career areas through both technical and hands-on skills. Employment opportunities and career advancement will be discussed and explored. Food preparation experiences will range from the very basic to gourmet. Students will also explore some specialty career areas within the food service industry.

Note: There is a lab fee for this course.

CULINARY ARTS (SPRING)

This course offers a more advanced level of culinary training tailored to the standards of the culinary industry. Students will be expected to perform at entry-level industry standards. Hands-on activities are about 70 percent of the coursework.

Note: There is a lab fee for this course.

NURSING ASSISTANT (FALL)

This course prepares students for entry-level patient care employment. Students will acquire skills in basic nursing, human-needs rehabilitation, and restorative services. Skills are practiced in a supervised laboratory and in a long-term care facility. Upon successful completion, students will be eligible to take the MN State Nursing Assistant Competency exam. Successful completion of this course requires 80 percent or higher scores on each written test, completion of all skill demonstrations, completion of ALL scheduled clinical hours, and 90 percent of better attendance in classroom and lab. A mantoux test within 90 days of clinical is required.

AUTO BODY REPAIR (FALL)

This introductory course to auto body technology teaches non-structural repair, collision damage estimating, and refinishing. This is a skill-building course that starts students on their way towards becoming proficient in the auto-body industry.

Note: There is a lab fee for this course.

AUTO BODY REPAIR (SPRING)

In this course, students learn MIG welding, dent repair, and alignment of bolts on parts.

Note: There is a lab fee for this course.

ADVANCED AUTO BODY REPAIR (FALL OR SPRING)

Prerequisite: Instructor approval required; Students must have completed both Fall and Spring Semester Auto Body Repair courses.

Students hone their skills in repairing today's technologically advanced cars that require knowledge of metals and plastics and proficiency in doing structural repairs using specialized equipment. Students will restore and refinish vehicles, and build trailers and carts using skills learned in class.

AUTOMOTIVE TECHNOLOGY (FALL)

Students learn about basic automotive systems and begin mastering tools, techniques, and maintenance procedures regularly performed on automobiles. Students will perform work on donated vehicles or their own vehicles, and conduct repair and maintenance procedures on tires, steering, suspension, and electrical systems. In addition, students will acquire shop safety habits essential to work in an automotive service shop. Experiences include using on-line automotive resources similar to those at automotive service centers to find information on all mass-produced vehicles.

Note: There is a lab fee for this course.

AUTOMOTIVE TECHNOLOGY (SPRING)

This course continues the study of fundamental automotive theories and operating systems. Students learn about automotive brake systems through lecture and hands-on activities. Students will learn brake theory, diagnosis, and repair. In addition, basic engine theory, fuel injection, ignition, and engine performance will be covered. (Fall Semester is not a prerequisite for the Spring Semester course.)

Note: There is a lab fee for this course.

MEDIA COMMUNICATION

The goal of this course is to introduce the technology enthusiast to the world of modern day technology. This course will provide entry level base knowledge in technology support. Mobile Apps, Social Media, and computer hardware/software standards for today's fast-paced, ever-changing technology will be the focus of this class and will provide students with the skills needed to enter the technology industry workforce. The world of technology is ever evolving and this course will explore the changing technology landscape and how it affects people today and in the future. Students will receive classroom instruction ads well as hands-on opportunities in the lab. Areas of study include: fundamentals of IT support, exploration of Google certification, how to develop mobile apps, computer hardware repair and upgrades, software upgrading, Internet and social media security and safety.

Note: There is a lab fee for this course.

OUTDOOR MOTOR SPORTS/POWER EQUIPMENT I (FALL OR SPRING)

Students will learn how to maintain and repair ATVs, motorcycles, mini bikes, snowmobiles, personal watercraft, and small internal combustion engines used on power equipment such as lawn tractors, generators, trimmers, and leaf/snow blowers. Students will also learn engine maintenance, preventive care, problem solving, minor and major engine rebuilding, and how to achieve customer satisfaction. The curriculum focuses on skill building projects and troubleshooting. Students learn industry standards and current technology using both factory and after-market manuals and text. This series of courses, our facilities, and the instructor are nationally certified by the Equipment & Engine Training Council (EETC).

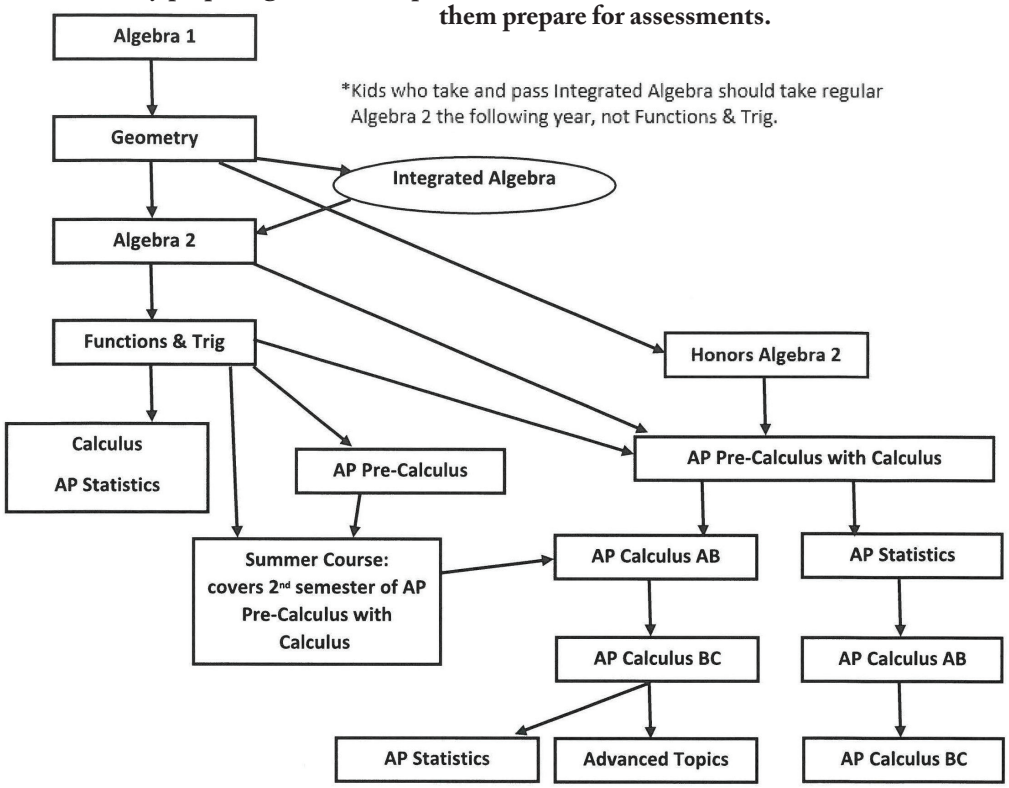
OUTDOOR MOTOR SPORTS/POWER EQUIPMENT II (FALL OR SPRING)

Prerequisite: Student must have passed Outdoor Motor Sports/Power Equipment I.

Students in this advanced course will focus on skill building, diagnostics, trouble-shooting, preventive care, and minor and major engine rebuilding. A large emphasis will be placed on time management which will include ordering parts, customer communications, invoicing, and computer skills. Electrical components, along with reading schematics and the repair of these items, will also be a component of this course. This series of courses, our facilities, and the instructor are nationally certified by the Equipment & Engine Training Council (EETC).

MATHEMATICS

The Mathematics Department offers a variety of courses to address an array of student needs, abilities and interests. The goals are to ensure that students meet graduation requirements and satisfy college admission requirements. Successful students will spend 30-60 minutes each day preparing for their respective math class. Teachers are available to students to review concepts and help them prepare for assessments.



ALGEBRA IA & IB (YEAR)

Algebra I is an introduction and prerequisite to all higher mathematics courses. It is a course that covers basic linear algebra concepts. Topics include arithmetic operations, solution of linear equations, problem solving, graphing, properties of exponents, operations with polynomials, and solutions of systems of equations. Algebraic methods are used to model real world situations. This course also offers an introduction to discrete mathematics. There is a significant online component to this class.

GEOMETRY (YEAR)

Prerequisite: Algebra IA and Algebra IB

Previous work in Algebra I will be integrated with Geometry. Polygons, angles, lines, and their relationships are studied along with measurement, area and volume. The idea of proof is introduced and built upon slowly throughout the year. Real world situations are used to motivate geometric ideas and provide the settings for the practice of geometric skills. Students can expect approximately 20-30 minutes of homework for each lesson. There is a significant online component to this class.

INTEGRATED ALGEBRA IIA & IIB (YEAR)

Prerequisite: Algebra IA & B, Geometry A & B

Math teacher and counselor recommendation (other factors considered: PLAN Test Score, 8th math grades). It is a foundational course that will help students gain better understanding, strengthen, and build upon prior Algebra concepts so they are better equipped for success in all future math courses. Students can expect approximately 20-30 minutes of homework for each lesson.

ALGEBRA IIA & IIB (YEAR)

Prerequisite: Geometry A and Geometry B

Algebra II emphasizes the development of algebraic thinking and form with the study of a variety of functions, their graphs and real world situations. Included functions are linear, quadratic, exponential, powers and roots, logarithmic, polynomial, rational and trigonometric. Other topics introduced and studied are number systems, discrete mathematics, matrices, sequences, series, probability and statistics. It is designed for the student who has mastered the concepts in Algebra 1 or Algebra B and has also completed Geometry. Recommend an 80% from Algebra 1 or Algebra B or the student should be placed in Integrated Math and then take the Algebra 2 course. The material is presented in lecture format. Students should expect an assignment each day. Students will have limited class time to work on assignments, and on average will take about 30-40 minutes each night for homework.

MATHEMATICS

FUNCTIONS (SEMESTER I)

Prerequisite: Algebra IIA and Algebra IIB

This course extends many of the concepts introduced in Algebra II. A concentrated emphasis is placed on the basic functions. Topics include general functions, quadratics, exponential, logarithmic, and polynomials.

Note: Functions is a prerequisite for advanced math courses.

TRIGONOMETRY (SEMESTER II)

Prerequisite: Functions

Trigonometry integrates previous work in Algebra and Geometry with a focus on special right triangles, the unit circle, radian measure, the six basic trig functions, identities, and the use of special trigonometric formulas.

Note: Trigonometry is a prerequisite for advanced math courses.

CALCULUS A & B (YEAR)

Prerequisite: Functions and Trigonometry and teacher recommendation required.

(Students must furnish their own graphing calculator. Students may NOT switch to pre-calculus at semester).

Calculus starts with a review of functions, laws of exponents and logarithms, and basic trigonometry. The concept of the derivative of a function is developed from a variety of perspectives including algebraic, numeric and graphical. The second major component of Calculus focuses on the integration of the graphical, algebraic and numeric perspectives, which happens second semester.

Note: Students who enroll in Calculus may NOT take AP Calculus the following year.

ADVANCED MATH OPTIONS:

HONORS ALGEBRA IIA & IIB (YEAR)

Prerequisite: Geometry teacher recommendation.

Honors Algebra II is designed to prepare students for the rigor of AP Calculus. Some Algebra concepts will be reviewed to ensure that each student has the background knowledge to succeed with the difficulty pace of the Honors Algebra II curriculum. This course will emphasize the development of algebraic solving techniques, linear and quadratic expressions, matrices, and being able to graph multiple functions.

AP CALCULUS IA & IB (YEAR) *(Students who have taken Calculus may NOT take this course.)*

Prerequisite: Honors Functions and Trigonometry or teacher recommendation.

(Students must furnish their own graphing calculator.)

AP Calculus I starts with a review of functions, laws of exponents and logarithms, and basic trigonometry. The concept of the derivative of a function is developed from algebraic, numeric and graphical perspectives. The second major component focuses on the integration of these perspectives. A more detailed list of topics studied will be those included in the Advanced Placement Calculus outline which is available at: www.collegeboard.com/ap. Students will also be assigned Advanced Placement Free Response Questions from previous exams (one each week). Each test has a calculator and a no calculator portion (similar to the format of the AP exam). The course moves quickly to cover all AP topics and allow for review before the exam in May. Additional topics that are not on the AP exam are covered after the AP testing week has concluded.

AP PRECALCULUS - GRADES 9,10,11&12

Prerequisite: Functions and Trigonometry

(Students must furnish their own graphing calculator – TI-83 or Tl-84)

AP Precalculus is for any student seeking a third- or fourth-year of math following completion of functions and trigonometry, In AP Precalculus, students explore everyday situations using mathematical tools and lenses. Through regular practice, students build deep mastery of modeling and functions as they examine scenarios through multiple representations. Precalculus can be used to determine placement and/or fulfill a math requirement at a diverse range of colleges and universities, including the majority of public institutions.

AP PRE-CALCULUS WITH CALCULUS A & B (YEAR)

Prerequisite: Passing Honors Algebra II, or math dept recommends passing Functions & Trig with an A- or higher

AP Pre-Calculus with Calculus is designed for students who would like to take AP Calculus AB the following year. AP Pre-Calculus with Calculus will cover all the AP PreCalculus curriculum in the first semester. During the second semester, this course will cover all of the topics/concepts that are needed to be successful in both AP Calculus AB as well as AP Calculus BC, that are either not covered in Functions & Trig or AP PreCalculus, or are not fully developed. These concepts include vectors in 2 and 3 dimensions, conic sections, partial fraction decomposition, parametric equations, matrices, polar equations, and an introduction to Calculus concepts. This course or taking the summer course (which covers 2nd semester of AP Pre-Calculus with Calculus) will be required to take AP Calculus AB the following year.

MATHEMATICS

AP CALCULUS IIA & IIB (YEAR)

Prerequisite: To enroll in this class, you must score a 3 or higher on the AP Calculus AB exam.

(Students must furnish their own calculator.)

Advanced Placement Calculus II will start with a basic review of topics from Advanced Placement Calculus AB. Students will further develop an understanding of the derivative and integral concepts. Students learn about the derivative concept by exploring parametric, polar, and vector form equations, as well as using Euler's Method and L'Hospital's Rule. Further development of the integral process will explore substitution of variables, parts, and partial fractions, as well as improper integrals. The second major topic covered will be polynomial approximations and series, ranging from series of constants and Taylor Series. A more detailed list of topics studied is available at www.collegeboard.com/ap. Students will also be assigned Advanced Placement Free Response Questions from previous exams (one each week). Each test has a calculator and a no calculator portion (similar to the format of the AP exam). The course moves quickly to cover all AP topics and allow for review before the exam in May. Additional topics that are not on the AP exam are covered after the AP testing week has concluded.

AP STATISTICS A & B (YEAR)

Prerequisite: Geometry or Algebra II

(Students must furnish their own graphing calculator, TI-84 is recommended.)

Advanced Placement Statistics (AP Stats) is a course designed for students who plan on making mathematics a major part of their college program. AP Stats will deal with four major topics: Organizing Data, Producing Data, Probability, and Inference. Within each of these main topic areas a variety of subjects will be covered. Some examples of these topics are correlation, line of best fit, simulations, normal distributions, binomial distributions, tests of significance and chi-square. Students will also be assigned Advanced Placement Free Response Questions from previous exams (2-3 each chapter). The course moves quickly to cover all AP topics and allow for review before the exam in May. Additional topics that are not on the AP exam are covered after the AP testing week has concluded.

Note: Summer homework is required for this class.

ADVANCED TOPICS IN MATH – GRADE 12 (YEAR)

Prerequisite: Passing both AP Calculus AB and AP Calculus BC courses

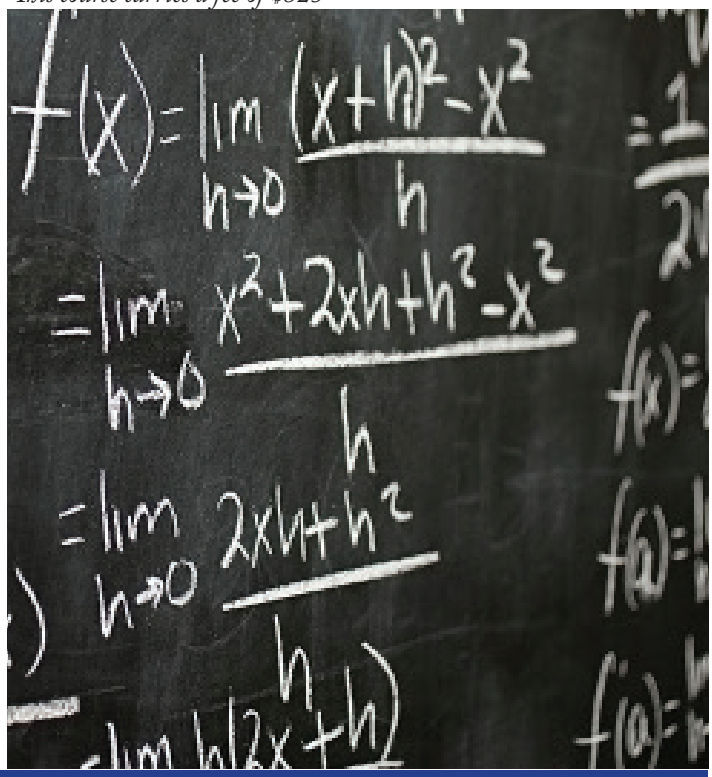
This will be a year long course and will be an exploration of advanced math topics like: Differential Equations, Multivariable Calculus, Linear Algebra, and Discrete Math. This course is designed for those who are interested in pursuing math in college and would like to see a variety of courses that they would need to take.

(NEW) SUMMER COURSE 2ND SEMESTER OF AP PRE-CALCULUS WITH CALCULUS

Prerequisite: math dept recommends passing Functions & Trig with an A- or higher

This new summer course will cover all the concepts from the second semester of AP Pre-Calculus with Calculus. These are the concepts that are either not discussed or not fully developed in Functions & Trig. These concepts include vectors in 2 and 3 dimensions, conic sections, partial fraction decomposition, parametric equations, matrices, polar equations, and an introduction to Calculus concepts. This class will have daily lessons and assessments, like any traditional class. This summer course will be required to take AP Calculus AB, if you have not taken and passed AP Pre-Calculus with Calculus.

**This course carries a fee of $325*



PHYSICAL EDUCATION

PHYSICAL EDUCATION I – GRADE 9 (SEMESTER)
This course is also open to students in grades 10-12 to meet requirement.
The course is one semester in length and is a required course of one-half credit toward graduation. Students will develop the knowledge of health related fitness components. They will learn and practice the skills necessary to become healthy for a life time. Units are usually in season, with weather and time of year influencing activity options. Special emphasis will be placed on applying the FITT formula and fitness testing, as well as skill development to enhance experiences in sport and cooperative play.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION—NET GAMES – GRADE 10, 11, & 12 (SEMESTER)
Prerequisite: Physical Education I and Health
This elective course is designed to provide students with a variety of net garnet activities. This class is designed for students who will actively participate on a daily basis while increasing their knowledge and skill of the game. This class will rotate between tennis, badminton, volleyball, pickleball, eclipse ball, nitro ball, among others.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION—TEAM – GRADE 10, 11, & 12 (SEMESTER)
Prerequisite: Physical Education I
Students will participate in class activities that are team oriented with a focus on lifetime physical activities. Activities will include football, soccer, basketball, team handball, volleyball, broomball, and floor hockey. Additional activities would be tennis, badminton, and strength training.

STRENGTH TRAINING/ CONDITIONING — GRADES 10, 11 & 12 (SEMESTER)
Prerequisite: Physical Education I
Students must have a basic knowledge of weight training. Students must submit a training program to the instructor. The students will follow their program throughout the semester. They will execute and record their progress.

YOGA - GRADES 10-12 (SEMESTER)
Prerequisite: Physical Education I and Health
This elective course is designed to provide students with a variety of stress reduction experiences using the practice of yoga, pilates, and other stretching techniques. Core strengthening, flexibility, muscular strength endurance, balance/stability training, breathing, and relaxation techniques will be implemented in the course. A variety of light cardio activities will be included weekly. This is a great option for students who want an alternative physical activity during their school day. The emphasis of this course will be on stress reduction, proper nutrition, and general well-being.

OL ONLINE PHYSICAL EDUCATION I-- GRADE 9 (SEMESTER)
This course is also open to students in grades 9-12 to meet requirement. This course can also be taken as a summer course- ALL GRADES.
Students will increase their knowledge on both the health related and skill related components of physical fitness. The health related components addressed include cardiovascular fitness, muscular strength, muscular endurance, flexibility and body composition. The skill related components addressed include agility, balance, coordination, power, reaction time and speed. Through exploring different individual and team sports and applying knowledge learned from the above components, students will have the tools needed to live and maintain a healthy lifestyle. Exploration in stress management techniques will also be discussed.
Course Expectations: Daily exercise and video demonstration is required for this course.
Instructional Methods/Assessments: This course will be instructed online using a variety of resources including journal readings and videos. Assessments and daily participation will be collected through the following methods: Video Demonstration of Daily Exercise/Activity, Online Video Reflections, Daily Journal, Online Worksheets, Online Quizzes, Online Summative Exams.
**This course carries a fee of $325*

HEALTH

***HEALTH – GRADE 9 (SEMESTER)**
This course is open to students in grades 10-12 to meet requirement.
The course is one semester in length and is a required course of one-half credit toward graduation. This course is about health and how it relates to individuals and society. An emphasis is placed on the ability to recognize the positive and negative aspects of personal and community health and the ability to apply these aspects to healthful decisions.

SCIENCE

REQUIRED COURSE SELECTIONS:

PHYSICS A & B – GRADE 9 (YEAR)

Modeling instruction puts you at the center by helping you to construct and apply conceptual models as a way of learning and doing science. This aligns with how STEM experts actually practice. You will be empowered to construct your own deep understanding of STEM principles. You will be asked leading questions and encouraged to discuss among the students in class. Energy, motion, forces, and more will be covered. Inquiry-based problem-solving and laboratory skills will be emphasized. Credit achieved for this course meets Minnesota Science Academic Standards in Physics.

HONORS PHYSICS A & B – GRADE 9 (YEAR)

Prerequisite: Standardized test data, classroom performance/grades, prior success with accelerated math coursework, and general learning characteristics including interest in math and science will be considered to recommend students for placement. This course is taught at a pace to ensure all students are continuously challenged. Additional concepts and skills beyond the general section will be covered.

BIOLOGY A & B – GRADE 10 (YEAR)

This course will cover a wide variety of topics in the biological sciences including: ecology, cell biology, genetics, evolution, disease and immunity, anatomy and physiology, and plant biology. These topics related to state science standards. Students taking this course will also take the state MCA Science test in the spring.

HONORS BIOLOGY A & B – GRADE 10 (YEAR)

A college preparatory course in high school biology, designed for those students who are planning to study science, engineering or a branch of medicine in college. Topics include ecology, cell biology, genetics, evolution, disease and immunity, anatomy and physiology, and plant biology. More biology topics will be covered at a faster pace and in more detail than the regular biology course. This course has a very strong emphasis on problem solving, analytical thinking, critical thinking, and lab skills. Successful students in this class are organized, complete practice work, seek teacher assistance when needed, and are curious. Students who are most successful in this course have typically taken Honors Physics and are enrolled in advanced math classes for their grade level. Students taking this course will also take the state MCA Science test in the spring.

EARTH SCIENCE-GRADES 11 & 12 (SEMESTER)

This course will be offered starting 2026-2027.

This one semester required course will meet the state of Minnesota graduation requirements for the class of 2028 and beyond. This course will cover topics such as plate tectonics, role of water and soil on Earth, rocks and minerals, stars and planets, climate change, weather patterns, ocean currents, sustainability and human impacts on Earth systems. From these topics you'll learn how the earth's systems affect the living world. This graduation requirement can also be met by taking the AP Environmental Science course instead.

ELECTIVE COURSE OFFERINGS:

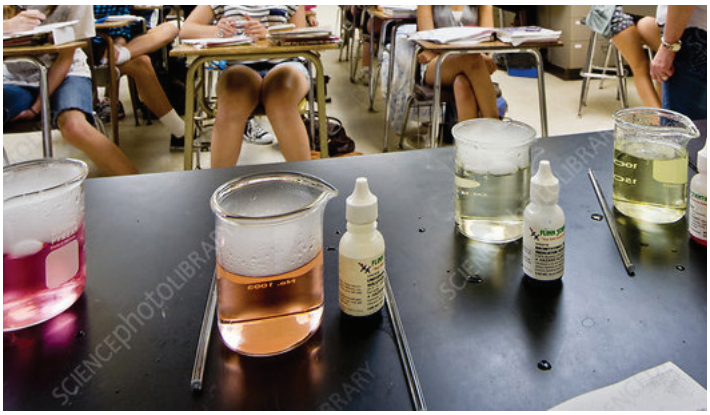
A third year of science is required. The following choices are third & fourth year options.

BL ASTRONOMY - GRADES 11 & 12 (SEMESTER)

This survey course introduces you to the objects and processes in the universe from a physical perspective. Conceptual and some mathematical concepts will be covered. The course will examine ordinary matter like planets, stars and galaxies; and more exotic matter like pulsars, black holes and dark matter. It is recommended that students have earned a grade of C or better in Algebra II due to the math required in the course. NOTE: This course does NOT cover the Earth Science Graduation Requirement (class of 2028 and beyond), but it DOES serve as a science elective. The course content will go beyond what is learned in the astronomy portion of the Earth Science and AP Environmental Science courses.

CHEMISTRY A & B – GRADES 11 & 12 (YEAR)

This course is designed for college-bound students who need to complete a third year of science to meet graduation and college admission requirements. It is a survey of chemistry and will cover the basics of matter, atomic structure, the periodic table, chemical reactions, and solutions. Recommended to have completed Algebra IIA and Algebra IIB.



SCIENCE

HONORS CHEMISTRY A & B – GRADES 11 & 12 (YEAR)

Prerequisites: Algebra IIA and Algebra IIB (Accelerated Biology is recommended, but not required)

This is a first year high school chemistry course designed for those students who are planning to study pure science, engineering or a branch of medicine in college. In essence this course will help a student develop study habits and skills required to be successful in a higher level of Science course. This course has a strong emphasis on problem solving, analytical thinking, critical thinking, and lab work. Successful students in this class are organized, seek assistance when needed, and curious. Students who are most successful typically have taken Honors Biology and are enrolled in advanced math classes for their grade level. More chemistry topics will be covered at a faster pace and in more detail than the general chemistry course. Some of the topics included in this course are Periodic table and trends, Atomic structure, Chemical bonding and reactions, Stoichiometry, Aqueous Solutions, Gases, and Acids and Bases.

FORENSIC SCIENCE – GRADES 11 & 12 (SEMESTER)

This is an introductory applied science course that focuses on practices and analysis of physical evidence found at crime scenes. The fundamental objective is to teach the basic processes and principles of scientific thinking and problem-solving with an emphasis on hands-on lab work. Students will use critical thinking skills to evaluate evidence. Topics include: Forensic science and the law, types of evidence, crime scene investigation, fingerprinting, hair and fiber samples, drugs, blood, DNA analysis, firearm/toolmark analysis, and document and handwriting analysis. Recommended to have completed: Algebra II, Biology, and Chemistry or concurrent enrollment in Chemistry.

AP BIOLOGY – GRADES 11 & 12 (YEAR)

AP Biology is designed to be the equivalent of a two-semester college introductory biology course for biology majors. The course is recommended for all college-bound students who plan on majoring in health sciences or another science-related field. This second-year course has a strong focus on biochemistry and cellular biology across all topic areas. Successful students are curious, motivated, organized, and have a strong background in biology and chemistry. This is a fast paced course that will challenge and develop your scientific reasoning, problem solving, and analytical thinking skills. Students will spend time outside of class reading journal articles, writing lab reports, and preparing for AP-style unit exams. Students will take the AP Biology exam in May. It is strongly recommended that you have completed the Honors Biology and Honors Chemistry courses prior to taking this course.

AP CHEMISTRY – GRADES 11 & 12 (YEAR)

Prerequisite: Students must have completed a year of Chemistry with Honors Chemistry strongly recommended as the prior course.

The purpose of AP Chemistry is to provide a second year chemistry course at the college level and to prepare the student to seek credit and/or appropriate placement in college chemistry. As this is a second-year course, successful students will have a previous knowledge of most of the chemistry topics that are covered in honors or general chemistry (specifically stoichiometry). Students will review those topics and others in more detail and gain more laboratory practice. Students will take the AP Chemistry exam in May.

SCIENCE

AP ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE – GRADES 11 & 12 (YEAR)

This is a good course for students interested in taking AP science for the first time. AP Environmental Science is designed to be the equivalent of an introductory college course in Environmental Science. The goal of this course is to provide students with the scientific principles, concepts, and methodologies required to understand the natural world, to identify and analyze environmental problems, both natural and human-made, to evaluate the risks associated with these problems, and to examine alternative solutions for resolving or preventing them. This course requires the student to use ecological, political, and economic knowledge in order to understand current and future environmental issues. There will be an additional unit on Astronomy after the AP Exam. This course will cover the Earth Science Graduation Requirement for the class of 2028 and beyond. It is strongly recommended that students have completed Biology and have completed or are concurrently enrolled in a Chemistry course.

BL AP PHYSICS C - GRADES 11 & 12 (YEAR)

Prerequisites: Students should have completed, or be concurrently enrolled in, Calculus. This course includes calculus applications. It is strongly recommended that the prospective student has earned a B or better in Functions and Trigonometry. A grade of B or better in Chemistry (preferably Honors Chemistry) is recommended, but not required.

AP Physics C is designed to be the equivalent of a two-semester calculus-based college physics course. The course is recommended if you are considering a field in the sciences (including biological sciences), pre-medicine, or engineering. If you are considering any of these majors, it may be to your advantage to take AP Physics C as it could eliminate your general college physics requirement with a high-school course. The course delves into concepts in mechanics, electricity, and magnetism at a deeper level than in any physics course at Orono. Students can expect to spend time outside of class watching videos, doing homework and lab reports, and/or test prep. Students will take the AP exam in May.

HUMAN ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY GRADES 11 & 12 (SEMESTER OR YEAR)

This is an elective course offered as a year long course with a variety of topics covered during two semesters. A student may choose to sign up for both the semesters or just Fall semester. The students are strongly encouraged to sign up for both the semesters to maximize their opportunities to learn about the human body. The course is designed to provide a strong foundation for students interested in pursuing college majors in health sciences, life sciences, and physical education. In this course students will learn to identify and locate many anatomical structures and understand how each works, both alone and in cooperation with other organs, to maintain normal functioning of the human organism. At the heart of the course is to help students develop an understanding of, and appreciation for how the body is constructed and how it functions, resulting in an improved ability to make intelligent, healthy choices in daily living and an increased self-advocacy of one's own health and medical care. One of the many highlights of the course is class visits by medical professionals/ physicians/ surgeons/ physical therapists/ biomedical engineers throughout the year. The course emphasizes collaboration and "hands-on learning" and includes labs, projects, model making, suturing workshop and dissections. Prerequisite: Successful completion of Biology or Honors Biology or concurrent enrollment in AP Biology. FALL SEMESTER: The following topics are covered during the first semester:

1. Medical language / anatomical terminology
2. Tissues/ make up of the body at cellular level
3. Skeletal System
4. Muscular System

SPRING SEMESTER: The following topics are covered during the second semester:

1. Skin/ integumentary System
2. Cardiovascular System
3. Respiratory System
4. Brain and Cranial and Spinal Nerves

HUMAN ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY PART II - GRADES 11 & 12 (SPRING SEMESTER)

Prerequisite: Successful completion of fall semester of Human Anatomy and Physiology (Part I).

This course is a continuation of Part I. The students will learn about the structure, functions, and physiology of Nervous, Cardiovascular, Respiratory and Endocrine system.

SOCIAL STUDIES

HUMAN GEOGRAPHY- GRADE 9 (SEMESTER)
Using a thematic approach this course examines all the ways humans influence the landscape of the earth and how the landscape influences humans. Themes will include identifying distribution and migration patterns of human population on the earth, the concept of culture and factors influencing cultural settlements throughout the world, organization of the earth into political units, economic activity of both developed and developing nations, human environment interaction, the use of geographic skills, and patterns of urbanization around the world. Daily class work varies between note-taking, and group work and individual analysis of geographic data. This is a required course for all 9th grade students, but **A FULL YEAR of 9th Grade AP Human Geography** may be taken in place of this course.

AP HUMAN GEOGRAPHY - GRADE 9 (YEAR)
This course examines all areas of human life and seeks to understand how they play out across the landscape. Unit topics include population growth and change, expression and spread of culture, political geography, rural and urban land use, agriculture, urbanization, and geography's impact on economics. This course goes beyond memorizing maps to understand the underlying processes that explain the global patterns we see. Many connections between course content and everyday life will be made; human geography can be seen everywhere. Daily class work varies between note-taking, group work, online activities and short research assignments. This course is open to sophomores, juniors, and seniors. This is a rigorous college-level course, but one that can be a great first AP course for a hard-working student. Students will prepare to take the AP exam in May.

AMERICAN HISTORY A & B – GRADE 10 (YEAR)
This is an overview of the growth and development of the American nation. Emphasis is placed on historical, political, social, economic and cultural institutions as they emerged and played a role in creating the nation and world in which we live. The United States is viewed as an experiment in which many diverse people with many diverse views work to reach a compromise solution to problems, influenced by the central ideas of its political philosophy: freedom of the individual in a democratic framework.

AP U.S. HISTORY GRADES 10, 11, & 12 (YEAR)
This is designed to give students a college-level experience and to prepare students for the AP U.S. History exam in May. This is NOT simply an advanced version of the 10th grade American History class, but a class that teaches the historical analysis and essay writing of a college history course. There is an emphasis on interpreting primary sources and other documents, as well as developing an appreciation for the significance of key facts. The course will also emphasize the writing of essays that show the ability to critically analyze documents and explain them in the context of the facts. This class is best suited for juniors who have the essay writing experience or exceptional sophomores.

WORLD HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY A & B GRADE 11 (YEAR)
This is a broad-spectrum course beginning with the earliest efforts of humans to develop civilization. Students trace the progressive evolution of social institutions as a result of human interaction and communication. All areas of development will be explored – scientific discoveries, artistic and aesthetic advancement, religious influences, ethnic conflicts, political confrontations, economic and social developments, etc. The influence of geographical and environmental conditions upon the course of history will be a consistent theme. The developments and contributions of Eastern and Western civilizations will be included. Students will learn of the role played by many famous persons who left their imprint, as well as the social history, or lifestyles of average men and women throughout history. Students will be expected to develop oral, written, and critical thinking skills along with geography skills.

AP WORLD HISTORY – GRADE 11 & 12 (YEAR)
This is a college level course and is designed to prepare students for the AP Test in May. It is rigorous and fast-paced. To be successful, students must be motivated to both read and write. All tests include multiple choice and written elements. Students will develop reading comprehension, as well as recall and analytical skills. Skills that are central to the course include• comparison, causation, continuity and change, document interpretation, historical analysis. No more than 20% of the course is focused on European History. This course highlights the nature of changes in global frameworks and their causes and consequences, as well as comparisons among major societies. AP World History emphasizes relevant factual knowledge, leading interpretive issues, and skill sin analyzing types of historical evidence. Periodization, explicitly discussed, forms an organizing principle to address change and continuity throughout the course. Specific themes provide further organization to the course, along with consistent attention to contacts among societies that form the core of world history as a field of study. A more detailed list of topics studied will be those included in the Advance Placement World History guide which is available at: www.collegeboard.com/ap. Students will take the AP exam in May.

AP EUROPEAN HISTORY- GRADE 12 (YEAR)
Prerequisite: World History or AP World History.
This course focuses on the modern history of the Western world. It is designed to prepare students to take the AP European History test. By taking this class, students will improve their writing, reading, and analytical skills. This class will cover information on the basic chronology from the Late Middle Ages to the very recent past. The areas of concentration include historical, political, and economic history coupled with an intense study of cultural and intellectual institutions and their development. Students interested in enrolling in this course should recognize that these courses require a slightly larger commitment than other high school classes. Students that commit to their classes and excel in them will see a huge payoff in their preparedness for college entry exams as well as their college education.

SOCIAL STUDIES

ELECTIVE COURSE OFFERINGS:

BL AP HUMAN GEOGRAPHY BLENDED OPTION GRADE 10,11,12 (YEAR)

This course examines all areas of human life and seeks to understand how they play out across the landscape. Unit topics include population growth and change, expression and spread of culture, political geography, rural and urban land use, agriculture, urbanization, and geography's impact on economics. This course goes beyond memorizing maps to understand the underlying processes that explain the global patterns we see. Many connections between course content and everyday life will be made; human geography can be seen everywhere. Daily class work varies between note-taking, group work, online activities and short research assignments. This course is open to sophomores, juniors and seniors. This is a rigorous college-level course, but one that can be a great first AP course for a hard-working sophomore. Students will be prepared to take the AP exam in May.

BL LEADERSHIP IN ACTION – GRADE 11 & 12

Do you want to impact the culture of Orono Schools? Are you in a position of leadership, or do you want to work on leadership skills? Leadership in Action is a course where students improve the culture of the school and community while gaining leadership skills and perspectives. The course is project based; students will plan, design, implement, and reflect on a project which improves the culture and climate of Orono Schools or the broader community through leadership and service learning. While enacting their project, students will also learn about a variety of leadership styles and techniques and have the opportunity to work with others on communication styles and group dynamics. Can be taken as an English or Social Studies elective.

PSYCHOLOGY – GRADE 12 (SEMESTER)

This course is an introductory study of human behavior and mental processes. The focus is a modern scientific approach to the major themes in psychology today. A variety of topics will be considered, including: the brain, sleep and dreams, learning and memory, personality, mental health and treatment, and social psychology. Various activities and experiments will be conducted in class to assist in learning. Psychology students should be prepared and willing to discuss topics in class on a regular basis. This course is open to seniors.

AP PSYCHOLOGY – GRADES 10-12 (YEAR)

Students will be introduced to the systematic and scientific study of the behavior and mental processes of human beings. Students are exposed to the psychological facts, principles, and phenomena associated with each of the major subfields within psychology such as learning, consciousness, personality, emotions, mental health, and perception. A more detailed list of topics studied will be those included in the Advanced Placement Psychology outline which is available at: www.collegeboard.com/ap. Students will take the AP exam in May. Students need to be organized, dedicated, and responsible to take this rigorous course. An AP Psychology student should take ownership in their learning, with the majority of responsibility being on the student, and the teacher being a facilitator of the learning.

CONTEMPORARY ISSUES – GLOBAL AND DOMESTIC – GRADE 12 (SEMESTER)

This course is designed to allow students to study the major issues facing our world today. The course will include themes such as politics, poverty, health, war, environment, race, gender, teenage life, sports and entertainment. Students will research these issues, give presentations, hold class discussions, and attempt to develop their own informed opinions about each. The students will also get the opportunity to explore one issue in-depth and present that issue to the rest of the class. There is no textbook for this class, but periodicals will be used.

SENIOR SEMINAR: THE UNITED STATES: A HISTORY THROUGH FILM – GRADE 12

This class is an overview of the United States 1754-Modern time through the medium of motion pictures. Students will learn United States history as well as how films have been depicted that history over time. Students will learn the pros and cons of using different film genres to depict aspects of United States History (documentary, musical, biography, comedy, drama), how the events in the world when a film is made influence how the history within the film is depicted (world war II the Red Scare, the counterculture movement) and how changes in filmmaking technology have influenced what stories can be told and how they are told (Sound, Color, CGI, Digital Format). Students will also be taught media literacy around film by analyzing audience, influence of advertising, point of view, and representation of groups within films they view. Activities will include film criticism, storyboarding scenes from history, analyzing the impact of music choice in film, analyzing the power of editing by re-editing segments of film, and making a short film.

SOCIAL STUDIES

CIVICS AND AMERICAN GOVERNMENT – GRADE 11 OR 12 (SEMESTER) - *BEGINNING WITH CLASS OF 2028*

This course is a semester-long social studies class devoted to promoting citizenry committed to democratic principles and active engagement in the practice of democracy in the United States. The principal goals of this class are to help students develop an increased understanding of the institutions of constitutional democracy and the fundamental principles and values upon which they are founded, the skills necessary to participate as effective and responsible citizens, and the willingness to use democratic procedures for making decisions and managing conflict. We will study the following areas relating to the U.S. Government: foundations of American democracy, constitutional rights and responsibilities, the three branches of the federal government along with federalism and checks and balances, state and local government, Tribal Nations and their unique sovereign status, tensions within our constitutional system, and aspects of political life including elections, political parties, interest groups, and public policy formation. Students will evaluate sources for validity and bias and examine how to take informed civic action. We will use a variety of instructional methods including discussions, reading, writing, individual and group activities, simulations, and presentations.

TECHNOLOGY & ENGINEERING

The Technology and Engineering Program at Orono High School offers students an opportunity to establish a background for future career decision-making. Students will apply science, technology, engineering, mathematics, and computer skills to include programming and or coding as a foundation for studies in design analysis, product development and product design. Students also have the opportunity to learn and demonstrate their creative side. Students will use today's building materials and technology to design and create final products/projects which they can see, manipulate, and hold in their hands. This means the final product could be a product created on paper, a poster, a product designed and printed on the 3D printer, a video that is shown on the school TVs, a photograph, a product milled out on a CNC Machine, or a robot or machine that you had written the code to operate. Students will be using state-of-the-art programs such as ADOBE PhotoShop, ADOBE Illustrator , ADOBE Premiere, AutoDesk Inventor, AutoDesk Revit, Microsoft Office, Google Documents, Google Sites, and Google Sheets.

PROJECT LEAD THE WAY (PLTW):

INTRODUCTION TO ENGINEERING DESIGN (IED) – GRADES 9, 10, 11 & 12 (YEAR)

Ever wondered how to design something new or draw out an idea to show your friends? Stop wondering and do it, using Autodesk Inventor, one of the industry-leading 3D design software Programs! Discover the role of an engineer in taking an idea from the design process to manufacturing or production. Produce an incredible, working prototype of your project with a state-of-the-art 3D printer. You will work on projects, activities, and problems not only of interest to you, but that have global and human impacts. Work in teams to design and improve products, document your solutions, and communicate them to others. Introduction to Engineering Design (IED) is a high school level course that is appropriate for students who are interested in Design and Engineering. The major focus of the IED course is to expose students to design process, research and analysis, teamwork, communication methods, global and human impacts, engineering standards, and technical documentation. IED gives students the opportunity to develop skills and understanding of course concepts through activity-, project-, and problem-based (APPB) learning. Students work in teams to continually hone their interpersonal skills, creative abilities and understanding of the design process. Teaming also allows students to develop strategies to enable and direct their own learning, which is the ultimate goal of education. *On completion of all PLTW courses, students with a minimum grade of a B and a score of 5 or higher on the final are eligible for 3 semester college credits from SCSU.*

COMPUTER INTEGRATED MANUFACTURING – (CIM) — GRADES 10, 11 & 12 (YEAR) — Offered 2025-2026

Course is offered every other year, alternating with Principles of Engineering.

Recommendation: Enrollees should be averaging a minimum grade of C in math and science courses.

Minimum Math Recommendation: Completion or concurrent enrollment in Geometry.

Manufactured items are part of everyday life, yet most students have not been introduced to the high-tech, innovative nature of modern manufacturing. This course illuminates the opportunities related to understanding manufacturing. At the same time, it teaches students about manufacturing processes, product design, robotics, and automation. Students can earn a virtual manufacturing badge recognized by the National Manufacturing Badge system.

How are things made? What processes go into creating products? Is the process for making a water bottle the same as it is for a musical instrument? How do assembly lines work? How has automation changed the face of manufacturing? While students discover the answers to these questions, they're learning about the history of manufacturing, robotics and automation, manufacturing processes, computer modeling, manufacturing equipment, and flexible manufacturing systems. *On completion of all PLTW courses, students with a minimum grade of a B and a score of 5 or higher on the final are eligible for 3 semester college credits from SCSU.*

TECHNOLOGY & ENGINEERING

PRINCIPLES OF ENGINEERING A & B – (POE) – GRADES 10, 11 &12 (YEAR) — Offered 2026-2027

Course is offered every other year, alternating with Computer Integrated Manufacturing.
Recommendation: Enrollees should be averaging a minimum grade of C in math and science courses.
Minimum Math Recommendation: Completion or concurrent enrollment in Geometry.

Principles of Engineering will expose students to some of the major concepts in a college level engineering course of study to include some programming. Go beyond "myth-busting" to solution building! As you master the basic concepts needed to continue your education in engineering or engineering technology and design, you will apply them, tackling real world challenges in the following areas:

- Energy sources and applications
- Machine systems
- Fluid power
- Testing the strength and durability of materials
- Understanding how things move and applying that knowledge to projects
- Programming/Coding

You will not be in this alone: part of this class is teaming up with other students to test and share your developing skills through hands-on projects and presentations. You will learn to document your work and communicate your solutions to others.
POE gives students the opportunity to apply math, science, and technology concepts. *On completion of all PLTW courses, students with a minimum grade of a B and a score of 5 or higher on the final are eligible for 3 semester college credits from SCSU.*

ENGINEERING DESIGN & DEVELOPMENT – (EDD) – GRADES 11 & 12 (YEAR)

Capstone Course, PLTW Pathway to Engineering ; Prerequisite: must have taken at least 2 PLTW courses or get instructor's permission

The knowledge and skills students acquire throughout PLTW Engineering come together in EDD as they identify an issue and then research, design, and test a solution, ultimately presenting their solution to a panel of engineers. Students apply the professional skills they have developed to document a design process to standards, completing EDD ready to take on any post-secondary program or career. Collaboration makes things happen! In this capstone course, you will work as part of a team to develop a solution to a technical problem of your choosing. Challenge yourself with one of those "don't you hate it when..." issues of the world and try to solve it. Or see a need here at TCD, your home high school, or your community and find a way to meet that need. Research, design, test, and construct your solution or recommendations, then present it to industry or community partners. You and your team will use what you've already learned to guide you through the process of design and product development. Who knows? You may solve a problem that has stumped others! *On completion of all PLTW courses, students with a minimum grade of a B and a stanine score of 4 or better on the final are eligible for 3 transcribed (transferable) college credits.*

COMMUNICATION CLUSTER: ARCHITECTURAL DRAWING I – GRADES 10, 11 & 12 (SEMESTER)

When an architect designs a structure, he/she uses the cumulative knowledge of centuries. If you would like to share this knowledge by planning a house, you will be given the opportunity in this course. This course is designed to assist the student in developing basic knowledge and skill in the field of architectural drawing. We will study and discuss the space requirements needed in houses and create working drawings for several residential buildings using AutoDesk Revit. We will learn about building codes, energy requirements, construction methods and materials, and structural systems. Students will learn the basic rules of construction and develop skills to create a set of working drawings for a house of their choosing.

ARCHITECTURAL DRAWING II – GRADES 10, 11 & 12 (SEMESTER)

Prerequisite: Architectural Technology I

This course will further develop your architectural drawing techniques and problem-solving abilities. Students will learn about site planning, space requirements, housing codes, structure, light-frame construction, solar and earth integrated designs, and HVAC and electrical systems. Students will plan and develop a complete set of working drawings for a house in order to refresh their Revit skills then we will move in the commercial building construction. This course will introduce the students to the use of building models and illustration renderings used in the architecture industry and will 3D print a scaled version of your building(s) using the 3D Printer. If time allows we will build a scaled model of a small rambler house . This class will focus more on commercial building techniques and the related codes for that industry than Architectural Drawing I.

DRONE TECHNOLOGY AND SCIENCE FUNDAMENTALS I- GRADES 10, 11, & 12 (SEMESTER)

This course introduces foundational concepts in STEM, programming, and drone operations. Through a series of lessons, students are guided from the basics to advanced programming techniques. Challenges and projects throughout the curriculum provide hands-on experience and opportunities for critical thinking, problem-solving and flying. The course is designed to support a broad range of educational goals and provides a structured and engaging approach to technology education and drones. Students will Gain a comprehensive understanding of drone programming. Explore core STEM concepts while actively applying sensor science with drones. Apply theoretical knowledge through hands-on activities and real world challenges. Develop critical thinking and problem-solving skills through guided projects.

TECHNOLOGY & ENGINEERING

DRONE TECHNOLOGY AND SCIENCE FUNDAMENTALS II - GRADES 10,11, &12 (SEMESTER)

LocoDroneX offers a comprehensive journey into the world of advanced drone technology, uniquely combining Python programming with practical drone operations. The course begins with Python-based drone simulations, where students learn to create and control virtual drone models. This foundational knowledge in programming paves the way for the subsequent hands-on phase of the course: building, configuring, and flying the LocoDroneX drone, designed for outdoor use. Aligned with the FAA Part 107 regulations, which are also covered in the LocoFly course, this curriculum integrates the intricacies of outdoor drone operation with the precision of Python programming, providing a well-rounded educational experience. Note: Drone Technology and Science Fundamentals.

GRAPHIC COMMUNICATION AND WEB PAGE DESIGN I – GRADES 10, 11 & 12 (SEMESTER)

Students will study the concepts of reproducing visual images; design and layout, composition, photo conversion, image carriers, and image transfer using some of the latest software available on the market. Some of the leading areas of employment in the U.S. are graphic communication, desktop publishing, computer graphics, photography, electronic media reproduction and screen printing. Students will be working with Adobe Illustrator, Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Premiere, Adobe In-Design and Adobe Dreamweaver, along with several other design software programs. Students will be creating various projects throughout the class, including business cards, album cover art, posters, greeting cards, various desktop publishing items, and creating web pages using HTML codes and design software. This course may be taken as a Fine Arts credit.

GRAPHIC COMMUNICATION AND WEB PAGE II, GRADES 10, 11 & 12 (SEMESTER)

Prerequisite: Graphic Communication I

Graphic Communication II will offer an in-depth study of Graphic Communications including: color reproduction, half-tone photography, and the new technology in electronic communication. All areas of visual communication will be taught, from electronic media productions and editing to automated packaging, computer illustration graphics, and 3D animation. This class will provide a very strong background for students in journalism, business/marketing and all other industry career areas. In this class, students are given an assignment to work on with a customer and create a project from the beginning design to the finished product. That product may be displayed in and around the school district. This course may be taken as a Fine Arts credit.

VIDEOGRAPHY – GRADES 9, 10, 11 & 12 (SEMESTER)

This course will include learning about the fundamentals of video production and digital photography, including equipment, materials, methods and processes used in production. The activities in this class will help students express their creativity and develop skills as a camera person and a professional photographer both in front of and behind the camera. This class will have numerous video and photo assignments, including various commercial assignments, PSA (public service announcements), and timed productions. Students will learn basic photography techniques which will help them become a better photographer. In this class you will work as a news team in the class to produce, direct, write and perform the Orono Morning Announcements/News Program which will be aired during Spartan Hour. As a professional newsperson/photographer, students will be asked to investigate fun and interesting photo assignments inside and outside of class and then manipulate these photos using Photoshop. Students will be using Adobe Premiere and Adobe Photoshop. This course may be taken as a Fine Arts credit.

WORLD LANGUAGES

INCOMING FRESHMEN:

Students who have successfully completed either Spanish I, German I, or Chinese I at OMS are expected to progress on to Spanish II, German II, or Chinese II at OHS. Those who have completed Spanish Eight may enroll in either Spanish I, German I, or Chinese I.

GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR WORLD LANGUAGES:

For continued success in World Languages, it is strongly recommended that students earn a grade of 'C' or better before registering for the next level. Each student should consult with his/her current world languages teacher prior to enrolling for the following year to be certain of accurate placement.

COLLEGE RECOMMENDATION:

Most colleges recommend that students earn high school credit in two or more consecutive years of the same language. Some colleges require three or more years. Highly selective colleges generally recommend the completion of at least four years of language study, and often the Advanced Placement language course. Students should check with specific college catalogs for current guidelines.

MINNESOTA BILINGUAL SEAL AND GLOBAL SEAL OF BILITERACY:

Students in OHS Chinese, German and Spanish IV (who will not continue to AP) are eligible to take a computerized exam called the STAMP Test in late April. The test assesses one's abilities in listening, speaking, reading and writing. In each of the four areas of assessment the student earns a level of proficiency: Novice (low, mid, high), Intermediate (low, mid, high), Advanced (low, mid, high). If one's composite level of proficiency is Intermediate Mid
or higher, she/he earns certificates from the State of Minnesota and the Global Seal of Biliteracy as well as notation on the high school transcript that will help in college to earn better world language placement or exemption from world language requirements. Students who do take an AP world language course and its exam will automatically be eligible for the aforementioned awards.

OHS SPANISH TRIP:

OHS Spanish students have the opportunity to participate in the biannual Spanish trip in June of their sophomore or junior year depending which year the trip falls. Registration takes place in May the year prior to the trip. If you have questions please inquire with Mr. Smalling.

GERMAN

GERMAN IA &IB -GRADES 9, 10, 11 & 12 (YEAR)

This course focuses on natural language acquisition through meaningful, comprehensible input. An emphasis is places on developing listening and reading (interpretative) skills. Students acquire the German language through guided, interactive speaking activities in class, supplemented by online stories, videos, songs and graphics. Attention is likewise given to metacognitive learning strategies and cultural opportunities for retention and mastery throughout the course. Successful completion places students as the Novice-High level of ACTFL's proficiency guidelines.

GERMAN IIA AND IIB - GRADES 9, 10, 11 & 12 (YEAR)

This course reflects a similar approach to the foundational hear of German 1. However, greater emphasis is places on nurturing speaking and writing (interpersonal and presentational) skills. Units of study are loosely thematic in nature, enabling students to explore aspects of the German language and culture at a deeper level. Activities include spoken exchanges, short stories, and exploration of culture.. Students interact with more German realia and cultivate strategies for becoming motivated, independent learners, the end result being spontaneous language production.

GERMAN IIIA & IIIB - GRADES 10, 11 & 12 (YEAR)

Prerequisite: Successful completion of German IIA and IIB.

Students will continue to review basic German grammar and learn more advanced structures. They will practice reading, listening, writing and speaking, and they will examine the culture of the German-speaking world through these skills as well. Using the German language during this class is an expectation. Students will show their comprehension of the language and culture through a variety of assessments such as practice assignments, written and oral assessments, listening comprehension tasks, and group or individual presentations. Students that successfully complete German III are eligible and encouraged to continue to Honors German IV. Select colleges and universities look favorably upon four consecutive years of a world language at the high school level.

GERMAN

HONORS GERMAN IVA & IVB – GRADES 11 & 12 (YEAR)

Prerequisite: Successful completion of German IIIA & IIIB with a recommended grade of C+ or higher to be successful in this course.
This is the preparatory year for AP German. Grammar, contemporary literature, composition and culture of the German-speaking countries are emphasized. Students will work with German films, novels and a number of other advanced listening and speaking activities. Work at this level will be significantly advanced from earlier levels and will include writing essays, intensive grammar study, and preparation for college placement exams. German IV is conducted at an intermediate college level.

AP GERMAN LANGUAGE & CULTURE IA & IB – GRADE 12 (YEAR)

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Honors German IVA & IVB . This class is recommended for anyone who earns a C+ or higher in Honors German IV.
AP German is an extremely rigorous course conducted at an advanced intermediate college level. Students will be required to integrate reading, listening, speaking, and writing skills to produce both formal and informal oral and written presentations. They will read and study various types and formats of texts and audio sources. Speaking tests will include both simulated conversations and formal oral presentations as required by the AP German language exam. Students should expect intensive vocabulary study and grammar review along with considerable out-of-class preparation and daily homework. Students who enroll in this class are expected to take the AP German exam in May. College credit is possible, depending on the student's college of choice and score achieved on the AP exam.

SPANISH

SPANISH IA & IB – GRADES 9, 10, 11 & 12 (YEAR)

Students begin to understand, speak, read and write basic Spanish in guided practice. Hispanic culture is integrated into conversational scenes from daily life. Grammar and vocabulary development are emphasized.

SPANISH IIA & IIB – GRADES 9, 10, 11 & 12 (YEAR)

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Spanish IA and IB.
This course is a continuation of Spanish I. An emphasis will be placed on vocabulary development with grammar becoming increasingly important. Students will continue to develop basic listening, speaking, reading and writing skills and to explore the culture of the Spanish speaking world.

SPANISH IIIA & IIIB – GRADES 10, 11 & 12 (YEAR)

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Spanish IIA and IIB.
Students will continue to review basic Spanish grammar and learn more advanced structures. They will practice reading, listening, writing, speaking, and they will examine the culture of the Spanish-speaking world through these skills as well. Using the Spanish language during this class is an expectation. Students will show their comprehension of the language and culture through a variety of assessments such as homework checks, written and oral assessments, listening comprehension tasks, and group or individual presentations. Students that successfully complete Spanish III are eligible and encouraged to continue to Honors Spanish IV. Select colleges and universities look favorably upon four consecutive years of a world language at the high school level.

OL SPANISH IIIA & IIIB ONLINE OPTION - GRADES 10, 11& 12 (YEAR)

This online course is directly aligned to the traditional (in-person) Spanish Ill course in which students will continue to review basic Spanish grammar and go more in depth with structures and new vocabulary. They will use a variety of digital tools in practice and assessment for reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Assessments are performance-based, requiring students to demonstrate their knowledge and ability of Spanish in novel contexts such as timed writing activities, simulated conversations, presentations, and more. Though this course is asynchronous, students have regular due dates 3 times a week to ensure they are on track and are provided opportunities to receive and apply feedback from the instructor. Because this course is offered through OHS, students will continue to have direct support from an Orono instructor online and/or in person for help, guidance, and feedback. Students that successfully complete Spanish Ill are eligible and encouraged to continue to Honors Spanish IV. *Students who do not engage in the course within the first two weeks and regularly will be dropped.

HONORS SPANISH IVA & IVB – GRADES 11 & 12 (YEAR)

*Prerequisite: Successful completion of Spanish IIIA and Spanish IIIB. *This class is recommended for anyone who earned a C+ or higher in Spanish III.*
Honors Spanish IV is an in-depth review of grammar learned in previous levels with the addition of new concepts. Impromptu speaking and culture of the Spanish-speaking world are also emphasized. Students will complete the *Destinos* video series and also read some authentic short stories.

SPANISH

AP SPANISH LANGUAGE IA & IB – GRADE 11- 12 (YEAR)

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Spanish IVA and IVB.

This class is recommended for anyone who earned a C+ or higher in Honors Spanish IVAP. Spanish is a lecture and discussion based course modeled after the first major-level Spanish course at a university. In the class, students will be required to integrate reading, listening, speaking and writing skills in order to communicate proficiently in small group and class discussions. They will read and study various types and formats of texts and audios. Students should expect to work with sources created for native-level Spanish-speakers, while getting grammar and vocabulary support to understand and utilize the sources in conversation or written works. Students who enroll in this class are expected to take the AP Spanish Language exam in May. College credit is possible, depending on the student's college of choice and score achieved on the AP exam.

CHINESE

CHINESE IA & IB – GRADES 9, 10, 11, 12 (YEAR)

This course is designed for beginners with no prior exposure to the Chinese language. It introduces basic Mandarin pronunciation, grammar and orthography (in both Pinyin and characters). In addition to lectures, the students will participate in activities such as games, dramatizations, discussions, and narrations. The main purpose of activities is to reinforce students' understanding and mastery of the teaching materials through practice. By the end of the school year, students should be able to participate in fluent conversations on topics covered in the textbook.

CHINESE IIA & IIB – GRADES 9, 10, 11, 12 (YEAR)

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Chinese I

Chinese II will provide reinforcement and expansion of vocabulary and basic grammatical concepts learned in Chinese I. An emphasis will be placed on communication in simple routine situations. Students will continuously develop the four basic skills: listening, speaking, reading and writing, and will explore more Chinese culture. Regular visits to the language lab are integrated into the curriculum.

CHINESE IIIA & IIIB – GRADES 10, 11, 12 (YEAR)

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Chinese II

In this third level of Chinese, more advanced skills are addressed as students communicate in Chinese and become more knowledgeable about contemporary Chinese life and the contributions of the Chinese culture. Students demonstrate their speaking skills through dramatizations, discussions, and narrations. They read contemporary short stories and newspaper articles. They also apply structural concepts and new vocabulary to the writing of descriptive passages.

HONORS CHINESE IVA &IVB – GRADES 11 & 12 (YEAR)

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Chinese III

Students in this course will develop reading, writing, speaking, and listening comprehension skills at the advanced level. Students will read short stories and articles from magazines and newspapers and will write summaries, reviews, and letters. Students will develop advanced conversational skills in small-group settings, and comprehension of Chinese through films, TV, and radio programs.

AP CHINESE LANGUAGE AND CULTURE A & B

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Honors Chinese IV or equivalent.

AP Chinese Language and Culture is equivalent to an intermediate-level college course in Chinese. Students cultivate their understanding of the Chinese language and culture by applying the interpersonal, interpretive, and presentational modes of communication in real-life situations as they explore concepts related to family and community, personal and public identity, beauty and aesthetics, science and technology, contemporary life, and global challenges.

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