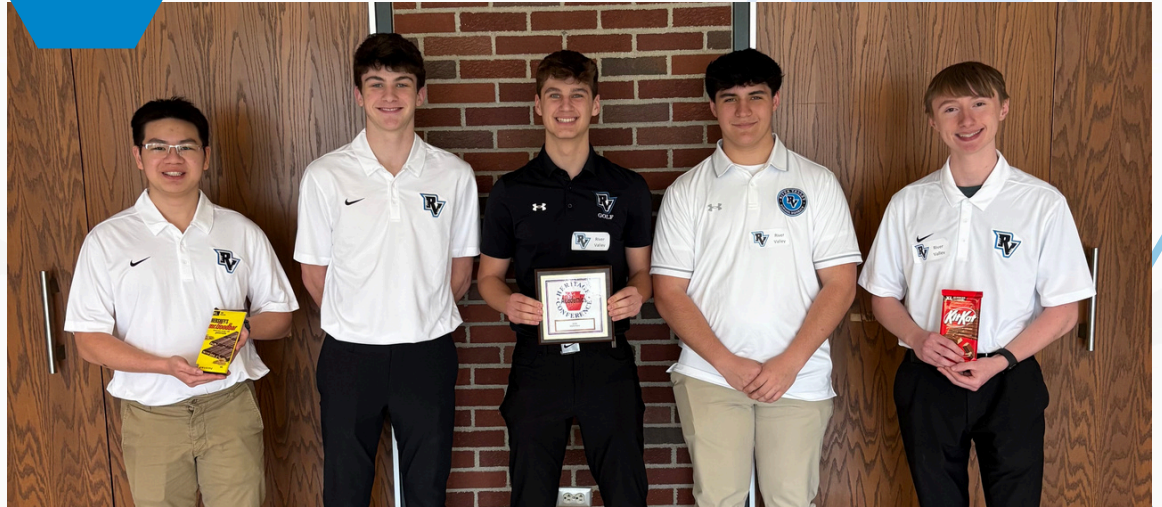


RIVER VALLEY



PROGRAM OF STUDIES

2026-2027

Grades 9 - 12
HIGH SCHOOL
STEAM ACADEMY



INTRODUCTION & WELCOME

Dear River Valley Students & Families:

On behalf of the administration and staff of the River Valley School District, we are very excited to share the 2026-2027 High School Program of Studies. River Valley School District is focused on preparing every student for success in a changing world. We strive to ensure educational experiences are future-driven and focused on career-related learning based on students' strengths, interests, and values.

The purpose of the Program of Studies is to provide students and their families with a comprehensive listing of courses available to students at the high school level, along with a strategic overview of policies and procedures relevant to district graduation requirements. This interactive document has been prepared to assist every student entering grades 9 through 12 in planning your comprehensive educational high school plan. Our Program of Studies will guide you to important information detailing curricular offerings, course selection, and the scheduling process.

The River Valley High School and STEAM Academy provide career pathways and significant opportunities for students to engage in rigorous and meaningful coursework. We encourage students and families to sit down together and review the course requirements for graduation and discuss the course selection process. The Program of Studies is an excellent resource to help every student design an academic program that will help them meet their college, technical school, military, and career goals. The River Valley School District [Graduation Requirements](#) are clearly defined on page seven. We request that every family also review the Keystone Exam expectations and information. Keystone Exams are one component of Pennsylvania's system of high school graduation requirements, and federal regulations require schools to participate in state assessments.

We encourage families to carefully review the course descriptions and requirements, as well as our [scheduling timeline](#) found on page 12. Our high school staff will work cooperatively with each student and family through the scheduling process. As students make their scheduling decisions, it is essential to recognize the requirements for college admission and/or career placement. Our teachers collaborate with students and school counselors to make course recommendations prior to scheduling. Students complete elective course requests based on individual interests and goals.

The River Valley High School team looks forward to working collaboratively throughout the scheduling process to support each student.

Yours in Education,



Mr. Philip Martell
Superintendent of Schools



Mr. Brian Higginbotham
Principal

RIVER VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT
102 SCHOOL LANE
BLAIRSVILLE, PA 15717
724-459-5500



MISSION & VISION

River Valley is committed to creating a future-driven school district focusing on innovation, career exploration across all grades, and workforce development. Using the RIASEC language and prioritizing student identity are integral parts of our school culture, focusing on all students' strengths, interests, and workplace values so that they know there is a place for them in this world. River Valley takes a student-centered approach and understands the importance of the human process of personal development.

RIVER VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mr. Rick Harper, President
Mrs. Connie Constantino, Vice President
Mr. Anthony Canzano
Mrs. Beverly Kusma Caranese
Dr. Luke Faust
Mrs. Holly Gibson
Mrs. Tracy Richards
Mr. Glenn Richards
Mrs. Mary Whitfield

SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Mr. Philip Martell

ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT

Mrs. Regina Geesey

**RIVER VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT
COMPREHENSIVE PLAN**



The River Valley School District is an equal opportunity agency in its education programs, activities, and employment practices. River Valley School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, age, creed, religion, gender (including gender identity or expression), sexual orientation, ancestry, national origin, marital status, pregnancy, or disability in its programs, activities or employment and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. Inquiries may be directed to the Assistant Superintendent, Title IX Coordinator, or the Section 504/ADA Title II Coordinator at 102 School Lane, Blairsville, PA 15717, 724-459-5500.

PROGRAM OF STUDIES

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RIVER VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL

100 SCHOOL LANE
BLAIRSVILLE, PA 15717
(724) 343-8410



PRINCIPAL Mr. Brian Higginbotham

BUILDING SECRETARY Ms. Danielle Bouy

SCHOOL COUNSELOR Ms. Chelsea Evans

GUIDANCE SECRETARY Ms. Nicole Prohaska

SCHOOL NURSE Ms. Carrie Chernosky

DIRECTOR OF PUPIL SERVICES Mr. Michael Leasure

ATHLETIC DIRECTORS Ms. Tiara Stossel
Mr. Geoff Dixon

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

Mr. John Brady*
Ms. Andrea DeFavero
Mr. Eugene Riley
Ms. Robyn Shaw
Ms. Holly Stuller
Mr. Mark Wydareny

MATHEMATICS

Ms. Trisha Aurndt*
Ms. Samantha Glass
Ms. Kayla Gunder
Mr. Phil Heinnickel
Ms. Julianne Kremer
Ms. Brittany Marshall
Ms. Lisa Shimer
Ms. Tiara Stossel

SCIENCE

Ms. Rebecca Miloser
Mr. George Petree
Ms. Kara Petro
Ms. Cassidy Richards
Ms. Heather Shrum*
Ms. Jolene Spadafora

WORLD LANGUAGES

Ms. Naysa Altmeyer

SOCIAL STUDIES

Mr. Jaison Blystone
Mr. Mark Freeman
Mr. Joseph Sembrat
Mr. Neil Stone
Ms. Allison Weir

HEALTH SCIENCES AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Mr. Richard Artley
Mr. Andrew Frassenei
Ms. Laura Thompson

ART

Ms. Katie Deglau

BUSINESS AND COMPUTER SCIENCE

Ms. Brittany Ciganko
Ms. Heather Faulk

FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCE

Ms. Maureen Bell

MUSIC

Mr. Adam Bukosky

ENGINEERING AND MANUFACTURING

Mr. Michael Funyak
Mr. Jonathan Taylor

STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

Mr. Jared Bailey
Mr. James Buckles
Ms. Jean Ford
Ms. Kayla Gunder
Ms. Mya Nudi
Mr. Jacob Just
Ms. Sharon Kunkle*
Ms. Leah Lucas
Ms. Karen Magalich
Ms. Michele Marra
Ms. Amie Olasz

STEAM

Ms. Trisha Aurndt
Ms. Jeanine Buell
Mr. Joshua Cunningham*
Ms. Carrie Detwiler
Mr. Christian Kampas
Mr. Kip Mack
Ms. Karen Magalich
Mr. Adam Peterson
Mr. Darren Studnicki
Mr. Matt Wilson

* Indicates Department Chair

CONCERNS & WHO TO CONTACT

ATTENDANCE, TRIP REQUESTS

Danielle Bouy, High School Secretary
bouy.d@rvsdpa.org, 724-343-8410

BUS DISCIPLINE

Brian Higginbotham, High School Principal
higginbotham.b@rvsdpa.org, 724-343-8410

CAREERS

Sharon Kunkle, Career Coordinator
kunkle.s@rvsdpa.org, 724-459-5500 x5213

COLLEGE INFORMATION COURSE PLACEMENT & SCHEDULES SCHOOL-BASED COUNSELING

Chelsea Evans, School Counselor
evans.c@rvsdpa.org, 724-459-5500 x8422

ENROLLMENT, TRANSCRIPTS & HOMEWORK REQUESTS (ILLNESS)

Nicole Prohaska, Guidance Secretary
prohaska.n@rvsdpa.org, 724-459-5500 x3125

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

1st Coach, Sponsor
2nd Tiara Stossel, Athletic Director
stossel.t@rvsdpa.org, 724-343-8423
Geoff Dixon, Assistant Athletic Director
dixon.g@rvsdpa.org, 724-343-8425

GRADES & HOMEWORK

[Teachers \(click for link to directory\)](#)
High School Office: 724-343-8410

HEALTH AND MEDICAL

Carrie Chernosky, School Nurse
chernosky.c@rvsdpa.org, 724-459-5500 x2126



HOMELESSNESS

Katherine Monko, Saltsburg Elementary Principal
Director of School to Community Relations
monko.k@rvsdpa.org, 724-343-8413

LUNCH ACCOUNTS

Danielle Bouy, High School Secretary
bouy.d@rvsdpa.org, 724-343-8410

RIVER VALLEY CYBER ACADEMY

Geoff Dixon, Cyber Coordinator
dixon.g@rvsdpa.org, 724-343-8425

SCHOLARSHIPS

Chelsea Evans, School Counselor
evans.c@rvsdpa.org, 724-459-5500 x8422

PUPIL SERVICES

1st [Teachers \(click for link to directory\)](#)
2nd Michael Leasure, Director of Pupil Services
leasure.m@rvsdpa.org, 724-459-5500

TEACHER CONTACTS

1st [Teachers \(click for link to directory\)](#)
2nd Brian Higginbotham, High School Principal
higginbotham.b@rvsdpa.org, 724-343-8410

TEACHER CONCERN

1st [Teachers \(click for link to directory\)](#)
2nd Brian Higginbotham, High School Principal
higginbotham.b@rvsdpa.org, 724-343-8410

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

The River Valley School District defines graduation on the basis of the following criteria: Completion of the courses and credits with passing grades (68% or above); Demonstration of proficiency in Literature, Mathematics, and Biology as measured by state and/or local assessments

RIVER VALLEY REQUIREMENTS

Students must have completed a minimum of 23 credits in grades nine through twelve to graduate and receive a diploma from the River Valley School District. The required course breakdown is as follows:

English	4 Courses
Social Studies	4 Courses
Mathematics	3 Courses
Science	3 Courses
Physical Education	3 Courses
Health	1 Course
Personal Finance	1 Course
Electives	6 Courses

Total Credits Needed for Graduation: 23

1 Credit = Year-long courses that meet daily

.50 Credit = Semester courses that meet daily

.25 Credit= Quarter courses

Student Attendance

Attendance in school is required by law and should be encouraged by parents/guardians. Students are permitted to submit ten written parent/guardian excuses for absences. Any amount of absences after those ten written excuses will have to be medical excuses. Students with three or more illegal absences will be required to have a truancy meeting.

Transcripts

To request a high school transcript, contact Nicole Prohaska, Guidance Secretary:
prohaska.n@rvsdpa.org.

Smart Futures Program

River Valley utilizes Smart Futures, a K-12 college and career planning program. Smart Futures is an online career planning and portfolio platform that helps all students become prepared for post-secondary success. This program helps students obtain the necessary career artifacts required by the state.

PENNSYLVANIA STATE GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS - ACT 158

Act 158 was put into place by Governor Tom Wolf in October of 2018 and will be effective statewide starting with the 2023 graduating class. Act 158 is a state requirement for graduation. Seniors must complete at least one of the five pathways in order to graduate, this will demonstrate postsecondary career preparedness. Each student will have a meeting with their school counselor to review which pathway is best for them to pursue. As the Pennsylvania Department of Education finalizes plans for future Keystone Exams or changes these graduation requirements, the High School Program of Studies will be revised to reflect the changes.

Pathway #1: Keystone Proficiency

Proficiency Pathway (Goal proficient or advanced on each exam)

- *Must receive a passing grade of a 68%
- Algebra 1- must achieve at least 1500
- Biology- must achieve at least 1500
- Literature- must achieve at least 1500

Pathway #2: Keystone Composite Score

Composite Score Pathway

- *Must receive a passing grade of a 68%
- Biology, Algebra 1, and Literature must have a combined score of at least 4452
- At least one of these scores is proficient or advanced, none can be below basic

Pathway #3: Career and Technical Education (CTE) Concentrator

Grade passing requirements for Keystone content areas (Algebra I, Biology, and Literature) and one of the following:

- *Must receive a passing grade of a 68%
- Satisfactory completion of local requirements
- Program continuation readiness
- Industry-based assessment potential for success (NOCTI exam)

Pathway #4: Alternate Assessment

Grade Passing Requirement for Keystone Content Areas (Biology, Algebra 1, and Literature)

- *Must receive a passing grade of a 68%
- Have a passing grade in Biology, Algebra 1, and Literature
- AND one of the following:
 - ACT Composite score of 21
 - ACT WorkKeys NCRC Gold Level
 - ASVAB Composite score of 31
 - PSAT/NMSQT Total Score of 970
 - SAT Composite Score (Goal 1010)
 - Transfer Student (Grad Report) Algebra Score
 - Transfer Student (Grad Report) Algebra Performance Level

Pathway #4: Continued

- Transfer Student (Grad Report) Biology Score
- Transfer Student (Grad Report) Biology Performance Level
- Transfer Student (Grad Report) Literature Score
- Transfer Student (Grad Report) Literature Performance Level
- Successfully complete concurrent enrollment course(s) related to each Keystone Exam in which less than Proficient
- Acceptance into accredited, non-profit Institution of Higher Education (IHE) 4yr program for college-level coursework
Successfully complete a Pre-Apprenticeship Program

Pathway #5: Evidence-Based

Grade passing requirements for Keystone content areas (Algebra I, Biology, and Literature) AND three pieces of evidence including one of the following:

- *Must receive a passing grade of a 68%
- Attainment of SAT subject test score of 630
- AP exam score of 3
- IB exam score of 3
- Attainment of Silver Level or better on ACT WorkKeys
- Postsecondary Acceptance (other than a 4-year institution)
- Industry recognized credential

Successful completion of concurrent enrollment or post-secondary course AND two of the following:

- Attainment of Proficient or Advanced on any Keystone Exam
- Satisfactory completion of service project (Listed at the bottom of the page under Act 158 Resources).
- Satisfactory completion of an internship, externship, or cooperative education program
- Documentation of full-time employment or military enlistment
- Satisfactory compliance with NCAA core courses with a minimum GPA of 2.0

Pennsylvania Pathways to Graduation

Keystone Proficiency Pathway

Numeric or Non-Numeric Scores

Algebra I
Proficient or Advanced

Biology
Proficient or Advanced

Literature
Proficient or Advanced

Keystone Composite Pathway

Numeric Scores Only

At least 1 Keystone Exam scaled score is
1500 or Greater

No Keystone Exam score is
Below Basic

The Keystone Exam 3-score composite is
4452 or Greater
The Keystone Exam 2-score composite is
2939 or Greater
(where eligible under §121.1)

CTE Concentrator

Meet locally established, grade-based requirements for Keystone content in which the student is less than Proficient

CTE Concentrator

1 Artifact from pathway criteria

Alternative Assessment

Meet locally established, grade-based requirements for Keystone content in which the student is less than Proficient

Alternative Assessment

1 Artifact from pathway criteria

Evidence-Based Pathways

Meet locally established, grade-based requirements for Keystone content in which the student is less than Proficient

Evidence-Based

3 Artifacts from pathway criteria

Waiver

A student in 12th grade, or experiencing extenuating circumstances, who meets locally established grade-based requirements for Keystone content area(s) in which the student is less than proficient, and is unable to satisfy the requirements of a graduation pathway may be granted a waiver by the chief school administrator.

Individualized Education Plan

A student with a disability who is unable to satisfy pathway requirements but who satisfactorily completes a special education program is granted a diploma under Title 22 §4.24.

NOTE: Although this infographic displays a sequential progression, students may fulfill criteria under the CTE Concentrator, Alternative Assessment, or Evidence-Based Pathways prior to demonstrating proficiency in Keystone academic content through Keystone Exam scores or locally established grade-based requirements.

Pathway Criteria

CTE Concentrator	Alternative Assessment	Evidence-Based
1 Artifact	1 Artifact	3 Artifacts consistent w/student goals ONE or more from Section One No more than TWO from Section Two
<p>Industry-based competency certification</p> <hr/> <p>Likelihood of industry-based competency assessment success</p> <hr/> <p>Readiness for continued engagement in CTE Concentrator program of study</p>	<p>Attainment of one alternative assessment score or better: ACT (21), ASVAB AFQT (31), PSAT/NMSQT (970), or SAT (1010)</p> <hr/> <p>Attainment of Gold Level or better on ACT WorkKeys</p> <hr/> <p>Attainment of 3 or better on AP Exam(s) related to each Keystone content area in which less than Proficient</p> <hr/> <p>Attainment of 4 or better on IB Exam(s) related to each Keystone content area in which less than Proficient</p> <hr/> <p>Successful completion of concurrent enrollment course(s) related to each Keystone content area in which less than Proficient</p> <hr/> <p>Successful completion of a pre-apprenticeship program</p> <hr/> <p>Acceptance into accredited, non-profit Institution of Higher Education (IHE) 4yr program for college-level coursework</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Section 1</p> <hr/> <p>Attainment of 630 or better on any SAT Subject Test</p> <hr/> <p>Attainment of Silver Level or better on ACT WorkKeys</p> <hr/> <p>Attainment of 3 or better on any AP Exam</p> <hr/> <p>Attainment of 3 or better on any IB Exam</p> <hr/> <p>Successful completion of any concurrent enrollment or postsecondary course</p> <hr/> <p>Industry-recognized credentialization</p> <hr/> <p>Acceptance into accredited, Non-profit institution of Higher Education (IHE) for college-level coursework in an other-than-4yr program</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">Section 2</p> <hr/> <p>Attainment of Proficient or Advanced on any Keystone Exam</p> <hr/> <p>Successful completion of a service-learning project</p> <hr/> <p>Letter guaranteeing full-time employment or military enlistment</p> <hr/> <p>Completion of an internship, externship, or cooperative education program</p> <hr/> <p>Compliance with NCAA Division II academic requirements</p>

GRADES

Grades are determined by assessing the student's academic achievement based on the established curriculum and individual classroom guidelines. Report cards document both this level of achievement and also the student's grade point average (GPA) for each marking period. Grade point averages are not rounded for reporting honor roll, academic awards, or any other purpose.

Grade Reporting

Grades are issued at the conclusion of each marking period. Parents are encouraged to review student grades using the PowerSchool Parent Portal throughout the marking period. Tentative dates for the end of marking periods appear on the school calendar on the district homepage.

GRADING SCALE

Letter	Percentage	Meaning
A	93-100	Outstanding
B	85-92	Above Average
C	76-84	Average
D	68-75	Poor (Not eligible for Honor Roll)
F	0-67	Failing (Not eligible for Honor Roll)
I	Incomplete	Not eligible for Honor Roll or Class Rank
P/F	Pass/Fail	

*Passing CIHS courses will increase a student's calculated percent average by an additional 1.3 percent for that class for the year.

HONOR ROLL LEVELS

Distinguished Honors	95% or Higher
High Honors	90% - 94.99%
Honors	85% - 89.99%

SCHEDULING TIMELINE

The scheduling process begins in the third quarter of the current school year. The high school counselor begins discussions with 8th - 11th-grade students to compile course requests for the next school year. It is encouraged that parents and students begin discussions early in this process. During this time, students and families should work closely with teachers and counselors to ensure the courses requested are closely aligned with the student's strengths, interests, and values.

2026-2027 SCHEDULING TIMELINE

Dates	Description
March 2026	Students will input course selections into PowerSchool during their scheduled classroom meeting with the School Counselor. Counselor will individually review student schedules.
May 29, 2026	Final changes submitted to the School Counseling Office (no course changes accepted after this date).
August 1, 2026	Schedules are available in the Student Information System for students and families.
August 19, 2026	First Day of School for Students
September 2, 2026	Last day to add / drop a course based upon availability and requirements as per the Program of Studies.

ASSESSMENTS & POST-SECONDARY TESTING

KEYSTONE EXAMS

The Keystone Exams are end-of-course assessments designed to assess proficiency in three subjects: Algebra I, Literature, and Biology. The Keystone Exams are one component of Pennsylvania's system of high school graduation requirements.

PSAT/NMSQT (PRACTICE SAT)

The PSAT exam is offered at the River Valley High School. It's a cost-effective way to prepare for the SAT. The High School Counselors schedule the testing dates and provide students with the information needed to register for the PSAT.

SAT AND ACT

Students who plan to attend a 4-year college or university after high school should take the SAT or ACT. You may register for SAT test dates offered at different locations on several Saturdays throughout the school year. Please visit www.collegeboard.org for SAT test dates and registration deadlines or www.act.org for ACT test dates and registration deadlines. Fee waivers are available for students who receive free or reduced lunches. Eligible students can use two fee waivers per year to take the ACT or SAT.

ASVAB

The ASVAB, Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery, is an aptitude test that measures developed abilities and helps predict future academic and occupational success. The version of the ASVAB available in schools is one part of the ASVAB Career Exploration Program (CEP) and is used for career exploration and planning. It is important to note that taking the ASVAB and participating in the ASVAB CEP does not obligate you to talk with military recruiters or consider a military career. The ASVAB CEP is available at no cost to all high school students in the 10th, 11th, and 12th grades and early post-secondary students to help them plan for the steps they need to enter their desired career field.

NOCTI EXAMS

The NOCTI (National Occupational Competency Testing Institute) is a nationally recognized organization that develops and administers industry-specific assessments to measure the skills and competencies of students in Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs. These assessments are used to evaluate students' readiness for employment and to certify their proficiency in various vocational fields, such as healthcare, manufacturing, and information technology. NOCTI exams help ensure that students are meeting industry standards and are equipped with the necessary skills to succeed in their chosen careers.

**FOR INFORMATION ABOUT TESTING CONTACT
THE HIGH SCHOOL COUNSELOR**

Chelsea Evans, School Counselor
evans.c@rvsdpa.org, 724-459-5500 x8422

COLLEGIATE ATHLETICS



Any student who thinks there is a possibility that they will play a Division I or II varsity sport while in college needs to register with the NCAA Eligibility Center online at www.ncaaclearinghouse.com. There is a fee to register.

NCAA legislation requires that students who wish to enroll in a Division I or II college and play collegiate-level sports must send their ACT or SAT scores directly from the testing institution (such as the College Board) to the NCAA Clearinghouse. College Entrance Exam scores will not be accepted from the high school transcript.

HOW TO SIGN UP FOR THE NCAA ELIGIBILITY CENTER:

- 1) Go to: <https://web3.ncaa.org/ecwr3/>
- 2) Scroll to the bottom left of the page and look for: Option 1-Free Profile Page Account

Interested students are encouraged to create this account before paying the \$100 fee. Students can roll the free account to the needed account once it's created. (Note: there are fee waivers available for students who qualify). Contact Mrs. Chelsea Evans to determine if eligible for fee waivers.

- 3) Click on Option #1 and create an account.

Reminder: Students must use a personal email address instead of the school mail. Students' school email ends after graduation.

- 4) For students who are certain they want to play a Division I or Division II sport in college, roll your Free Profile Account into the:

ACADEMIC AND AMATEURISM CERTIFICATION ACCOUNT

The Academic and Amateurism Certification account is the right account for college-bound student-athletes who are planning to:

- Compete at an NCAA Division I or II school.
- Take an official visit.
- Sign a National Letter of Intent.

This account includes a registration fee of \$100 for domestic students and \$160 for International students.

FINANCIAL AID

UNIVERSAL FAFSA COMPLETION (ACT 47)

In November 2025, Pennsylvania became the 14th state to adopt legislation requiring mandatory FAFSA completion for high school seniors. Beginning with the 2026–2027 school year, all Pennsylvania high school seniors will be required to file the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) unless a parent or guardian (or the student if 18 years old or older) submits a completed opt-out form. State-wide FAFSA completion advances equity, increases access to federal, state, and other sources of financial aid, and supports Pennsylvania's broader postsecondary attainment and workforce goals.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: Chelsea Evans, School Counselor, evans.c@rvsdpa.org

COLLEGE IN THE HIGH SCHOOL

River Valley students have the opportunity to earn both high school credit and college credit in courses taught in their high school classrooms through College in the High School (CIHS) courses. These courses provide college-level learning experiences and credits that are potentially transferrable to other post-secondary institutions. Students are not required to take the courses for college credit.

Registration and payment procedures are dependent upon the partner college or university. For information on CIHS Courses, contact your School Counselor. If you have questions about whether a post-secondary institution will accept credits earned through the CIHS program, please contact the college admissions office directly.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

Course	Course #	College/University
English Composition I	0138	Point Park University
Topics in Literature	0148	Point Park University

MATHEMATICS

Course	Course #	College/University
CIHS College Algebra	0248	Point Park University
CIHS Pre-Calculus	0258	Point Park University
CIHS Calculus I	0268	Point Park University
CIHS Statistics	0278	Point Park University
CIHS Calculus II	0280	Point Park University

SCIENCE

Course	Course #	College/University
College Chemistry	0368	Point Park University
College Physics	0378	Point Park University

SOCIAL STUDIES

Course	Course #	College/University
Western Civilization II	0438	Point Park University
American Government	0448	Point Park University
Sociology	0478	Point Park University
US History	0423	Point Park University

FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCE

Course	Course #	College/University
Introductory Baking & Sanitation	1308	Penn College of Technology

HEALTH SCIENCES

Course	Course #	College/University
Psychology	0468	Point Park University

WORLD LANGUAGES

Course	Course #	College/University
Spanish I	0610	Point Park University
Spanish II	0612	Point Park University
Spanish III	0614	Point Park University
Spanish IV	0616	Point Park University



Visit CollegeTransfer.Net to see how your courses transfer into credits at colleges and post-secondary institutions.

**It is the students' responsibility to confirm with the post-secondary institution that the course(s) will transfer.*



STEAM ACADEMY COLLEGE IN THE HIGH SCHOOL

CYBERSECURITY

Course #	Course	College/University
CMPS 362	Networking (3 cr.)	Point Park University
CMPS 363	Digital Security (3 cr.)	Point Park University

ELECTRICAL OCCUPATIONS/POWERLINE

Course #	Course	College/University
ELT 111	Direct Current Fundamentals (5 cr.)	Penn College of Technology

RISING EDUCATORS

Course #	Course	College/University
EDUC 204	Introduction to Special Education (3 cr.)	Saint Francis University
EDUC 212	Early Childhood Pedagogy (3 cr.)	Saint Francis University
EDUC 150	Educational Psychology (3 cr.)	Saint Francis University
EDUC 215	Differentiated Instructional Practices (3 cr.)	Saint Francis University
EDUC 261	Linguistic Diversity in the Classroom (3 cr.)	Saint Francis University
EDUC 231	Child Growth & Development (3 cr.)	Saint Francis University
EDUC 225	Assistive and Instructional Technology (3 cr.)	Saint Francis University
EDUC 223	Emergent Literacy (3 cr.)	Saint Francis University
EDUC 250	Family and Community Relations (3 cr.)	Saint Francis University
EDUC 315	Positive Behavior Supports (3 cr.)	Saint Francis University

SPORTS MEDICINE & REHABILITATIVE THERAPY

Course #	Course	College/University
EXPH 101	Introduction to Exercise Physiology (3 cr.)	Saint Francis University
EXPH 205	Common Sports Injuries (3 cr.)	Saint Francis University

WELDING

Course #	Course	College/University
WEL 119	Shielded Metal Arc Welding (4 cr.)	Penn College of Technology
WEL 133	Flux Cored Arc Welding (4 cr.)	Penn College of Technology
WEL 146	Gas Tungsten Arc Welding (4 cr.)	Penn College of Technology



Visit CollegeTransfer.Net to see how your courses transfer into credits at colleges and post-secondary institutions.

**It is the students' responsibility to confirm with the post-secondary institution that the course(s) will transfer.*

CAREER EXPLORATION

RIASEC LANGUAGE

RIASEC, the most widely adopted framework for interest measurement, is a taxonomy for Realistic Doers, Investigative Thinkers, Artistic Creators, Social Helpers, Enterprising Persuaders, and Conventional Organizers. The RIASEC language used by River Valley invites students to explore their interests, develop an understanding of the language, and advance possibilities for all students by aligning their strengths, interests, and values to academic and career-related learning.

The RIASEC framework helps students connect their strengths, interests, and values to academic and career options. With the RIASEC approach, River Valley is creating a common language of career exploration that is also used by colleges, universities, and the Department of Labor, to make powerful connections between classroom learning, post-secondary education, and the job world.

Building a common language helps students develop an understanding and ability to articulate “who am I and who I think I want to become.” It all works together to build a solid foundation for career exploration, providing them a deeper understanding to connect their learning to their ideal post-secondary options and career paths. As we continue to foster the RIASEC culture in River Valley, we are supporting students toward a future where they can thrive by embracing who they are by developing strong relationships with classmates, teachers, and extended staff.

River Valley takes a student-centered approach and understands the importance of the human process of personal development.



REALISTIC INVESTIGATIVE ARTISTIC
SOCIAL ENTERPRIISING CONVENTIONAL

CAREER PATHWAYS: RIASEC THEMES



REALISTIC

People with Realistic interests like work that includes practical, hands-on problems and answers. People with Realistic interests often avoid careers involving paperwork or working closely with others. They like working with plants and animals; real-world materials like wood, tools, and machinery; and outside work.



RVSD Career Clusters that may be a good fit for people with Realistic interests:

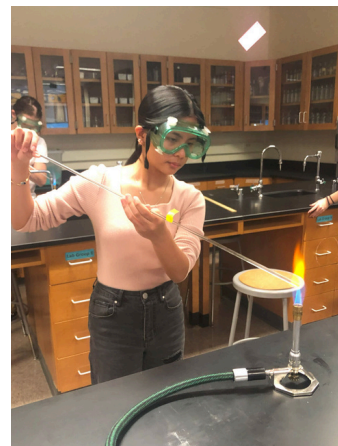
- Arts, Communication, and Media
- Business, Management, and Information Technology
- Education, Public Safety, and Law
- Health, Medical, and Human Services
- Industry and Engineering Technology

INVESTIGATIVE

People with Investigative interests like work that has to do with ideas and thinking rather than physical activity or leading people. They like searching for facts and figuring out problems.

RVSD Career Clusters that may be a good fit for people with Investigative interests:

- Arts, Communication, and Media
- Business, Management, and Information Technology
- Education, Public Safety, and Law
- Health, Medical, and Human Services
- Industry and Engineering Technology



ARTISTIC



People with Artistic interests like work that deals with the artistic side of things, such as acting, music, art, and design. They like creativity and work that can be done without following rules.

RVSD Career Clusters that may be a good fit for people with Artistic interests:

- Arts, Communication, and Media
- Business, Management, and Information Technology
- Education, Public Safety, and Law
- Industry and Engineering Technology

CAREER PATHWAYS: RIASEC THEMES



SOCIAL

People with Social interests like working with others to help them learn and grow. They like working with people more than with objects, machines, or information. They enjoy teaching, giving advice, and supporting and serving people.



RVSD Career Clusters that may be a good fit for people with Social interests:

- Arts, Communication, and Media
- Business, Management, and Information Technology
- Education, Public Safety, and Law
- Health, Medical, and Human Services

ENTERPRISING

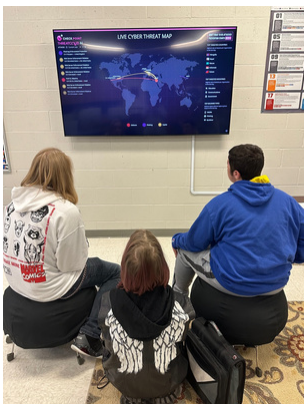
People with Enterprising interests like work that involves starting and carrying out business projects. These people like acting rather than thinking about things. They like persuading and leading people, making decisions, and taking risks for profits.

RVSD Career Clusters that may be a good fit for people with Enterprising interests:

- Arts, Communication, and Media
- Business, Management, and Information Technology
- Education, Public Safety, and Law



CONVENTIONAL



People with Conventional interests like work that follows set procedures and routines. They prefer working with information and paying attention to details rather than working with ideas. They like working with clear rules and following a strong leader.

RVSD Career Clusters that may be a good fit for people with Conventional interests:

- Business, Management, and Information Technology
- Education, Public Safety, and Law
- Health, Medical, and Human Services
- Industry and Engineering Technology

RIVER VALLEY CAREER PATHWAYS

The River Valley School District is committed to ensuring all students are prepared to be college and career-ready as citizens in a global and changing economy and job marketplace. To fulfill this goal, we have developed a College and Career Pathways system that amplifies our rigorous academic program, expands our course offerings, enhances students' instructional opportunities, and integrates access to industry experiences. All River Valley High School Course Offerings align with Career and Education Workforce Standards. Each Pathway is associated with the Future Readiness Career Clusters.



ARTS, COMMUNICATION, AND MEDIA

This pathway focuses on developing skills in visual arts, broadcasting and media content, writing, and filmmaking. Careers in this pathway are varied, and they include jobs such as visual artist (e.g. sculptor, painter), journalist, sports broadcasting/podcasting, writer (e.g. novelist, poet, screenwriter), social media strategist, animator, and movie director.



BUSINESS, MANAGEMENT, AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

This pathway includes a broad spectrum of business-related professions, as well as information technology services and mathematics-focused professions. Careers in this pathway include options such as business management, startup development, hospitality and tourism, finance and investing, marketing, IT support, programming, accounting, and insurance/actuarial services.



EDUCATION, PUBLIC SAFETY, AND LAW

This pathway focuses on professional support of community well-being through schools, community safety programs and law enforcement. Careers in this pathway include teachers, law enforcement personnel, lawyers, public offices (elected officials and their support staff), forestry staff, community planners, civil engineers, librarians, and parks and recreation personnel.



HEALTH, MEDICAL, AND HUMAN SERVICES

This pathway focuses on professional support of individuals' well-being. Careers in this pathway include healthcare providers and support personnel, as well as social workers and non-profit aid/charity organizations.



INDUSTRY AND ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY

This pathway includes the various careers related to design, development, production, construction, transportation and maintenance of various goods and services. Careers in this pathway include architecture and engineering, construction, welding, truck driving, mechanical and autobody work, food production (growing produce/raising livestock), alternative energy solutions, and lighting design for performance venues.

Through the College and Career Pathways program, students will:

- Plan for their future through personal interest mapping (RIASEC Model), guidance lessons, project-based learning opportunities, college interviews, and visits; job site visits through Career Hub and career learning experiences.
- Invest in their future through the purposeful use of instructional technology, increased availability of authentic learning experiences, and integration of enriched educational experiences focused on critical thinking, collaboration, communication, and creativity.
- Experience their future through STEAM Academy programs at our Saltsburg Campus, mentorships, research, service learning, College in the High School courses, and internships. The College and Career Pathways program at River Valley School District will ensure all students are prepared for success in our dynamic and evolving world.

INTRODUCTION TO CAREER PATHWAYS

As part of a district effort to prioritize individual student strengths, interests, and values, the implementation of the RIASEC model is being utilized. This research-backed model provides a roadmap for students to explore careers across numerous industries that align with their personal interests. The following are the 9th-grade career exploration course offerings currently available for students at the River Valley High School. Each course is one semester long and is offered in either the fall or the spring. Students are encouraged to choose pathways that align with their personal RIASEC themes.

Choose Two Semester-Long Courses

Intro to Cybersecurity/Esports

Intro to Business & Entrepreneurship

Intro to Creative Productions

Intro to Rising Educators

Intro to Electrical Occupations/Welding

Intro to Health Professions

Intro to Sports Medicine and Rehabilitative Therapy (SMaRT)

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

COURSE #: 1208

CREDIT: 0.5

COURSE TITLE: INTRO TO CYBERSECURITY/INTRO TO ESPORTS

PREREQUISITES: NONE

This course introduces students to concepts of design, configuration, and implementation. In addition, it provides the basics of the esports industry by playing, strategizing, and analyzing video games, along with relevant coursework. Topics include IT fundamentals, client/server operating systems, and network engineering.

COURSE #: 1209

CREDIT: 0.5

COURSE TITLE: INTRO TO CREATIVE PRODUCTIONS

PREREQUISITES: NONE

This course offers students a preview of the dynamic world of sports media and marketing. Students will explore the fundamentals of graphic design, video production, and brand building while gaining hands-on experience in storytelling and digital content creation. Using basic tools and emerging technologies, students will develop social media and web promotions, plan simple campaigns, and learn the basics of marketing analytics. This course is designed to inspire creativity and provide valuable skills for future exploration in media, marketing, and communications.

INTRODUCTION TO CAREER PATHWAYS

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

COURSE #: 1213
COURSE TITLE: INTRO TO SMART

CREDIT: 0.5
PREREQUISITES: NONE

Introduction to Sports Medicine and Fitness provides students with entry-level knowledge and the skills and abilities of the sports medicine industry. Students will develop valuable skills in recognition of injury and emergency situations, personal fitness and wellness, sports performance, and basic nutrition for healthy, active populations.

COURSE #: 1204
COURSE TITLE: INTRO TO ELECTRICAL OCCUPATIONS/WELDING

CREDIT: 0.5
PREREQUISITES: NONE

This course introduces electrical safety, tools, blueprint reading, residential cabling, switches, receptacles, and circuits. Students gain insight into the industry and the basics of running a business. Welding safety and basic concepts will be covered throughout the course.

COURSE #: 1206
COURSE TITLE: INTRO TO BUSINESS & ENTREPRENEURSHIP

CREDIT: 0.5
PREREQUISITES: NONE

In this introductory course, students learn about the roles of business and marketing in the free enterprise system and the global economy. Basic concepts of economic systems, business technology, marketing/advertising, costs and profit, and business communication will be introduced.

COURSE #: 1207
COURSE TITLE: INTRO TO RISING EDUCATORS

CREDIT: 0.5
PREREQUISITES: NONE

This course will provide students with an introduction to techniques and strategies that will strengthen children's cognitive, social, emotional, and physical development in both elementary and high school. Opportunities to learn about the diverse learning needs and classroom expectations for students from pre-k to grade 12 will be a primary focus.

COURSE #: 1211
COURSE TITLE: INTRO TO HEALTH PROFESSIONS

CREDIT: 0.5
PREREQUISITES: NONE

This introductory course provides students with a broad range of opportunities to learn basic knowledge and skills in the health sciences. Students will develop an understanding of basic medical terminology, anatomy, physiology, infectious diseases, and genetics in the treatment and prevention of disease.

COURSE PROGRESSIONS

ENGLISH, MATH, SCIENCE, SOCIAL STUDIES

ENGLISH			
Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
English 9 LIT (Keystone Course)	English 10 COMP	English 11	English 12
		CIHS English Comp	CIHS English Comp
			CIHS Topics in Literature

MATH			
Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
Pre-Algebra	Algebra 1 (Keystone Course)	Geometry	Geometry
Algebra I (Keystone Course)	Geometry	Algebra II	Algebra II
Advanced Geometry	Algebra II	CIHS College Algebra	CIHS College Algebra
Advanced Algebra II	Advanced Algebra II	CIHS College Pre-Calc	CIHS College Pre-Calc
	CIHS College Pre-Calc	CIHS College Calculus I	CIHS College Calculus I
		CIHS Statistics	CIHS College Calculus II
			CIHS Statistics

SCIENCE			
Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
Science 9	Biology (Keystone Course)	Academic Chemistry	Academic Physics
Biology (Keystone Course)	Academic Chemistry	Applied Chemistry	Applied Physics
	Applied Chemistry	Academic Physics	Biology II
	Biology II	Applied Physics	CIHS College Chemistry
	Environment and Ecology	Biology II	CIHS College Physics
		CIHS College Chemistry	

SOCIAL STUDIES			
Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
US History I	US History II	World Cultures	Government and Economics
Homeland Security	CIHS US History	CIHS Western Civilization II	CIHS American Government
	Homeland Security	CIHS Sociology	CIHS Sociology
		Homeland Security	Homeland Security
			Philosophy and Ethics

COURSE PROGRESSIONS

WORLD LANGUAGES, HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION

WORLD LANGUAGES			
Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
Spanish I	Spanish I	Spanish I	Spanish I
French I (Cyber)	Spanish II	Spanish II	Spanish II
	French I (Cyber)	Spanish III	Spanish III
		French I (Cyber)	Spanish IV
			French I (Cyber)

HEALTH SCIENCES AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION			
Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
Physical Education 9	Physical Education (10-12)	Physical Education (10-12)	Physical Education (10-12)
Health 9	Online Physical Education (10-12)	Online Physical Education (10-12)	Online Physical Education (10-12)
	Fitness and Sport	Fitness and Sport	Fitness and Sport
	Fitness and Wellness	Fitness and Wellness	Fitness and Wellness
	Strength and Conditioning	Strength and Conditioning	Strength and Conditioning
		CIHS Psychology	CIHS Psychology

CAREER PATHWAYS:

ARTS, COMMUNICATION, AND MEDIA



This pathway focuses on developing skills in visual arts, broadcasting and media content, writing, and filmmaking. Careers in this pathway are varied, and they include jobs such as visual artist (e.g. sculptor, painter), journalist, sports broadcasting/podcasting, writer (e.g. novelist, poet, screenwriter), social media strategist, animator, and movie director.

Related Courses:

- Esports 
- Creative Productions: Sports Media & Marketing 

 Indicates STEAM Academy Program

RIASEC Themes: Realistic, Investigative, Artistic, Enterprising



ART			
Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
Intro to Art and Drawing	Intro to Art and Drawing	Intro to Art and Drawing	Intro to Art and Drawing
	Photography	Photography	Photography
	Illustration/Graphic Design	Illustration/Graphic Design	Illustration/Graphic Design
	Painting I/II	Painting I/II	Painting I/II
	Pottery and Sculpture	Pottery and Sculpture	Pottery and Sculpture
		Advanced Art	Advanced Art

BUSINESS AND COMPUTER SCIENCE			
Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
Accounting I	Accounting I	Accounting I	Accounting I
Digital Design and Technology	Digital Design and Technology	Digital Design and Technology	Digital Design and Technology
	Entrepreneurship	Yearbook	Yearbook
	Internship	Personal Finance	Entrepreneurship
		Entrepreneurship	Internship
		Internship	

*** On Pathway Courses**

CAREER PATHWAYS: ARTS, COMMUNICATION, AND MEDIA



* On Pathway Courses

ENGINEERING AND MANUFACTURING			
Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
	Principles of Manufacturing	Principles of Manufacturing	Principles of Manufacturing
	Heritage Competition Robotics	Heritage Competition Robotics	Heritage Competition Robotics
	BotsIQ Competition Robotics	BotsIQ Competition Robotics	BotsIQ Competition Robotics

MUSIC EDUCATION			
Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
Band	Band	Band	Band
Chorus	Chorus	Chorus	Chorus
Audio Production I	Audio Production I	Audio Production I	Audio Production I
	Audio Production II	Audio Production II	Audio Production II



CAREER PATHWAYS:


BUSINESS, MANAGEMENT, AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY



This pathway includes a broad spectrum of business-related professions, as well as information technology services and mathematics-focused professions. Careers in this pathway include options such as business management, startup development, hospitality and tourism, finance and investing, marketing, IT support, programming, accounting, and insurance/actuarial services.

Related Courses:

- Cybersecurity & Esports 
- Creative Productions: Sports Media & Marketing 
- **Point Park Business Track**

 Indicates STEAM Academy Program

RIASEC Themes: Realistic, Investigative, Enterprising, Conventional



ART			
Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
Intro to Art and Drawing	Intro to Art and Drawing	Intro to Art and Drawing	Intro to Art and Drawing
	Photography	Photography	Photography
	Illustration/Graphic Design	Illustration/Graphic Design	Illustration/Graphic Design
	Painting I/II	Painting I/II	Painting I/II
	Pottery and Sculpture	Pottery and Sculpture	Pottery and Sculpture
		Advanced Art	Advanced Art

BUSINESS AND COMPUTER SCIENCE			
Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
Accounting I	Accounting I	Accounting I	Accounting I
Digital Design and Technology	Digital Design and Technology	Digital Design and Technology	Digital Design and Technology
	Entrepreneurship	Yearbook	Yearbook
	Internship	Personal Finance	Entrepreneurship
		Entrepreneurship	Internship
		Internship	

*** On Pathway Courses**

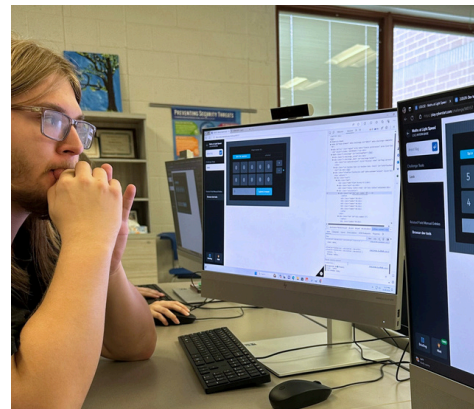
CAREER PATHWAYS: BUSINESS, MANAGEMENT, AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY



MUSIC EDUCATION			
Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
Band	Band	Band	Band
Chorus	Chorus	Chorus	Chorus
Audio Production I	Audio Production I	Audio Production I	Audio Production I
	Audio Production II	Audio Production II	Audio Production II

ENGINEERING AND MANUFACTURING			
Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
	Principles of Manufacturing	Principles of Manufacturing	Principles of Manufacturing
	Heritage Competition Robotics	Heritage Competition Robotics	Heritage Competition Robotics
	BotsIQ Competition Robotics	BotsIQ Competition Robotics	BotsIQ Competition Robotics

FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCE			
Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
Science of Baking	Science of Baking	CIHS Introductory Baking & Sanitation	CIHS Introductory Baking & Sanitation
International & Regional Cooking	International & Regional Cooking	Science of Baking	Science of Baking
Culinary Arts	Culinary Arts	International & Regional Cooking	International & Regional Cooking
	Cafe Based Experience	Culinary Arts	Culinary Arts
	Human Growth & Development	Cafe Based Experience	Cafe Based Experience
		Human Growth & Development	Human Growth & Development





CAREER PATHWAYS:

EDUCATION, PUBLIC SAFETY, AND LAW



This pathway focuses on professional support of community well-being through schools, community safety programs and law enforcement. Careers in this pathway include teachers, law enforcement personnel, lawyers, public offices (elected officials and their support staff), forestry staff, community planners, civil engineers, librarians, and parks and recreation personnel.


Related Courses:

- Cybersecurity 
- Rising Educators 

RIASEC Themes:

Artistic, Investigative, Social, Conventional



 Indicates STEAM Academy Program

SOCIAL STUDIES			
Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
US History I	US History II	World Cultures	Government and Economics
Homeland Security	CIHS US History	CIHS Western Civilization II	CIHS American Government
	Homeland Security	CIHS Psychology	CIHS Psychology
		Homeland Security	CIHS Sociology
			Homeland Security
			Philosophy and Ethics

BUSINESS AND COMPUTER SCIENCE			
Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
Accounting I	Accounting I	Accounting I	Accounting I
Digital Design and Technology	Digital Design and Technology	Digital Design and Technology	Digital Design and Technology
	Entrepreneurship	Yearbook	Yearbook
	Internship	Personal Finance	Entrepreneurship
		Entrepreneurship	Internship
		Internship	

* On Pathway Courses



CAREER PATHWAYS:

HEALTH, MEDICAL, AND HUMAN SERVICES



This pathway focuses on the professional support of individuals' well-being. Careers in this pathway include healthcare providers and support personnel, as well as social workers and non-profit aid/charity organizations.

Related Courses:

- Pathways to Health Professions 
- Rising Educators 
- Sports Medicine and Rehabilitative Therapy 

RIASEC Themes:

Artistic, Investigative, Social, Conventional



 Indicates STEAM Academy Program

SOCIAL STUDIES			
Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
US History I	US History II	World Cultures	Government and Economics
Homeland Security	CIHS US History	CIHS Western Civilization II	CIHS American Government
	Homeland Security	CIHS Psychology	CIHS Psychology
		Homeland Security	CIHS Sociology
			Homeland Security
			Philosophy and Ethics

WORLD LANGUAGES			
Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
Spanish I	Spanish I	Spanish I	Spanish I
French I (Cyber)	Spanish II	Spanish II	Spanish II
	French I (Cyber)	Spanish III	Spanish III
		French I (Cyber)	Spanish IV
			French I (Cyber)

HEALTH SCIENCES AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION			
Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
Physical Education 9	Physical Education (10-12)	Physical Education (10-12)	Physical Education (10-12)
Health 9	Online Physical Education (10-12)	Online Physical Education (10-12)	Online Physical Education (10-12)
	Fitness and Sport	Fitness and Sport	Fitness and Sport
	Fitness and Wellness	Fitness and Wellness	Fitness and Wellness
	Strength and Conditioning	Strength and Conditioning	Strength and Conditioning
		CIHS Psychology	CIHS Psychology

*** On Pathway Courses**

CAREER PATHWAYS: HEALTH, MEDICAL, AND HUMAN SERVICES



BUSINESS AND COMPUTER SCIENCE			
Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
Accounting I	Accounting I	Accounting I	Accounting I
Digital Design and Technology	Digital Design and Technology	Digital Design and Technology	Digital Design and Technology
	Entrepreneurship	Yearbook	Yearbook
	Internship	Personal Finance	Entrepreneurship
		Entrepreneurship	Internship
		Internship	

FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCE			
Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
Science of Baking	Science of Baking	CIHS Introductory Baking & Sanitation	CIHS Introductory Baking & Sanitation
International & Regional Cooking	International & Regional Cooking	Science of Baking	Science of Baking
Culinary Arts	Culinary Arts	International & Regional Cooking	International & Regional Cooking
	Cafe Based Experience	Culinary Arts	Culinary Arts
	Human Growth & Development	Cafe Based Experience	Cafe Based Experience
		Human Growth & Development	Human Growth & Development

* On Pathway Courses



CAREER PATHWAYS:

INDUSTRY AND ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY



This pathway includes various careers related to the design, development, production, construction, transportation, and maintenance of various goods and services. Careers in this pathway include architecture and engineering, construction, welding, truck driving, mechanical and autobody work, food production (growing produce/raising livestock), alternative energy solutions, and lighting design for performance venues.

Related Courses:

Electrical Occupations and Powerline 
 Welding Technology 

RIASEC Themes:

**Artistic, Investigative, Social,
 Conventional**



 Indicates STEAM Academy Program

HEALTH SCIENCES AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION			
Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
Physical Education 9	Physical Education (10-12)	Physical Education (10-12)	Physical Education (10-12)
Health 9	Online Physical Education (10-12)	Online Physical Education (10-12)	Online Physical Education (10-12)
	Fitness and Sport	Fitness and Sport	Fitness and Sport
	Fitness and Wellness	Fitness and Wellness	Fitness and Wellness
	Strength and Conditioning	Strength and Conditioning	Strength and Conditioning
		CIHS Psychology	CIHS Psychology

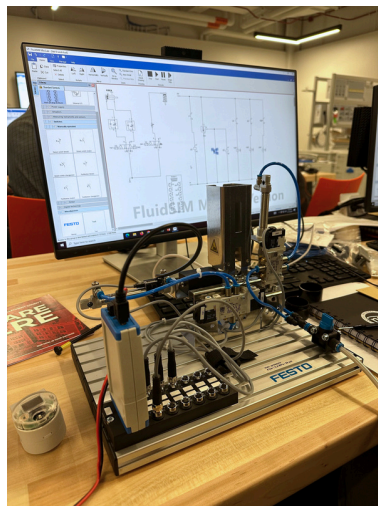
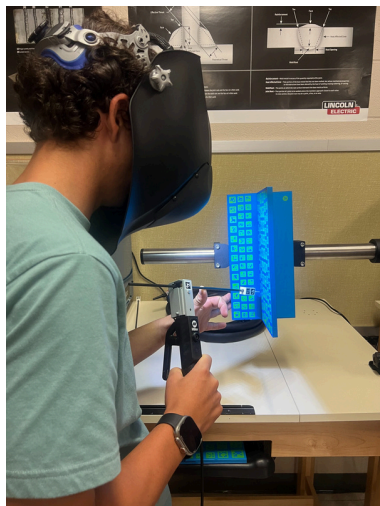
*** On Pathway Courses**

CAREER PATHWAYS: INDUSTRY AND ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY



*** On Pathway Courses**

ENGINEERING AND MANUFACTURING			
Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
	Principles of Manufacturing	Principles of Manufacturing	Principles of Manufacturing
	Heritage Competition Robotics	Heritage Competition Robotics	Heritage Competition Robotics
	BotsIQ Competition Robotics	BotsIQ Competition Robotics	BotsIQ Competition Robotics



ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

COURSE TITLE: ENGLISH 9 (LIT)

CREDIT: 1.0

PREREQUISITES: None

The freshman English course focuses on the areas of writing, speaking, literature, vocabulary, grammar, and portfolios. Students will write narrative, persuasive, descriptive, and expository paragraphs and compositions. Writing assignments may be in the form of a biographical paper, a research paper, and/or written responses to literature. Students will be required to speak before an audience. Speaking assignments may include summaries of their written work, responses to literary works, and/or a formal speech. Students will study a variety of literary genres; these may include novels, short stories, non-fiction works, poetry, and contemporary and/or Shakespearean drama. Students will study literary terminology and lists of vocabulary words taken from literary and/or independent lists. In grammar, students will study such areas as sentence structure, agreement, usage, and writing mechanics. Each student will create an English portfolio, which will demonstrate the student's performance according to district academic standards.

***Keystone Tested Course**

COURSE TITLE: ENGLISH 10 (COMP)

CREDIT: 1.0

PREREQUISITES: Completion of English 9 (LIT)

English 10 is a comprehensive course that includes and integrates the study of literature and composition. The study of world literature will enhance students' reading, comprehension, and analytical thinking skills. A survey of literature will include studies in short stories, poetry, novels, drama, and nonfiction. In addition, students will have opportunities to refine their communication skills through writing and speaking. Students will write and speak in a variety of modes including expository, narrative, and persuasive. Vocabulary units will be integrated throughout the year. Assessments will be based on writing assignments, exams, presentations, projects, and homework.

COURSE TITLE: ENGLISH 11

CREDIT: 1.0

PREREQUISITES: Completion of English 10 (LIT)

This course is designed to focus on three major areas of study enhancing students' critical thinking, comprehension, speaking, and writing skills. The first major area of study is a comprehensive examination of American Literature encompassing both classical and modern authors of poetry, short stories, novels, and drama and the literary devices found in these works. The second major area of study involves the development and refinement of skills in the areas of creative, persuasive, expository, and narrative writing. The final major area of study in this course involves developing oral communication skills through projects, presentations, and speeches designed to give students more confidence in their abilities to communicate effectively. Assessment will be based on a variety of factors. Writing assignments, journals, examinations, homework, group and individual projects, and oral presentations will be used to assess student performance. Students will also be required to keep a portfolio.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

COURSE TITLE: CIHS ENGLISH COMPOSITION I

CREDIT: 1.0

PREREQUISITES: 90% Average in Both English 9 (LIT) and English 10 (COMP) or Teacher Recommendation

English Composition I emphasizes the techniques of writing expository essays with stress upon careful thinking, word choice, sentence structure, and methods of organization. Students practice the writing of clear, coherent, and unified paragraphs and essays. Editing skills and the use of correct grammar and mechanics are also emphasized. Students are taught research skills and are required to write an argumentative research paper. This is the standard college English composition course. This course is highly recommended for students intending to take College English Literature and Composition. This course is offered as part of the College in High School Program. Credit will be awarded for River Valley School District, and may also be taken for college credit through the accrediting college/university.

COURSE TITLE: ENGLISH 12

CREDIT: 1.0

PREREQUISITES: Completion of English 11

This senior course develops skills in reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Students will survey classical British literature in a variety of genres such as drama, short stories, poetry, essays, and novels. Writing will include analytical essays, personal responses, narratives, creative pieces, and research writing. Assessment will be based on projects, exams, quizzes, written work, and class participation. Also, portfolios will be part of the overall evaluation of students' work.

COURSE TITLE: CIHS TOPICS IN LITERATURE

CREDIT: 1.0

PREREQUISITES: Teacher Recommendation

CIHS Topics in Literature is meant to be taught at a college-level pace using literature of merit. Students will engage in in-depth analysis of both fiction and non-fiction works as they deepen their understanding of a wide breadth of materials. Essential to this course will be the ability to comprehend, explain, and critically evaluate the written word. Literary analysis and the subsequent discussion and revision of these analyses will play a major role in the course. This course is offered as part of the College in High School Program. Credit will be awarded for River Valley School District, and may also be taken for college credit through the accrediting college/university.

MATHEMATICS

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

COURSE TITLE: PRE-ALGEBRA
CREDIT: 1.0

PREREQUISITES: None

Pre-Algebra is an Algebra readiness curriculum designed as a prerequisite course for Algebra I. The goal of Pre-Algebra is to improve a student's foundational skills and prepare them for Algebra I. The course is designed to provide a solid algebraic foundation. Emphasis is placed on basic concepts such as number development, equations, functions, and graphing.

COURSE TITLE: ALGEBRA I

CREDIT: 2.0
PREREQUISITES: None

This course is designed to provide an algebraic foundation for students. Emphasis is placed upon problem-solving and logical thinking while basic concepts such as number development, equations, functions, and graphing are stressed as well. Exploration and presentation of topics including symbol interpretation, statement problems, polynomial expressions, and equations are included. ***Keystone Tested Course**

COURSE TITLE: GEOMETRY

CREDIT: 1.0
PREREQUISITES: Completion of Algebra I

This course builds upon concepts taught in Algebra I. The course offers an introduction to mathematical reasoning and Euclidean geometry. Topics will include parallel and perpendicular lines, perimeter, area, surface area and volume. Other topics include properties of polygons, similarity, congruence, right triangles and trigonometry, coordinate geometry, and circles.

COURSE TITLE: ADVANCED GEOMETRY

CREDIT: 1.0
PREREQUISITES: Completion of Algebra I

This course is designed for students who have completed Algebra I in middle school. The course offers a rigorous approach to mathematical reasoning through Euclidean and non-Euclidean geometries. Deductive reasoning, theorem proofs, and applications in parallelism, congruence, similarity, inequalities in geometry, transformations, and coordinate geometry are emphasized.

COURSE TITLE: ALGEBRA II

CREDIT: 1.0
PREREQUISITES: Completion of Algebra I

This course reviews and builds upon the concepts of Algebra I, covering such topics as linear equations and inequalities, linear systems, quadratic functions, polynomial functions, exponential and logarithmic functions, rational expressions and equations, sequences and series, and data analysis and probability.

COURSE TITLE: ADVANCED ALGEBRA II

CREDIT: 1.0
PREREQUISITES: Completion of Advanced Geometry

This course is designed for the accelerated student. It reviews and builds upon the concepts of Algebra I, covering such topics as linear equations and inequalities, linear systems, quadratic functions, polynomial functions, exponential and logarithmic functions, rational expressions and equations, and data analysis and probability.

MATHEMATICS

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

COURSE TITLE: CIHS COLLEGE ALGEBRA

CREDIT: 1.0

PREREQUISITES: Completion of Algebra II and Teacher Recommendation

Students enrolled in this course should have a strong background in basic and intermediate algebra. Topics include an in-depth study of expressions, solving equations, solving inequalities, circles, and a detailed study of functions including polynomial, logarithmic, and exponential functions. This course is offered as part of the College in High School Program. Credit will be awarded for River Valley School District, and may also be taken for college credit through the accrediting college/university.

COURSE TITLE: CIHS PRE-CALCULUS

CREDIT: 1.0

PREREQUISITES: Average of at least 80% in Advanced Algebra II and/or Teacher Recommendation

This course reviews and builds upon the concepts of Advanced Algebra II, covering such topics as linear equations and inequalities, quadratic functions, polynomial functions, exponential and logarithmic functions, and trigonometric functions. This course is offered as part of the College in High School Program. Credit will be awarded for River Valley School District, and may also be taken for college credit through the accrediting college/university.

COURSE TITLE: CIHS CALCULUS I

CREDIT: 1.0

PREREQUISITES: Completion of CIHS College Pre-Calculus and Teacher Recommendation

This course reviews and builds upon the concepts of Advanced Algebra II, covering such topics as linear equations and inequalities, quadratic functions, polynomial functions, exponential and logarithmic functions, and trigonometric functions. This course is offered as part of the College in High School Program. Credit will be awarded for River Valley School District, and may also be taken for college credit through the accrediting college/university.

COURSE TITLE: CIHS STATISTICS

CREDIT: 1.0

PREREQUISITES: Teacher Recommendation

This college-level course is a senior mathematics elective. The purpose of this course is to give students a conceptual understanding of research-based statistics. This course is divided into four segments: data analysis, data production, probability and statistical inference. The TI-84 Plus Edition graphing calculator is utilized extensively and is required. This course is offered as part of the College in High School Program. Credit will be awarded for River Valley School District, and may also be taken for college credit through the accrediting college/university.

COURSE TITLE: CIHS CALCULUS II

CREDIT: 1.0

PREREQUISITES: CIHS College Calculus I

Calculus II is equivalent to a second-semester college calculus course. It extends the content learned in Calculus I to different types of equations (polar, parametric, vector-valued) and new topics (such as integration by parts, partial fraction decomposition, and improper integrals), and introduces the topics of sequences, series, and polar coordinates. The course teaches students to approach calculus concepts and problems when they are represented graphically, numerically, analytically, and verbally, and to make connections amongst these representations. Students learn how to use technology to help solve problems, experiment, interpret results, and support conclusions. This course is offered as part of the College in High School Program. Credit will be awarded for River Valley School District, and may also be taken for college credit through the accrediting college/university.

SCIENCE

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

COURSE TITLE: SCIENCE 9
CREDIT: 1.0

PREREQUISITES: None

Science 9 is an introductory high school course designed to build a strong foundation in scientific knowledge, inquiry, and critical thinking. This course explores key concepts in biology, earth and space science, and environmental sustainability, helping students understand the natural world and their role within it. By the end of Science 9, students will have a broad understanding of biological systems, Earth processes, and environmental sustainability, preparing them for further studies in science and informed participation in a rapidly changing world.

COURSE TITLE: BIOLOGY
CREDIT: 1.0

PREREQUISITES: None

This is offered to students as an academic survey of the biological sciences. Students are introduced to the broad range of disciplines that are encompassed by the life sciences. Students are shown the manner in which science is approached as an effort to understand and manage daily life. Topics such as cell biology, taxonomy, genetics and science process are emphasized. Hands-on activities are incorporated, and the successful student will engage in an active role in class discussions and activities. This course consists of integrated components that expose the student to the nature of scientific inquiry and the unifying themes of science and biology. The curriculum is based on testing anchors for the Keystone Biology Exam. Students will develop critical/scientific thinking skills related to science, along with knowledge about the nature of life (cells), energy and living things, genetics, and the evolution of life on earth. Completion of this course is intended to yield a proficient level of ability on the Keystone Biology Exam. ***Keystone Tested Course**

COURSE TITLE: APPLIED CHEMISTRY
CREDIT: 1.0

PREREQUISITES: Completion of Biology I

Integrated Chemistry is the study of matter and how its properties and changes are a function of its atomic structure. This course is designed as an introduction to essential and basic chemical concepts that follow Chemistry Keystone Assessment Anchors. Through the use of varied modes of instruction and assessment, the overall goal of Integrated Chemistry is to develop the student's knowledge and appreciation of the chemical patterns that are present throughout the physical universe. This course is not accompanied by laboratory periods, although inquiry investigations and activities are used when applicable.

SCIENCE

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

COURSE TITLE: ACADEMIC CHEMISTRY
CREDIT: 1.5

PREREQUISITES: Completion of Algebra I and Biology I or concurrently enrolled in Algebra I

Chemistry is the study of matter and how its properties and changes are a consequence of its structure. Chemistry also investigates the energy changes that accompany the changes in matter. It is, therefore, the goal of high school chemistry to increase the student's understanding, knowledge, and appreciation of the structure and behavior of the physical universe. A course in high school chemistry will also help the student mature intellectually. It should make the student a better problem solver, develop critical thinking skills, and help the student see the connections between chemistry and other subject areas. This course allows for a laboratory component. Topics to be covered include scientific measurement and problem-solving, matter and change, the mole concept, atomic structure, electrons in atoms, the periodic table and periodic trends, chemical bonding and chemical formulas/names, chemical reactions and equations, stoichiometry, gas laws, and solutions. Assessments will include chapter tests and quizzes, performance-based lab experiments and reports, homework assignments, teacher observation and in-class activities and reinforcements.

COURSE TITLE: APPLIED PHYSICS
CREDIT: 1.0

PREREQUISITES: Completion of Chemistry or Applied Chemistry

Integrated Physical Science is designed for the student who is seeking a fundamental understanding of physics and chemistry. This course will emphasize problem-solving on a basic level. The fundamental areas of integrated physical science will be covered with special emphasis on mechanics. Mechanics is the study of motion, force, work, power, energy and momentum. Additional topics to be covered may include electricity and light. This course is designed to provide students with an understanding of basic physical concepts and how they relate to our society, the environment, and the natural world in which they live. Topics will be taught using a fundamental, conceptual approach. Teaching and learning strategies include demonstrations, lectures, videos, individualized problem-solving, group problem-solving, and the use of technology. Assessment of course objectives will be given in the form of homework, quizzes, tests, and various "hands-on" projects that emphasize the application of physical science in a real-world setting. Notebooks and basic calculators are required.

COURSE TITLE: ACADEMIC PHYSICS
CREDIT: 1.5

PREREQUISITES: Completion of Chemistry and completion or currently enrolled in Algebra II

This course is an introductory physics course with a significant emphasis on mathematics. A major goal of this course is to develop and improve critical thinking and problem-solving skills. Since mathematics is considered to be the language of physics, students will be using math extensively in this course. To ensure success, it is recommended that the student have a solid foundation in algebra. The fundamental areas of physics will be covered with special emphasis on mechanics. Mechanics is the study of motion, force, work, energy, power, machines and momentum. Other possible topics to be covered include waves, electricity, light, sound and magnetism. Topics will be taught using a more mathematical and analytical approach. Teaching and learning strategies include demonstrations, lectures, videos, individualized problem-solving, group problem-solving, and the use of technology. Assessment of course objectives will be given in the form of homework, quizzes, tests, projects and performance-based laboratory experiments. Notebooks and scientific calculators are required.

SCIENCE

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

COURSE TITLE: BIOLOGY II
CREDIT: 1.0

PREREQUISITES: Biology I and Proficiency on the Biology Keystone Exam

This is an elective course designed for students who plan on pursuing post-secondary science education, or life science-related occupations. This course is divided into two major sections: Taxonomy and Mammalian Anatomy. The course is project-oriented with an essential reading and writing component. Students who take this course will be required to participate actively in a collaborative setting. This is considered a college preparatory course.

COURSE TITLE: ENVIRONMENT AND ECOLOGY
CREDIT: 1.0

PREREQUISITES: Biology; Chemistry may be scheduled concurrently with teacher recommendation.

Environment and Ecology provides students with an overview of the relationship between humans and their environment and explores the physical, chemical, and biological conditions of the environment and their effect on organisms. The relationships between living organisms, including humans, and their physical environment will be studied. The students will be exposed to aspects of biology, earth, and atmospheric sciences, fundamental principles of chemistry and physics, human population dynamics, and an appreciation for the Earth and its natural resources. Environment and Ecology is a required course for students who did not pass the Keystone Biology Exam. This course will count as a science elective course. You may take this course concurrently with Chemistry with an approved teacher recommendation.

COURSE TITLE: CIHS COLLEGE CHEMISTRY
CREDIT: 1.5

PREREQUISITES: Completion of Chemistry and Algebra II and Teacher Recommendation

This course, which allows for a laboratory component, is designed to be the equivalent of the general chemistry course usually taken during the first year of college. Students should attain a depth of understanding of fundamentals and a reasonable competence in dealing with chemical problems. This course will contribute to the development of students' abilities to think clearly and to express their ideas, orally and in writing, with clarity and logic. A great emphasis will be placed on chemical calculations and the mathematical formulation of principles. Students will encounter more advanced laboratory methods and experiments that must be accompanied by detailed and organized laboratory reports. College Chemistry is much more rigorous and quantitative than Chemistry; virtually every concept exposes the student to a problem-solving situation. As a result, the student completing the course should have enhanced problem-solving and critical thinking skills and begin to see how other subjects such as mathematics, physics, and communication courses are integrally related and important. Students will see a connection between chemistry and their everyday lives as part of society. Assessments include chapter tests and quizzes, performance-based lab experiments and reports, practice problems, teacher observation, and major performance tasks/projects. Each student will also complete a cumulative final exam at the end of the year. There will be a summer assignment given for this course. This course is offered as part of the College in the High School Program. Credit will be awarded for River Valley School District, and the course may also be taken for college credit through the accrediting college/university.

SCIENCE

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

COURSE TITLE: CIHS COLLEGE PHYSICS
CREDIT: 1.5

PREREQUISITES: Completion of Physics and
Concurrent enrollment in Calculus Recommended
Teacher Recommendation

The College Physics course is available to students who have successfully completed Physics 0330. This course is targeted toward students planning to further their education in engineering or in a science-related field. It is primarily designed to prepare students for a college-level, Calculus-based Physics course. Students taking this course will also have the option to take the Mechanics section of the AP Physics C Exam. Topics covered in this course are similar to those in Physics, but all are treated in greater depth and become more abstract under the College in the High School curriculum. Calculus is considered to be an integral tool for this course; therefore, it is highly recommended, but not required, that students are enrolled in a Calculus course. This will ensure repeated practice and reinforcement of the Calculus concepts taught and needed in the course. The continued development of problem-solving strategies and critical thinking skills will be the factors that drive the curriculum. As a result, this course will take a problem-centered approach in both the abstract and concrete. Not only will students be expected to solve problems on paper, but they must also apply basic knowledge, concepts, and practices as they conduct laboratory experiments and complete projects. Throughout each unit, various methods will be employed to ensure the highest level of learning. Conceptual knowledge of the content will be achieved by way of lectures, discussions, demonstrations, computer simulations, and video clips. Analytical skills will be developed through the delivery of sample problems and by way of problem-solving both independently and in small groups. The utilization of acquired knowledge and skills will occur in student-centered, hands-on laboratory experiments and projects. Assessment of course objectives will be given via homework, quizzes, laboratory experiments, projects, and exams. Notebooks and scientific calculators are required. This course is offered as part of the College in the High School Program. Credit will be awarded for River Valley School District, and the course may also be taken for college credit through the accrediting college/university.

SOCIAL STUDIES

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

COURSE TITLE: UNITED STATES HISTORY I (9TH) CREDIT: 1.0
PREREQUISITES: None

This is a one-year course consisting of an examination of United States political, cultural, economic and diplomatic history from 1789 - 1914. With a concentration on the Constitution, the course will cover the formation of the federal union, nationalism, sectionalism, the growth of democracy, the Civil War, Reconstruction, the growth of big business and progressivism.

COURSE TITLE: UNITED STATES HISTORY II (10TH) CREDIT: 1.0
PREREQUISITES: US History I

The course examines United States History from 1914 to the present and is divided into four segments conforming to the nine weeks. The first nine weeks will cover the emergence of the U.S. as a world power up through and including WWI. The second nine weeks will deal with the Twenties, the Great Depression, and World War II. In the third nine weeks, students will study the Post-War years, the Cold War, and the Civil Rights Movement. In the fourth nine weeks, students will study from the 1980's to the present day. Weekly homework assignments come from the textbook. Chapter tests include multiple choice, true/false, matching, fill in the blank questions, and essays. Every nine weeks, the students will complete a special project on assigned subjects pertaining to those nine weeks. It will be assessed on a simulation rubric.

COURSE TITLE: WORLD CULTURES (11TH) CREDIT: 1.0
PREREQUISITES: US History I & II

This class is the required history course for all 11th-grade students. It is designed as a survey of global history, from the beginning of civilizations up to the modern era. The intent of the course is to make the students more familiar with the many civilizations that have existed before our own. The intention of this course is for students to understand the influences those cultures have had on our present-day society and will have a greater appreciation for the many tremendous accomplishments of early peoples. Additionally, we hope to increase personal knowledge of major geographical concepts. The broad nature of the course requires a very fast pace and, therefore, demands hard work, good attendance, good notes, regular study, and reading of the textbook.

COURSE TITLE: CIHS WESTERN CIVILIZATION II CREDIT: 1.0
PREREQUISITES: Teacher Recommendation

This course examines the history and experiences of cultures from the Renaissance to the present. Major political, social, economic, cultural, and religious trends and influences are examined, discussed, and interpreted. Topic discussions include perspectives on the rise of European power, revolutions (political, social, scientific, and economic), the arts, literature, philosophy, nationalism, and global interdependence among nations.

COURSE TITLE: GOVERNMENT AND ECONOMICS CREDIT: 1.0
PREREQUISITES: None

The senior social studies course is the base social studies class for 12th-grade students. One semester of the course is devoted to a study of the American model of the free-enterprise economic system. The other semester is a study of the American Government. An emphasis will be placed on the study of individual freedom and American Democracy. Students will be encouraged to deal logically with various political problems. The course will encourage the enhancement of communication, research, and technological skills of each student in various projects throughout the year.

SOCIAL STUDIES

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

COURSE TITLE: CIHS AMERICAN GOVERNMENT

CREDIT: 1.0

PREREQUISITES: Teacher Recommendation

CIHS course is designed to explain the contours of a federal system and the implications of federalism in American politics. Students will identify the branches of the federal government and explain the relationship between them. Students will investigate and identify the competing political ideologies in the United States and explain their impact on the democratic policy-making process. Using podcasts, research projects, and current events, students will analyze the impact of the media on the political process; identify and analyze major political shifts in American political history; identify and analyze major Supreme Court cases, and explain the role of foreign policy in American politics

COURSE TITLE: CIHS SOCIOLOGY

CREDIT: .5

PREREQUISITES: Grade 12

Introduction to the theories, principles, concepts, and major research in sociology. Study includes society's impact on human behavior and consciousness as well as the ways in which individuals and groups affect cultures and their social structures. A comparison of different cultures and subcultures provides an understanding of the relativity and universality of social values, norms, and beliefs.

COURSE TITLE: HOMELAND SECURITY

CREDIT: 1.0

PREREQUISITES: None

This program integrates current practices and technologies used by both governmental and private sector agencies. Instruction centers around how the United States protects against threats to public health and public safety by using effective communication, prevention, response, and recovery techniques. Students will also take a CPR course and receive an industry certification.

COURSE TITLE: CIHS US HISTORY

CREDIT: 1.0

PREREQUISITES: US History I and Teacher Recommendation

This course offers students an in-depth exploration of United States history from the colonial era to modern times, emphasizing the political, social, economic, and cultural forces that have shaped the nation. Designed to provide college-level rigor, the course challenges students to analyze primary and secondary sources, construct evidence-based arguments, and engage in critical discussions about significant events, movements, and turning points in American history. Through debates, essays, and projects, students will hone their historical thinking skills, including contextualization, comparison, causation, and continuity and change over time.

COURSE TITLE: PHILOSOPHY AND ETHICS

CREDIT: 1.0

PREREQUISITES: World Cultures or CIHS Western Civilization II, Grade 12

This course will focus on the basics of Western Philosophy - the study of big questions about existence, knowledge, values, and reason - beginning with the Greeks and continuing to the present. It will have an emphasis on Ethics/Moral Behavior and may at times include aspects of Eastern Philosophy. Although the course will include lecture/note-taking and textual reading, the day-to-day emphasis will be on class discussions and critical thinking exercises.

WORLD LANGUAGES

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

COURSE TITLE: CIHS SPANISH I

CREDIT: 1.0
PREREQUISITES: None

The course introduces the basic structures of the Spanish language and culture. This interactive course will allow students to achieve a functional proficiency at the novice levels of speaking, listening, reading, and writing. It also stresses aural/oral proficiency, pronunciation, grammatical accuracy, and a fundamental awareness of the cultural diversity of Spanish speaking countries.

COURSE TITLE: CIHS SPANISH II

CREDIT: 1.0
PREREQUISITES: Spanish I

To receive college credits for this course, you must have taken Spanish I as CIHS. This course continues building the foundations of the Spanish language and culture of Spanish-speaking countries. There is an emphasis on more complex syntactic structures in addition to working on a greater proficiency in speaking, listening, reading, and writing skills. Developing communicative skills and cross-cultural competence is continued.

COURSE TITLE: CIHS SPANISH III

CREDIT: 1.0
PREREQUISITES: Spanish II

To receive college credits for this course, you must have taken Spanish I & II as CIHS. Spanish III is recommended for students who are planning to attend a college or university with language requirements as well as students who desire to improve their Spanish-speaking and comprehension skills with the goal of being communicably proficient in the Spanish language. Spanish III curriculum is designed around the framework of the World-Readiness Standards for Learning Languages as developed by the American Council for the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL): Communication, Cultures, Connections, Comparisons, and Communities. The course is primarily taught in the target language, affording the students a simulated "Hispanic" environment, where they are able to apply concepts and skills to communicate in real-life situations. Students are expected to use Spanish exclusively to communicate in class. Students also explore authentic cultural and historical texts in order to bring global competence to their future careers and experiences.

COURSE TITLE: CIHS SPANISH IV

CREDIT: 1.0
PREREQUISITES: Spanish III

This course is an optional CIHS class for credits. To receive college credits for this course, you must have taken Spanish I, II, and III as CIHS. Spanish IV is an advanced-level course that aims to deepen students' understanding of the Spanish language and the diverse cultures of the Spanish-speaking world. Students will refine their speaking, listening, reading, and writing skills with an emphasis on communication and cultural competence. The course will enhance fluency in spoken Spanish through discussions, presentations, and conversational practice on a wide range of topics.

COURSE TITLE: FRENCH I (CYBER)

CREDIT: 1.0
PREREQUISITES: None

French I is an immersive language class that covers grammar, vocabulary, and other foundational concepts that are necessary for acquiring a basic understanding of the language.

HEALTH SCIENCES & PHYSICAL EDUCATION COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

COURSE TITLE: PHYSICAL EDUCATION 9

CREDIT: Varies by Rotation Schedule

PREREQUISITES: None

A required course that introduces students to sports skills and concepts, personal fitness, strength training, cardiovascular fitness and mobility and flexibility training.

COURSE TITLE: PHYSICAL EDUCATION 10-12

CREDIT: Varies by Rotation Schedule

PREREQUISITES: None

A course that introduces students to sports skills and concepts, personal fitness, strength training, cardiovascular fitness and mobility and flexibility training.

**COURSE TITLE: PHYSICAL EDUCATION 10-12
(CYBER)**

CREDIT: Varies by Rotation Schedule

PREREQUISITES: None

An online course that introduces students to sports skills and concepts, personal fitness, strength training, cardiovascular fitness and mobility and flexibility training.

COURSE TITLE: HEALTH

CREDIT: Varies by Rotation Schedule

PREREQUISITES: None

The secondary health program will expose all students to the concepts of total wellness including physical, mental, social and intellectual health. Healthy living will be addressed by providing active experiences that allow all students to practice applying healthy choices to real-life situations. Health education will also include problem-solving, critical thinking and decision-making skills. These are essential to student recognition of healthy behavior that can ultimately ensure a healthy lifestyle. In addition to decision-making, topics to be covered are: alcohol, tobacco and substance avoidance, function of the human reproductive system, disease prevention and control promotion of healthy lifestyles, and continued physical activity throughout one's life. Also, dietary guidelines and nutritional needs, community health resources, injury prevention, and the ability to respond in an emergency situation. Assessments will include chapter tests, quizzes, homework assignments, chapter worksheets, journals, various small projects and teacher assessments. The final may consist of either a written competency test or a teacher directed project.

COURSE TITLE: FITNESS AND SPORT

CREDIT: 1.0

PREREQUISITES: Grades 10-12

This course has a primary focus on tactical game skills and team based performance in conjunction with individual sport skill improvement. A variety of sports will be covered and it is expected that students are both interested in learning new skills as well as further developing existing skills across a variety of disciplines. *This class requires a minimum enrollment of 15 students.

COURSE TITLE: FITNESS AND WELLNESS

CREDIT: 1.0

PREREQUISITES: Grades 10-12

A course designed to focus on personal health and wellness. Topics and activities include but are not limited to, cardiovascular fitness, nutrition, flexibility, strength training for fitness, and designing and maintaining a healthy, active lifestyle that can be continued beyond graduation.

HEALTH SCIENCES & PHYSICAL EDUCATION COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

COURSE TITLE: FITNESS AND CONDITIONING

CREDIT: 1.0

PREREQUISITES: Grades 10-12

A human performance-based class that focuses on improving attributes needed for enhanced sports performance. Activities will include strength and power training, speed and agility training, and mobility training. In addition, students will gain an understanding of proper technique, program design, and multi-sport conditioning.

COURSE TITLE: CIHS PSYCHOLOGY

CREDIT: .5

PREREQUISITES: Grades 11 and 12

This is an introduction to the science of human behavior and mental processes. Students examine the relation between the nervous system and behavior, learning, perception, language, personality, intelligence, and psychopathology. This is a college-level course and requires the ability to read and write at that level. It includes both informal and formal written lab reports. This course is open to 11th and 12th grade students.

COURSE TITLE: HUMAN GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

CREDIT: 1.0

PREREQUISITES: Grades 10-12

This course is for students who have a desire to help others but are unsure of a specific path. This could include teachers, medical careers, counseling, etc. We focus on human growth and development over a lifespan. This is important as it gives a student a background in human growth and development from birth through childhood into adulthood and through death and grief. It gives the student perspective and highlights where people in the caring professions are most needed. Students who take this course will come away with a broad understanding of all the careers that help people from birth to death.

ART & MUSIC

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

COURSE TITLE: INTRODUCTION TO ART

CREDIT: 1.0

PREREQUISITES: None

Introduction to art is designed to give the beginning art student the opportunity to develop and explore different art forms. This course allows the student to experience two dimensional work as well as three dimensional. Students will be expected and encouraged to take artist risks, use resources and grow as artists. The purpose of this course is to help the student find what art area they specialize in or prefer to work with.

COURSE TITLE: PHOTOGRAPHY

CREDIT: 1.0

PREREQUISITES: Intro to Art or Teacher Recommendation

Photography is a digital class that utilizes DSLR cameras as well as Adobe Photoshop and Lightroom to edit digital photos. This class explores the career of being a photographer by being given a prompt and a general idea of what is expected. Students will adjust the camera based off the environments they are in and utilize digital editing softwares to enhance their works.

COURSE TITLE: ILLUSTRATION/GRAPHIC DESIGN

CREDIT: 1.0

PREREQUISITES: None

Illustration is designed to give the art student the opportunity to develop their understanding of composition regarding modern techniques with illustration. The main focus of this course is to use hands-on mediums like watercolor, acrylic, alcohol based markers, colored pencils, and pen and ink to create illustrative designs and to explore typography, designing texts, cartooning, and anime.

COURSE TITLE: PAINTING I/II

CREDIT: 1.0

PREREQUISITES: None

Painting I is an introduction to formal painting techniques and styles from various historical and cultural areas. The art student will explore water-based paints and learn proper painting techniques to create completed compositions on the appropriate base materials like canvas or paper. Some of the projects involve landscapes, still lifes, and light/reflection studies. Painting II involves further exploration of techniques the art student learned in Painting I. Using previously learned skills the student will begin learning oil painting and finishing techniques as well as mixed media which can include spray paint and/or air brush. The students will also learn how to stretch their own canvases but also to use different base materials like linen and masonite.

COURSE TITLE: POTTERY AND SCULPTURE

CREDIT: 1.0

PREREQUISITES: Intro to Art or Teacher Recommendation

Pottery consists of multiple clay techniques such as hand building, slab building, coiling, throwing, extruding, and slip casting. The student will learn these techniques as well as proper glazing techniques. This class will also explore sculpture by using removal methods on materials like leather-hard clay and plaster. In addition the students will experiment with other 3-D elements like resin, air dry clay, as well as mixed media to create completed sculptures.

ART & MUSIC

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

COURSE TITLE: ADVANCED ART

CREDIT: 1.0

PREREQUISITES: Intro to Art, and two other art courses or Teacher Recommendation

Advanced art is a course designed for students to explore their preferred art mediums and styles. Students will combine skills they've learned from previous art classes to create their own projects. Each month, students meet to discuss their current progress and either wrap up the project or continue it on into the next month. This course promotes an independent exploration with the art teacher acting as an aid and fellow artist.

COURSE TITLE: BAND

CREDIT: Varies

PREREQUISITES: None

Band is an elective course available to students in grades 9 – 12, who show proficiency on their band instrument. The concert band performs several evening concerts during the year. The purpose of the course includes playing for enjoyment, developing technical skills, and reading and studying a widely varied band repertory including modern, popular, and classical styles. Course objectives include developing ensemble performance skills such as posture, tone, intonation, breathing, rhythm, and articulation, and using these skills in expressive musical performances. Students will provide their own instruments; some school instruments are available. The school provides all concert music. Periodic playing assessments and concert performances are part of the grading process.

COURSE TITLE: CHORUS

CREDIT: Varies

PREREQUISITES: None

The High School Chorus is a performing ensemble that meets during the school day and performs several evening concerts during the year. The purpose of the course includes singing for enjoyment, developing vocal skills, and reading and studying a widely varied choral repertory including secular, popular, and classical styles. Course objectives include developing ensemble performance skills such as posture, tone, intonation, breathing, rhythm, and articulation, and using these skills in expressive musical performances. The school provides all concert music. Periodic singing assessments & concert performances are part of the grading process.

COURSE TITLE: AUDIO PRODUCTION I

CREDIT: 0.5

PREREQUISITES: None

This is an introduction to the world of audio production. It is meant for students with an interest in audio and its applications in modern media and art. Students will learn to employ audio as a creative tool for documentary storytelling, fiction filmmaking, video art, news media, radio production, comedy sketches, commercials and internet production.

COURSE TITLE: AUDIO PRODUCTION II

CREDIT: 0.5

PREREQUISITES: Audio Production I

This course focuses on the study of advanced techniques involved in audio production that build on the concepts covered in Audio Production I. It is the second of two courses that comprise the Production Track core. Audio Production II focuses on production and mixing, which includes the study of various production and mixing techniques, both classic and contemporary.

FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

COURSE TITLE: CIHS INTRODUCTORY BAKING & SANITATION

CREDIT: 1.0

PREREQUISITES: Grades 11 & 12

This is a college-level elective course. The course is designed to teach fundamental principles and procedures used to prepare a variety of bakery products and desserts and provides a study of ingredients and mixing methods for producing various baked goods. The course also includes an integration of the Applied Foodservice Sanitation Certification Course as approved by The Educational Foundation of the National Restaurant Association. Topics include the principles of food microbiology, applied measures for the prevention of foodborne illness, and emphasis on working through people to maintain a sanitary food service operation. Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP) fundamentals and steps for implementation are key components of the course. Coursework prepares students for the ServSafe® certification test and is part of the Professional Management series of the National Restaurant Association. Upon successful completion of the course, students will be awarded three college credits.

COURSE TITLE: THE SCIENCE OF BAKING

CREDIT: 0.5

PREREQUISITES: None

Students will build skills and learn to make a variety of yeast and quick breads, focusing on scientific principles that yield the best baked product. The course will also include preparation of cookies, cakes, pastries, and key culinary baking techniques. This course is recommended for students interested in culinary arts careers or baking enthusiasts.

COURSE TITLE: INTERNATIONAL & REGIONAL COOKING

CREDIT: 0.5

PREREQUISITES: None

This course is designed for students interested in exploring a variety of foods and cooking techniques from regions of the world. Through individual projects students will also examine the diverse customs, influences, and food habits of people throughout the world. The focus of this course is for students to gain appreciation for the diverse cuisines and cultures of the world.

COURSE TITLE: CULINARY ARTS I/II

CREDIT: 1.0

PREREQUISITES: None

Culinary Arts I is designed for all students interested in studying and applying basic cooking principles and techniques. The focus of this course is lab-based application of kitchen foundations. Personal and food safety, sanitation, and basic food preparation techniques are learned as students prepare a wide variety of foods. Culinary Arts II is designed for all students interested in advancing their culinary skills and knowledge. The focus of this lab-based course will be to build on the basic skills already acquired in the Culinary Arts I. Students will have the opportunity to learn advanced and diverse cooking techniques.

COURSE TITLE: CAFE BASED EXPERIENCE

CREDIT: 1.0

PREREQUISITES: Grades 9-12 and

Completion of one Foods Class or Teacher Recommendation

Cafe based experience is a one-year course open to all high school students. The class is scheduled as a double period to accommodate the time frame needed to prepare specialty drinks, baked goods, and small meals and serve them to the teachers and the general public. Students learn kitchen/food safety, food preparation, food service, and have the opportunity to earn a ServSafe Certification.

BUSINESS & COMPUTER SCIENCE

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

COURSE TITLE: ACCOUNTING I

CREDIT: 1.0

PREREQUISITES: None

Accounting I emphasizes the skills and knowledge concerning economic entities that is necessary for making sound business decisions. This course aims to develop an understanding of basic principles of accounting and how they can be adapted to personal, social, or vocational use. The student will use automated accounting methods to develop an understanding of the internal workings of a business. The student will be able to keep a set of books, both manually and automated, for a service business formed as a sole proprietorship and also for a merchandising business formed as a partnership. Income tax preparation, federal, state and local will also be presented.

COURSE TITLE: DIGITAL DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY

CREDIT: 1.0

PREREQUISITES: None

Digital Design & Technology is a project-based, technology-based year-long elective for grades 9-12. Students work on the Canva platform in the fall to create and update print and virtual versions of the home varsity football programs. All year long, students design, interview, photograph, and write articles for the high school's digital newspaper, The Bow Ridge Bulletin and Blairsville Elementary School's yearbook.

COURSE TITLE: YEARBOOK

CREDIT: 1.0

PREREQUISITES: Teacher Recommendation

This course is a year-long elective for students in grades 11-12. In this course, students will gain skills in one or more of the following areas: page design, advanced publishing techniques, copywriting, editing, and photography, while producing a creative, innovative yearbook that records school memories and events. There is an emphasis on journalism skills in this class! Participants gain useful, real-world skills in time management, marketing, teamwork, and design principles. *This course is an elective and does not count towards English graduation requirements.

COURSE TITLE: PERSONAL FINANCE

CREDIT: 1.0

PREREQUISITES: Grade 11

This Personal Finance course builds essential skills for making informed financial decisions. Students explore budgeting, saving, investing, credit, debt management, taxes, insurance, and retirement planning. They develop financial goals, create spending plans, analyze credit scores, and evaluate investment options for long-term stability. Through real-world applications and interactive activities, students apply concepts to authentic situations and learn to make responsible financial choices with confidence.

BUSINESS & COMPUTER SCIENCE

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

COURSE TITLE: ENTREPRENEURSHIP

CREDIT: 1.0

PREREQUISITES: Grades 10-12

Young Entrepreneurs Academy (YEA) prepares students in the process by which one establishes a business enterprise or social movement. Students develop and hone business ideas and objectives, consider the underlying opportunities and the value proposition, write a business plan, make a pitch to potential investors, obtain funding, open bank accounts, register with the governmental agencies, develop and manage media campaigns, establish e-commerce and a web presence, run sales events, and file tax returns.

COURSE TITLE: INTERNSHIP

CREDIT: 0.5

PREREQUISITES: Grades 10-12

This program provides students with the opportunity to participate in on-site and off-site observations of business and professional organizations. The program will provide students with the opportunity to interact with, observe, and assist individuals who are employed in a career of their interest. The intent of the internship is to provide activities that will enable the student to make informed-career decisions based on significant knowledge and insights developed during participation. Internships are unpaid/paid credit-earning experiences. Students must be in good academic and behavioral standing. Students must also be in good-standing with the district graduation requirements.

ENGINEERING AND MANUFACTURING COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

COURSE TITLE: PRINCIPLES OF MANUFACTURING

CREDIT: 1.0

PREREQUISITES: Grades 10-12

Principles of Manufacturing is designed to provide students with exposure to various occupations and pathways in the Advanced Manufacturing career cluster, such as Machining Technology, Electromechanical Technology, and Mechatronics. To gain a holistic view of the advanced manufacturing industry, students will complete all core standards, as well as standards in the focus areas. Throughout the course, students will develop an understanding of the general steps involved in the manufacturing process and master the essential skills to be an effective team member in a manufacturing production setting. (OSHA 10 Certification)

COURSE TITLE: HERITAGE ROBOTICS

CREDIT: 1.0

PREREQUISITES: Grades 10-12

The student will be introduced to basic concepts in robotics through a hands-on approach. Students will work in teams to build and test increasingly more complete robotics projects that will use motors, pulses, servos, switches, sensors, LEDs, mounting boards, and much more. The course also competes in the Heritage Conference Robotics Championship.

COURSE TITLE: BOTS IQ

CREDIT: 1.0

PREREQUISITES: Heritage Robotics, Grades 11-12

The student will be introduced to basic concepts in robotics through a hands-on approach. Students will work in teams to build and test increasingly more complete robotics projects that will use motors, pulses, servos, switches, sensors, LEDs, mounting boards, and much more. The course also competes in the Heritage Conference Robotics Championship.

POINT PARK UNIVERSITY

DUAL ENROLLMENT



Dual enrollment courses allow 11th and 12th grade students to earn college credit while in high school. Dual Enrollment courses are taught virtually by Point Park University faculty. If interested in dual enrollment through Point Park University, contact Mrs. Chelsea Evans, High School Counselor, at evans.c@rvsdpa.org.

COURSE #: ENGL 101 **CREDIT:** 1.0
COURSE TITLE: COLLEGE COMPOSITION **PREREQUISITES:** Administrative Recommendation

Students will write argument-based assignments leading to an independently researched project based on academic and professional goals. Students will be required to 1.) find and integrate a variety of sources, 2.) read and analyze these sources, 3.) develop strong thesis statements that reflect perspectives on topics or issues, and 4.) construct persuasive arguments that engage with the viewpoints of experts and commentators. As the term progresses, students will have the opportunity to re-think or revise the ideas and perspectives they explored in earlier writing assignments by engaging with peer feedback and revising earlier drafts.

COURSE #: COMM 101 **CREDIT:** 1.0
COURSE TITLE: ORAL COMMUNICATION & PRESENTATION **PREREQUISITES:** Administrative Recommendation

This course includes communication theory, as well as speech preparation, delivery, and communication technology. Student learning focuses on researching, composing, and delivering formal and impromptu speeches and presentations. Topics include research, analyzing and adapting to audiences, message construction, outlining, delivery of messages, and effective use of visual aids and technology. This course will develop each student's ability to communicate effectively with respect to audience and purpose. The major emphasis is on the preparation and delivery of presentations ranging from one-on-one pitches, and small group discussion, to large audience speeches.

COURSE #: CHIST 201 **CREDIT:** 1.0
COURSE TITLE: WESTERN CIVILIZATION TO THE SIXTEENTH CENTURY **PREREQUISITES:** Administrative Recommendation

This introductory survey course will familiarize students with major themes and historical events in the Western World from the Ancient World to the 1500s. Students will analyze the major forces, ideas and institutions which influenced the peoples of the world and look at the foundations of Western cultural expansion outward. In this course students will learn to think critically about historical events and how they are interpreted to better understand the relationship between historical events and contemporary interpretation of those events. Students will locate and evaluate primary and secondary texts and use them to write critically about history.

POINT PARK UNIVERSITY

DUAL ENROLLMENT



COURSE #: NSET 110 **CREDIT:** 1.0
COURSE TITLE: INTRODUCTION TO PHYSICAL AND SPACE SCIENCE **PREREQUISITES:** Administrative Recommendation

An introductory course designed to allow students to explore the basic concepts of physical and space science. Concepts to be covered include kinematics, thermodynamics, electricity and magnetism, waves, atomic structure of elements, radioactivity, the Universe, galaxies, the solar system and life cycle of stars. This course is intended for non-science majors.

COURSE #: PSYC 150 **CREDIT:** 1.0
COURSE TITLE: PSYCHOLOGICAL FOUNDATIONS **PREREQUISITES:** Administrative Recommendation

Survey of major sub-fields of psychology and the behavioral sciences. Students will be introduced to major theories and models of human experience and behaviors, including for example biological, psychodynamic, behavioral, cognitive, humanistic/existential, and phenomenological approaches to psychology and the behavioral sciences. Course will include an introduction to writing using APA style.

POINT PARK UNIVERSITY

ROWLAND SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

COURSE #: BMGT 101 **CREDIT:** 1.0
COURSE TITLE: INTRODUCTION TO BUSINESS **PREREQUISITES:** Administrative Recommendation

This course is an introductory overview of the organization, functions, and activities of business in contemporary society. Emphasis is placed on the terminology necessary to understanding business principles and practices. This course also includes an exploration of business environments, human resources, management, marketing management, finance, law, management information tools, and global perspectives.

COURSE #: BMGT 201 **CREDIT:** 1.0
COURSE TITLE: BUSINESS LAW I **PREREQUISITES:** Administrative Recommendation

An introduction to the law in general and a survey of the law as it relates to business transactions including the law of contracts, agency and employment, personal property, bailments, real property, wills, descendants' estates, trusts and international law.

POINT PARK UNIVERSITY

DUAL ENROLLMENT



ROWLAND SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

COURSE #: MKTS 205 **CREDIT:** 1.0
COURSE TITLE: PRINCIPLES OF MARKETING **PREREQUISITES:** Administrative Recommendation

This foundational marketing course introduces students to the principles and practices of marketing, including core marketing concepts, the marketing mix, the marketing environment, business and consumer markets, marketing research, marketing technology, and marketing planning. Students will explore marketing careers and gain an understanding of the dynamic role of marketing in an organization and in society.

COURSE #: BMGT 234 **CREDIT:** 1.0
COURSE TITLE: ETHICAL LEADERSHIP **PREREQUISITES:** Administrative Recommendation

A philosophical investigation of the main concepts and theories of ethics, with applications to fundamental moral questions as they arise in different areas of business. The following issues may be used as illustrations: affirmative action, investment in unethical companies or countries, product safety, whistle blowing and advertising.

COURSE #: BMGT 280 **CREDIT:** 1.0
COURSE TITLE: CAREER PREPARATION **PREREQUISITES:** Administrative Recommendation

The course involves an introduction to the discipline of entrepreneurship and a study of the essential steps in starting and operating a smaller business.

COURSE #: CMPS 114 **CREDIT:** 1.0
COURSE TITLE: PROBLEM SOLVING WITH INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY **PREREQUISITES:** Administrative Recommendation

A course on how Information Technology impacts organizations and how to use Information Technology to solve problems. Topics include: main concepts of Information Technology at a general level, online collaboration tools, application software, and information literacy as applied to searching and using the Internet. In addition, students will become proficient at an intermediate level in using application software. The student will learn each of the four software applications (Spreadsheets, Database, Word Processing and Presentation) and be able to apply them successfully to problem solving scenarios.

RIVER VALLEY STEAM ACADEMY



Dr. Shawna Little, Director
84 Trojan Lane, Saltsburg, PA 15681
724-343-3230

Build your career in Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, & Mathematics at the River Valley STEAM Academy with 21st-century programs that meet the needs of today, tomorrow, and the future. The STEAM Academy's innovative career pathway choices prepare students for success in highly technical and in-demand careers. STEAM Academy students earn industry-recognized credentials and college credits while gaining real-world experience in high-priority fields.

Our Vision

The vision of the River Valley STEAM Academy is to provide a holistic education that is focused, caring, and simulates real-world work environments. Furthermore, it is a place where all students will be recognized as individuals as well as highly encouraged to achieve their fullest potential while preparing to become productive and responsible citizens.

Our Mission

The mission of the River Valley STEAM Academy is to prepare students to succeed in high-demand occupations within the competitive, 21st-century global economy. STEAM Academy students master rigorous academic and relevant technical concepts that will guide them to successful career outcomes. This is accomplished by providing top-quality instruction, as well as promoting partnerships with business, industry, and the community within the students' chosen career pathway. These collective attributes will ultimately prepare students for their post-secondary journeys whether directly into the workforce or continuing their education.

PROGRAMS

CREATIVE PRODUCTIONS: SPORTS MEDIA & MARKETING a e r c

CYBERSECURITY a i r c

ELECTRICAL OCCUPATIONS & POWERLINE r c i

ESPORTS e i r a

PATHWAYS TO HEALTH PROFESSIONS r i s c e

RISING EDUCATORS s i c a e

SPORTS MEDICINE & REHABILITATIVE THERAPY s r i c

WELDING TECHNOLOGY r c i e

RIVER VALLEY STEAM ACADEMY



INDUSTRY PARTNERS



German American
Chambers of Commerce
Deutsch-Amerikanische
Handelskammern



Westinghouse



ACADEMIC PARTNERS



STEAM ACADEMY PROGRAMS



CREATIVE PRODUCTIONS: SPORTS MEDIA & MARKETING



COURSE #: SA013 **CREDIT:** 3.0
COURSE TITLE: CREATIVE PRODUCTIONS: SPORTS MEDIA AND MARKETING
CIP CODE: 09.00702

Creative Productions: Sports Media and Marketing will equip students with the technical skills necessary to excel in the fast-paced fields of marketing, digital media, and video production. Students will learn to design graphics and visuals, tell stories through video, build a brand, and create social media and web promotions. Through immersive projects using industry-standard software, students will create content, plan campaigns, explore marketing analytics, and study emerging trends and technologies. This course will prepare students for careers in media, marketing, advertising, and communications.

RELATED CAREERS

Broadcast Technicians
Editors
Graphic Designers
Video Director/Producer
Public Relations
Advertising
Multimedia Reporter

AVAILABLE CERTIFICATIONS

ADOBE CREATIVE SUITE

Digital Video using Adobe Premiere
Adobe Certified Associate – Print & Design Media Publication Using Adobe Indesign
Adobe Certified Associate – Visual Communication Using Adobe Photoshop
Adobe Certified Associate – Graphic Design & Illustration Using Adobe Illustration

*Please be aware that earning any certification is contingent upon a student's successful completion of all program requirements.

STEAM ACADEMY PROGRAMS



CYBERSECURITY



COURSE #: SA001
COURSE TITLE: CYBERSECURITY
CIP CODE: 11.1003

CREDIT: 3.0

The STEAM Academy's Cybersecurity course is an introduction to this vital national security sector. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), the demand for cybersecurity jobs like information security analysts will grow by as much as 31% over the next ten years. This course introduces the concepts and application of the field related to computer security and how it relates to other areas of information technology. Topics include security threats and management, hardening systems, wireless networking, securing networks, cryptography, and organizational security policies.

RELATED CAREERS

Information Security Analyst
Penetration Tester
Data Recovery Professional
Network Security Engineer
Cryptographer
Software Engineer

AVAILABLE CERTIFICATIONS

LEARN MORE



CYBERSECURITY

CYBERSECURITY CERTIFICATIONS

TestOut Security Pro
CompTIA Security+
TestOut Ethical Hacker Pro
EC Council Certified Ethical Hacker (CEH)

*Please be aware that earning any certification is contingent upon a student's successful completion of all program requirements.

STEAM ACADEMY PROGRAMS ELECTRICAL OCCUPATIONS POWERLINE



COURSE #: SA003B
COURSE TITLE: ELECTRICAL OCCUPATIONS/POWERLINE
CIP CODE: 46.0399

CREDIT: 3.0

Students will receive instruction related to a broad range of workforce applications, including residential, commercial, and industrial applications, as well as the National Electric Code (NEC) and additional coursework from the National Center for Construction Education and Research (NCCER) curriculum. Students in 11th and 12th grade will be simultaneously enrolled as Pre-Apprentices with ABC of Western Pennsylvania. This course introduces the concepts and application of the field of electricity, and its unique applications in various sectors. Topics include Safety; Hand and Power tools, Blueprint Reading, Anchors and Supports; Residential Cabling; Switches, Receptacles and Circuits; Fixtures; Raceways; Wired Devices; Testing Equipment; Service Installation; Green Technology and NEC.

RELATED CAREERS

Residential or Commercial Electrician
Power Line Installer or Repairer
Solar System Installer
Telecommunications Technician
Security or Fire Alarm Installer
Radio, Cellular and Tower Equipment Installer

AVAILABLE CERTIFICATIONS

LEARN MORE



HOME BUILDERS INSTITUTE

Residential Construction Academy (RCA) National Registry

PENNSYLVANIA BUILDERS ASSOCIATION

PBA Skills Certificate

NATIONAL SAFETY COUNCIL

Fork Lift Operator

NCCER

National Center for Construction Education Research Credentials

SNAP ON

Multimeter Certification

S/P2

S/P2 Construction

C-TECH

Telecommunications Technology
Network Cabling Specialist – Copper
Network Cabling Specialist – Fiber

NC3

I Level II - Applied Industrial Wiring
Level II - Applied Motor Controls

AMERICAN LADDER INSTITUTE

Articulated Ladder
Mobile Ladder
Single and Extension Ladder
Step Ladder

*Please be aware that earning any certification is contingent upon a student's successful completion of all program requirements.

STEAM ACADEMY PROGRAMS



ESPORTS



COURSE #: SA005
COURSE TITLE: ESPORTS
CIP CODE: 50.0411

CREDIT: 3.0

Esports, or organized and competitive gaming, is a fast-growing industry! This course will immerse students in the Esports industry by 1) playing, strategizing, and analyzing video games, 2) researching how competitions are organized and run at the professional level, 3) learning about the sport and the history of gaming, and 4) creating content to contribute to the video game community. Whatever type of gamer you are, our Esports class can help build a sense of belonging, promote collaboration and communication skills, and foster good sportsmanship, while also creating a pipeline for future STEM careers and furthering students' strategic thinking and problem-solving abilities.

RELATED CAREERS

Software Engineer
Content Creator
Game Designer
Esports Business Consultant
Game Artist

AVAILABLE CERTIFICATIONS

LEARN MORE



ESPORTS

ESPORTS BADGES

Unity Essentials
AR Mobile Development
Junior Programmer
Creative Core
VR Development

*Please be aware that earning any certification is contingent upon a student's successful completion of all program requirements.

STEAM ACADEMY PROGRAMS



PATHWAYS TO HEALTH PROFESSIONS



COURSE #: SA008
COURSE TITLE: PATHWAYS TO HEALTH PROFESSIONS
CIP CODE: 51.9999

CREDIT: 3.0

This program prepares individuals to apply academic knowledge and tactile skills in the various health care professions. Instruction occurs in basic and advanced cognitive skills over the variety of associated healthcare careers such as health and medical services, pharmaceutical and medical instruments, clinicians, technicians, and supplies. Instruction includes but is not limited to foundations of health (medical terminology); anatomy and physiology; legal, ethical and economic aspects of health care; clinical laboratory procedures; health career skills; aseptic techniques; OSHA regulations; and infection control. Clinical education is an integral part of the program. Science and math taught by certificated science and math teachers will be coordinated and deemed essential for students to successfully reach their career objectives.

RELATED CAREERS

Registered Nurse
Respiratory Therapist
Patient Care Technician
Radiology Technician
Pharmacist
Medical Transcriptionist
Phlebotomist
EKG Technician
Medical Assistant
Surgical Technician
Dietician

AVAILABLE CERTIFICATIONS

AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION

BLS Healthcare Provider
Heartsaver AED
Heartsaver Bloodborne Certification
Heartsaver CPR
Heartsaver First Aid

CAREERSAFE

OSHA 10 - Healthcare

AMERICAN MEDICAL CERTIFICATION ASSOCIATION

Patient Care Technician
EKG Technician

LEARN MORE



*Please be aware that earning any certification is contingent upon a student's successful completion of all program requirements.

STEAM ACADEMY PROGRAMS

RISING EDUCATORS



COURSE #: SA012	CREDIT: 3.0
COURSE TITLE: RISING EDUCATORS	
CIP CODE: 13.0101	

This specially designed program at the STEAM Academy will provide students with a solid foundation in the right techniques and strategies to strengthen children’s cognitive, social, emotional, and physical development in both Elementary and High School. Students in the Rising Educators program get to put their learning into practice through extensive field experiences in various placements, including classrooms for students with diverse learning needs and classrooms for students from pre-K to grade 12.

Students in the Rising Educators program will also take an American Sign Language (ASL) course for college credit.

Along the way, students will have a dedicated career counselor to help and support them on their paths to becoming great teachers in the area they choose to make a difference.

RELATED CAREERS

- Career Technical Educator
- Child Advocate/Advocacy
- Childcare Provider
- Child Development Specialist
- Child Psychologist
- School Psychologist
- Child Social Worker
- Early Childhood Educator
- Guidance Counselor
- Speech Language Pathologist
- K-12 Educator
- Special Education Teacher
- Principal
- Superintendent

AVAILABLE CERTIFICATIONS

PATTAN

Paraprofessional Training Certification

UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH

Act 31 - Mandatory Reporter

PREVENT SUICIDE PA

Suicide Prevention

ALICE TRAINING INSTITUTE

Alice Certification

AMERICAN HEARD ASSOCIATION

Heartsaver (AED, CPR, First Aid)
Heartsaver Bloodborne Certification

AMERICAN RED CROSS

AED Essentials
First Aid

OSHA

OSHA 10 certification

LEARN MORE



*Please be aware that earning any certification is contingent upon a student’s successful completion of all program requirements.

STEAM ACADEMY PROGRAMS

SPORTS MEDICINE AND REHABILITATIVE THERAPY



COURSE #:	SA004	CREDIT:	3.0
COURSE TITLE:	SPORTS MEDICINE AND REHABILITATIVE THERAPY		
CIP CODE:	51.2604		

The Sports Medicine and Rehabilitative Therapy (SMaRT) Program of Study is a solid introduction to the therapy profession. Students will receive instruction related to a broad range of requisite, in-field skills and applications that pertain to becoming an Athletic Trainer (AT); Physical Therapist (PT); Physical Therapy Assistant (PTA); Occupational Therapist (OT); and Occupational Therapy Assistant (OTA). Course topics include but are not limited to Organizational and Professional Health and Well-Being; Documentation, Legal and Ethical Issues; Emergency Care and Infection Control; Injury Prevention and Protection; Treatment, Rehabilitation and Clinical Skills; Nutrition and Hydration; Exercise Science; Human Development and Mental Health; Medical Terminology; Anatomy, Physiology, and Pathophysiology. Students can achieve CPR/First-Aid Certification for both children and adults. These careers require secondary graduates to earn a Pennsylvania Department of State Licensure in any of these professions. Those are earned through a post-secondary education at an accredited college or university.

RELATED CAREERS

- Athletic Trainer
- Physical Therapist
- Physical Therapy Assistant
- Physician's Assistant
- Personal Trainer
- Sports Nutritionist
- Occupational Therapist
- Occupational Therapy Assistant
- Rehabilitation Aide
- Physical Therapy Aide

AVAILABLE CERTIFICATIONS

LEARN MORE

AMCA
Physical Therapy Technician/Aide Certification

SPORTS SAFETY INTERNATIONAL
Cardiac Wise
Heat Wise

CAREERSAFE
OSHA 10 - Healthcare

AMERICAN RED CROSS
Adult and Pediatric First Aid/CPR/AED

NATIONAL SAFETY COUNCIL
Bloodborne And Airborne Pathogens
CPR and AED
First Aid

RELIAS ACADEMIES/TRALIANT
HIPAA

AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION
BLS Healthcare Provider
Heartsaver First Aid CPR AED
Heartsaver Bloodborne Certification
Heartsaver First Aid
BLS CPR
BLS AED

*Please be aware that earning any certification is contingent upon a student's successful completion of all program requirements.

STEAM ACADEMY PROGRAMS

WELDING TECHNOLOGY



COURSE #: SA006
COURSE TITLE: WELDING TECHNOLOGY
CIP CODE: 48.0508

CREDIT: 3.0

The Welding Technology program provides students with a wide array of technical and tactile welding and cutting education with a major emphasis placed on safety. Training will be provided in oxy-acetylene cutting and brazing, Shielded Metal Arc Welding (STICK), Air Carbon Arc Cutting, Gas Metal Arc Welding (MIG), Flux-Cored Arc Welding, Gas Tungsten Arc Welding (TIG), Plasma Arc Cutting, Robotics, and Augmented/Reality. These welding processes will have students performing specific skills in all welding positions (Flat, Horizontal, Vertical, and Overhead) on plate utilizing fillets and groove welds, as well as advanced skills on pipe in the 5G and 6G positions. The metals that will be utilized are carbon (mild) steel, aluminum, and stainless steel. Additional competencies will involve welding blueprint reading and symbol interpretation as well as application, Metallurgy (Study of Metals) including, but not limited to, metal properties, identification, types, numerical interpretation and uses of specific electrodes, and electrical principles.

RELATED CAREERS

Welding Technician
Welding Supervisor
Welding Inspector
Repair Technician
Construction Welder
Industrial and Production
Welding
Welders Helper
Boilermaker
Steam Fitter
Iron Worker
Pipe Fitter

AVAILABLE CERTIFICATIONS

LEARN MORE



AMERICAN WELDING SOCIETY

Certified Welder
Level I - Entry Welder
Level II - Advanced Welder
SMAW 1G 7018 D1.1 Code
SMAW 2G 7018 D1.1 Code
SMAW 3G 7018 D1.1 Code
SMAW 4G 7018 D1.1 Code
FCAW 1G D1.1 Code
FCAW 2G D1.1 Code
FCAW 3G D1.1 Code
FCAW 4G D1.1 Code
GMAW - Globular Transfer 1G D1.1 Code
GMAW - Globular Transfer 2G D1.1 Code
GMAW - Globular Transfer 3G D1.1 Code
GMAW - Globular Transfer 4G D1.1 Code
GMAW - Spray Transfer 1G D1.1 Code

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERS

Single Process 1G Plate P1 Section IX BPV Code
Single Process 2G Plate P1 Section IX BPV Code
Single Process 3G Plate P1 Section IX BPV Code
Single Process 4G Plate P1 Section IX BPV Code
Multi Process 1G Plate P1 Section IX BPV Code
Multi Process 2G Plate P1 Section IX BPV Code
Multi Process 3G Plate P1 Section IX BPV Code
Multi Process 4G Plate P1 Section IX BPV Code
Single Process 6G Pipe P1 Section IX BPV Code
Multi Process 6G Pipe P1 Section IX BPV Code

NCCER

National Center for Construction Education Research Credentials

S/P2

S/P2 Welding

*Please be aware that earning any certification is contingent upon a student's successful completion of all program requirements.

MILITARY SERVICE



FEDERAL SERVICE ACADEMIES

Students interested in applying to a Federal Service Academy should see Mrs. Chelsea Evans immediately, as the application process is rigorous.

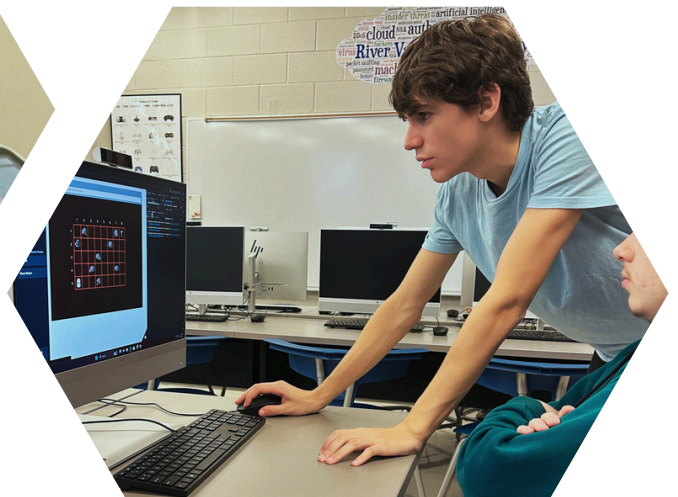
The colleges operated by the U.S. Federal Government are referred to as the Federal Service Academies. They are:

- United States Air Force Academy - Colorado Springs, Colorado
- United States Coast Guard Academy - New London, Connecticut
- United States Merchant Marine Academy - Kings Point, New York
- United States Military Academy - West Point, New York
- United States Naval Academy - Annapolis, Maryland

ENLISTMENT IN THE US ARMED FORCES

For enlistment in the US Armed Forces:
Please see Mrs. Evans to set up a meeting
with a recruiter.

Military recruiters coordinate with
guidance to arrange school visits.



CNX MENTORSHIP ACADEMY



River Valley High School participates in the CNX Mentorship Academy. The Mentorship Academy is an initiative of CNX Foundation and part of CNX's commitment to investing in its local community. Designed for high school students who do not plan to immediately attend a four-year college, the CNX Mentorship Academy is focused on providing 11th and 12th grade students with opportunities to learn about career opportunities in Western Pennsylvania in a variety of industries.

Students participate in site visits to trade associations and regional businesses and hear from guest speakers to learn about career pathways. The CNX Mentorship Academy addresses topics such as leadership, teamwork, resume building, career awareness, career readiness, interviewing skills, business etiquette, personal branding, and social media use and development.

To learn more, visit https://www.cnx.com/about-us/the_mentorship-academy.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

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