

NORTH POLK REGISTRATION GUIDE

2026-2027

The faculty and administration at North Polk High School take pride in the course offerings that are available to you. These courses provide the opportunity for you to design a program of study that will meet your individual needs and best equip you to enter the career of your choice. High school requirements are set to provide students with a well-rounded educational background in a variety of subject areas. Students have enough flexibility through electives to be able to explore a number of interesting areas.

REGISTRATION GUIDELINES

- All students are required to complete 50 credits to graduate.
- All students are required to take 7 courses each semester. Seniors can request a modified schedule by meeting the qualifications - obtain these forms from the counselors' office.
- In order to participate in extra-curricular activities, students must be eligible according to North Polk and State of Iowa eligibility guidelines. (See the North Polk Student Handbook)
- The deadline for a student to make a request and be granted permission to take a class that is offered by a different school district is the last day of the previous school year. No students will be granted permission to take classes that NP offers or in which NP offers the same curriculum. Ex: For a student to take a class at Des Moines CSD, he/she must request the class and be granted permission by the last day of school, 2023. All requests and permission are contingent upon agreements between the two districts and their Boards of Education for a 28E agreement.
- Post-Secondary Institutions (universities, colleges, community colleges, vocational schools, apprenticeships) have different requirements for admittance, so it is the responsibility of the student to research the admission requirements of the institutions being considered. Please visit RAI's website to calculate your personal RAI Score and check their specific course requirements for each college within the university. <https://www.iowaregents.edu/institutions/higher-education-links/regent-admission-index/>

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

- **8 Credits of English:** English 9 and 10 are required, see list below for other language art requirements
- **7 Credits of Social Studies:** World Geography, American History, Ancient Civilizations or Modern World History, Government or AP Government, a type of Psychology or a type of Sociology course.
- **6 Credits of Science:** Foundational Science, Biology and Chemistry or Chemistry in the Community + 1 Science Elective
- **6 Credits of Mathematics:** Algebra 1, Geometry, and Algebra 2 or Applied Math I and II
- **1 Credit of Health**
- **1 Credit of Financial Literacy**
- **1 Credit of Technology/Computers**
- **4 Credits of Physical Education:** one semester of PE required each year unless waived
- **16 Credits of Electives**

50 Credits Total

Course Sequence Guide

	9th Grade	10th Grade	11th Grade	12th Grade
Eng./Lang. Arts (8 semesters)	English 9	English 10	English 11 OR <u>Two of the following:</u> DMACC ENG105 DMACC ENG106 DMACC LIT101 DMACC LIT111 DMACC LIT 190 OR AP Lang & Comp OR AP Lit & Comp	English 12 OR <u>Two of the following:</u> English 12 sem 1, English 12 sem 2, DMACC ENG105, DMACC ENG106, DMACC LIT101, DMACC LIT111, DMACC LIT 190, OR One of the above and one English elective *see pages 15, 17-18
Social Studies (7 semesters)	World Geography & Cultures	American History 1 American History 2	Ancient Civilizations OR Modern World History AND Psychology/Sociology Course	Government OR AP Government
Science (6 semesters)	<u>Minimum sequence of courses to include:</u> Foundational Science Biology Chemistry or Chemistry in the Community + 1 Science Elective, marked with a Ⓢ			
Math (6 semesters)	Minimum sequence of courses to include: Algebra 1, Geometry, Algebra 2 or Applied Math			
Health (1 semester)	Health 1 (9th Grade or 10th Grade)			
Financial Literacy (1 semester)	One Semester of Financial Literacy OR DMACC Personal Finance (FIN121)			
Computer/Tech (1 semester)	One semester of any course listed in Computer Science / Technology or CAD, marked with a ©			
PE (1 semester/year)	One elective PE course each year unless waived (academically or medically)			

P.E. Waivers

P.E. waiver applications can be requested from your student's school counselor. These are reviewed on a student-by-student basis by school counselors and administrators. To qualify for a P.E. waiver a student must meet the following criteria:

Academic Waiver

- The student has a full schedule with no open periods or study halls.

Legislative Page Waiver

- The student will be participating in the legislative page program with the Iowa State Capitol and is unable to attend a P.E. course.

Medical Waiver

- The student is unable to participate in P.E. for medical reasons. In this case the waiver will be reviewed and signed by the school nurse.

Religious Waiver

- The student chooses to opt out of P.E. for religious reasons.

Work-Based Learning Waiver

- The student participates in the high school's work-based learning program and as part of this involvement is unable to participate in P.E.

Activity Waiver

- The student is involved in an activity that is sponsored by the school or district,
- Supervised by appropriately licensed and endorsed staff, and
- Require 1800 minutes of physical activity per academic year

MAKING UP DEFICIENCIES

Students who are deficient in their credits should work with the counselor to plan the best way to make up for the deficiencies. Seniors who are deficient in credits required for graduation must have coursework completed by May 1st. A possible option includes making up the credits from the North Polk curricular offerings. Once a course is failed twice, it must be taken from one of the following options:

- Making up the credits by taking courses through an approved college or university. Permission of the principal is required for this option.
- Making up the credits by taking online courses through Edmentum. All Edmentum courses are graded Pass/Fail.

EARLY GRADUATION

North Polk School Board policy allows qualified students to graduate at the end of the first semester of the senior year. Any variation from this will require special School Board approval.

Students who wish to graduate early should ask for a copy of the specific guidelines and application form from the counselor. Application forms must be completed before final Board approval is given.

NCAA & NAIA ATHLETIC ELIGIBILITY

High school students planning to enroll in college as a freshman and wanting to participate in Division 1 or Division 2 NCAA athletics, Or NAIA athletics must be certified to be eligible and should plan to start the certification process by the end of their junior year in high school

NCAA Clearinghouse website: www.NCAAClearinghouse.net

NAIA Eligibility website: www.playnaia.org

CENTRAL CAMPUS

Location: Des Moines

Central Campus is an opportunity to extend learning into specialized programs. The following big umbrella programs are offered with individual programs underneath each: Communications, Education and Leadership, Engineering & Architecture, Environmental & Agricultural sciences academy, Family & Consumer Sciences, Health Sciences, Skilled Trades, Technology & Systems Integration, and Transportation academy (aviation).

In order to be enrolled in Central Campus students need to fill out an application on their website the year before they wish to take courses. Most of the programs at central campus receive college credit for their courses from various colleges. Students are in charge of their own transportation to Des Moines. Please check out the Central Campus website for more information regarding the enrollment selection or the process.

Orbis

Location: Ankeny

One semester

Orbis Project-Based Experiences engage teams of students in partnership with the workforce in solving real problems and contributing to the betterment of our local and global community. Experiences are grounded in critical thinking, complex communication, creativity, collaboration, flexibility and adaptability, productivity and accountability. Students meet at Ankeny High School and need to have at least two open periods and transportation to and from. Students will work with various companies to solve real-world, work-based problems.

COLLEGE CREDIT OPPORTUNITIES

SENIOR YEAR PLUS – Iowa Department of Education Initiative

Through Senior Year Plus (SYP) school districts are provided with a variety of options to enhance students' high school experience. Courses delivered through SYP provide students the opportunity to take rigorous college curriculum and receive both high school and college credit. Transportation to and from is the responsibility of the student.

POST SECONDARY ENROLLMENT OPTION (PSEO)

The PSEO program allows 11th & 12th, grade students and 9th & 10th grade ELP students to enroll in college level courses. Through this program, individual students may enroll in an eligible postsecondary course if a comparable course is not offered at the high school. Post Secondary Enrollment Option are classes that are not offered through our contractual agreement with DMACC. We must work with DMACC before we can offer courses through other colleges. Successful completion of the course also generates high school credit and applies toward district subject area and graduation requirements. If a student fails to complete the course or receives a failing grade he/she will be expected to cover the cost (\$250). PSEO courses may have prerequisites, scores on national aptitude and achievement tests, or other evaluation procedures to determine competency.

These courses must be:

1. Nonsectarian-not involving or relating to a specific religious sect or political group.
2. Not comparable to classes offered by the school district.
3. Credit-bearing that leads to an educational degree. (can not be part of a certificate)
4. Courses in discipline areas of mathematics, science, social studies, humanities, and career and technical education.

CONCURRENT ENROLLMENT COURSES

Location: North Polk High School, DMACC Ankeny/Ames

Students who wish to take a college course will need to register with the counselors in the fall and spring for the following semester. It is the students responsibility to watch the announcements and read emails for registration deadlines. *Registration will not be taken after the last day of school year.* Students will be required to attend a Dual-Credit 101 session and parents will sign an agreement outlining the expectations of a college level course. Dual-credit courses count towards the North Polk eligibility policies. Courses taught at North Polk can be dropped within the first four days of semester one and first four days of semester two. After the drop date, students will receive an 'F' in the course unless there are excruciating circumstances approved by administration. Online DMACC and On-Campus (DMACC) courses can be dropped up to two weeks after the start of the DMACC semester calendar. **Any drops after these dates will result in the student receiving an 'F' on their high school transcript.**

Note: Students who reserve seats in any North Polk/DMACC concurrent course may not drop the course in lieu of the same online course.

CAREER ACADEMY - DMACC AMES/ANKENY

Students receive 2 HS credits per semester and college credit as established by DMACC. Registration begins the previous school year

Course offerings vary by location:

Accounting

Auto Collision 1 & 2

Auto Technology 1 & 2
 Business Administration
 Computer Programming
 Culinary Arts
 Diesel Technology
 EMT
 Machine Operations/Tool & Die
 Visual Communications/Graphic Design

Building Trades/Finish Carpentry 1 & 2
 Computer Aided Design Technology
 Criminal Justice
 Cyber Security
 Engineering Technology
 Health Occupations
 Teacher Academy
 Welding

CONCURRENT ENROLLMENT: (at North Polk High School)

Students receive 1 high school (HS) credit per semester and college credit as established by DMACC.

2026-2027 DMACC Courses Taught at North Polk

NPHS Course 1st Sem - Fall	DMACC Course Info & Name	DMACC Credits
DMACC Ag Issues	AGC420	3
DMACC Principles of Agronomy	AGA114	3
DMACC Survey of the Animal Industry	AGS113	3
DMACC Environmental Science & Lab (Year Long Class)	ENV 115 & ENV 116	4
DMACC Work Based Learning	SDV132, SDV133	6
DMACC Statistics	MAT157	4
NPHS Course 2nd Sem - Spring	DMACC Course Info & Name	DMACC Credits
DMACC Work Based Learning	SDV134, WBL200	6
DMACC Intro to Psychology	PSY111	3
DMACC Environmental Science & Lab (Year Long Class)	ENV 115 & ENV 116	4
DMACC Developmental Psychology	PSY121	3
DMACC Statistics	MAT157	4

CONCURRENT ENROLLMENT: DMACC On-Campus

Students receive 1 HS credit per semester and college credit as established by DMACC. There are a variety of classes available on the Ankeny DMACC campus for North Polk students. A list of classes can be viewed on the DMACC website and information about enrollment will be provided by the counselor. Registration occurs the semester prior. Students are responsible to know registration deadlines.

CONCURRENT ENROLLMENT: DMACC Online

Students receive 1 HS credit per semester and college credit as established by DMACC. There are a variety of classes available from DMACC through online learning. A list of classes can be viewed on the DMACC website and information about enrollment will be provided by the counselor. Registration occurs the semester prior. Students are responsible to know registration deadlines.

TUITIONED COURSES are courses taken independently and the student/parent must pay for these courses.

Advanced Placement Courses (AP):

Advanced Placement is a program run by the College Board that allows a student to take special high school courses that can earn them college credit and/or qualify them for more advanced classes when they begin college. In order to receive college credit a student must take the AP exam at the end of the year. There is a fee for the AP exam. AP courses are on a weighted 5.0 grading scale.

Online High School Credit Recovery Options:

North Polk High School offers online platforms to recover high school credit. With administrative approval students are given the opportunity to take a variety of courses online. Students may be eligible for an online course if they have an academic conflict or have previously failed a course. Courses are used for credit recovery or unique situations. All online courses are Pass/Fail. Students will receive a credit if they successfully complete the class but they will not earn a letter grade. Students may work on their online course at home or in-school and are expected to check-in regularly with their counselor and/or academic support center teacher.

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- General Recommendations include:
 - 4 years of English
 - 3 or 4 years of Math (Algebra, Geometry and Algebra 2)
 - 3 or 4 years of Science (Earth Science, Physical Science or Physics, Biology, Chemistry or Chemistry in Community + 1 Science Elective)
 - 3.5 or 4 years of Social Studies
 - 2 years of a World Language (required by Iowa and Iowa State, and recommended by some 4 year colleges)

- o The Regents Universities in Iowa use the “RAI Index” formula to determine whether a student is eligible for admittance: $3 \times \text{ACT Composite} + 30 \times \text{Cumulative Grade Point Average} + 5 \times \text{Number of Core Classes Completed in High School (math, science, English, social studies, foreign language, Computer Science)} = \text{at least } 245$
- North Polk gives a “weighted” grade point average to AP (Advanced Placement) classes. The weighted grade point average is worth one more than the non-weighted grade point average.

North Polk Course List:

If you see a © by the class name that means it counts for the computer credit needed to graduate.

If you see RAI behind a class name, it will count towards a student’s RAI Score.

<https://www.iowaregents.edu/institutions/higher-education-links/regent-admission-index>

Course offerings for each year are dependent on student registration numbers. Some classes may not be offered each calendar year.

AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION

INTRODUCTION TO AGRICULTURE (9-10) Full Year

The majority of 1st semester is consumed with FFA by learning the history of the FFA, parliamentary procedure, leadership, and SAE projects. Second semester concentrates on beef production, equine science, sheep production, swine production, small animal care, wildlife management, agricultural careers, and exotic breeds of livestock. Students will be introduced to Supervised Agricultural Experience Programs (SAE) as part of their FFA experience. Students must join 1st semester unless they have instructor approval to join at mid-year. (2 HS credits)

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES (10-12) One Semester

Principles of wildlife management, habitat development, life cycles and conservation programs will be the focus. Career development events will be encouraged (Envirothon). Continued development of SAE projects. (1 HS credit) ©

AGRICULTURAL MECHANICS (10-12) One Semester

Designed to introduce students to the fundamentals of small gas engines. Students learn basic terminology used in the agricultural mechanics industry, safe work practices, agricultural tools, four-stroke fundamentals, and troubleshooting. Students will learn what it takes to become an informed consumer when buying and maintaining small gas engines. Remove: Students will also be learning CNC plasmametal cutting in addition to plasma cutting, welding, prepping metal and powder coating. Continued development of SAE projects. (1 HS credit)

DMACC AGRICULTURAL ISSUES One Semester

This course will explore the current issues that affect agriculture from the perspective of the producer and consumer in a society with little direct connection to food production. The course will review today’s most pressing issues: the environment, the national debt, international trade and world health and how it relates to global society change. Students will earn 3 DMACC credits AGC420. (1 HS credit)

AGRICULTURAL BUSINESS (11-12) One Semester

Agricultural sales and marketing, leadership, employment trends, developing a resume, and mock-interviews will be taught. Continued development of SAE projects. (1 HS credit)

ANIMAL SCIENCE I (Small Animals) (10-12) One Semester

Students will learn about pet, companion and meat animals including dogs, cats, rabbits, small mammals such as mice, hamsters and gerbils, amphibians, reptiles including snakes, birds, fish, and other small animals. They will get hands-on classroom experience with live animals (such as dog grooming) incorporating all that they have learned from the course. They will study animal history, safety, rights, welfare, nutrition, reproduction, and careers. Continued development of SAE projects. (1 HS credit) Ⓢ

ANIMAL SCIENCE II (Large Animals) (10-12) One Semester

Nutrition, herd-health management, disease prevention, veterinary practices in large animals, small animal vet practices, laboratory procedures, and reproduction are the focuses. Continued development of SAE projects. (1 HS credit) Ⓢ

HORTICULTURE (10-12) One Semester

Garden economics is discussed and budgets prepared along with plant I.D., seedling care, and greenhouse management. Propagation techniques, transplanting, fertilizing, and potting will be practiced. Seed production and garden economics will be conducted. Memorial planters and greenhouse management will be rotated among class members. (1 HS credit) Ⓢ

INTRODUCTION TO WELDING (11-12) One Semester

Introduction to Welding will introduce students to the welding/metalworking field. Students will learn Traditional Arc (Stick) Welding and Gas Metal Arc Welding (MIG), along with Plasma Cutting. Students will understand basic welding techniques and cover basic shop safety and welding safety. Students will be introduced to career opportunities within the field of welding. (1 HS Credit)

AG LEADERSHIP (10-12) One Semester

The purpose of this course is to assist students in developing their knowledge, attitudes, skills and aspirations regarding leadership development in an agricultural setting or provide them with the beginning foundation for any setting. The goal of this course is to encourage students to be knowledgeable, caring, decision makers. Students in our program desire to develop and expand their leadership skills to attain the Iowa Degree. Continued development of SAE projects. (1 HS credit)

DMACC ANIMAL SCIENCE (9-12) Spring Semester

An analysis of the livestock industry with emphasis on reproduction, inheritance, performance testing, selection and marketing. Students will receive 3 DMACC credits AGS113. (1 HS credit) Ⓢ

DMACC PRINCIPLES OF AGRONOMY (9-12) Spring Semester

An introductory course in the general principles of crop production and management. Major areas of study are food production, crop classification, plant growth factors, seed production and variety selection. Students will earn 3 DMACC AGA114 credits. (1 HS credit) Ⓢ

ART - VISUAL STUDIES

All levels of art classes will be centered on specific, teachable 21st century thinking skills and concepts through art processes and products. The student is the problem solver and will learn to control media and techniques and make critical decisions. The program will use authentic assessments and will integrate North Polk School's mission statement and student learning goals.

ART 1 (9-12) One Semester or Full Year

Art 1 is a beginning level class where skills and media are introduced and reviewed. Demonstrations, projects, and assessment processes are used with 2 and 3 dimensional work. 21st century skills and lab classroom work habits and attitude are the focus. This class is a prerequisite for the upper levels of art classes. (1 HS credit per semester)

ART 2 (9 -12) One Semester or Full Year

Prerequisite: Art 1

This class is designed to apply the skills learned in the first level, and add new medias. Students are encouraged to use their own ideas and work with assigned 2 and 3 dimensional projects. Art history and 21st century skills are integrated in the lab situations. This class is a prerequisite for advanced art levels. Lab classroom work habits and attitude are stressed and students need to maintain a 'B' average in art class to continue into upper levels of art. (1 HS credit per semester)

DRAWING 1, 2, and 3 (10-12) One Semester - This is a three-semester program.

Prerequisite: Art 2

This class is designed for students interested in developing drawing skills. Technical ability in dry media methods is important and will be advanced. Class consists of research, art history and assessment processes in a lab setting. The students who take this class need to be self-disciplined and self-motivated with a serious interest in their work. Developing a portfolio is encouraged to prepare for post-high school art training. (1 HS credit per semester)

PAINTING 1, 2, and 3 (10-12) One Semester - This is a three-semester program.

Prerequisite: Art 2

This class is designed for students interested in developing painting skills. Technical ability in wet media methods will be advanced. Class consists of research, art history and assessment processes in a lab setting. The students who take this class need to be self-disciplined and self-motivated with a serious interest in their work. Developing a portfolio is encouraged to prepare for post-high school art training. (1 HS credit per semester)

SCULPTURE 1 and 2 (10-12) One Semester or Full Year - This is a two-semester program.

Prerequisite: Art 2

This class is designed for students interested in developing three dimensional skills. Technical ability in ceramics, fiber and mixed media methods will be advanced. Class consists of research, art history and assessment processes in a lab setting. The students who take this class need to be self-disciplined and self-motivated with a serious interest in their work. Developing a portfolio is encouraged to prepare for post-high school art training. (1 HS credit per semester)

DIGITAL MEDIA (10-12) One Semester

Prerequisite: Art 2

This class is designed for students interested in developing illustration, photography, typography, and mixed media skills. Technological ability is important and will be advanced. Class consists of research, art history and assessment processes in a lab setting. The students who take this class need to be self-disciplined and self-motivated with a serious interest in their work. Developing a portfolio is encouraged to prepare for post-high school art training. (1 HS credit) (computer education credit) ©

VISUAL ART ASSISTANT (10-12) One Semester or Full Year

Prerequisite: Students must fill out an application and interview with the instructor.

A student must schedule the same class period every day in order to apply for the visual art assistant position. The visual art assistant should be in the advanced level art classes and will assist in Art 1 or Art 2 classes. Advanced level art classes consist of Drawing, Painting, Sculpture and Digital Media. The application and interview process will be used in the selection of this assistant. Application considerations include organizational skills, ability to work with individual students to complete make-up work, ability to answer individual questions and to demonstrate needed techniques, assisting students with technology, ability to recognize effort and offer encouragement. The assistant will be required to collect and distribute media and other materials, assist in clean-up procedures, display and label artwork, prepare artwork for shows, contests, and AEA 11 services, assist substitute teachers with classroom procedures, names, and locating materials. (1 HS credit per semester)

BUSINESS EDUCATION

GENERAL BUSINESS (9-12) One semester

This class will introduce students to the world of business. Topics covered include: wants vs. needs, supply and demand, economic systems, types of businesses, types of markets, checking accounts, investing, consumer responsibility, marketing, management, teamwork and professionalism. (1 HS credit)

PRINCIPLES OF MARKETING (9-12) One Semester

The focus of this course introduces principles and problems of marketing goods and services. Topics include promotion, placement, and pricing strategies for products. Upon completion, students should be able to apply marketing principles in organizational decision-making. (1 HS credit)

ACCOUNTING 1 (10-12) One semester

Accounting is the study of how businesses keep track of their financial records. Students will learn the accounting cycle for a sole proprietorship. This subject stresses the organization of receipts, payments, sales, purchases and investments. (1 HS credit) ©

ACCOUNTING 2 (11-12) One semester

Prerequisite: Accounting 1

Accounting is the study of how businesses keep track of their financial records. Students will learn the accounting cycle for a merchandising business organized as a corporation. This includes special journals, subsidiary ledgers, preparation of financial statements, payroll records, taxes, depreciation, and related topics. (1 HS credit) ©

ACCOUNTING 3 (11-12) One semester

Prerequisite: Accounting 2

Accounting is the study of how businesses keep track of their financial records. Students will learn the accounting cycle for a merchandising business organized as a corporation. This includes uncollectible accounts, plant assets, depreciation, inventory, notes and interest, accrued revenue, end-of-fiscal work. This class continues with basic accounting concepts and principles. The class is directed toward the knowledge and skills needed to prepare for an accounting position following high school graduation.

Departmental, corporate and management accounting are the focus. (1 HS credit) ©

ACCOUNTING 4 (11-12) One semester

Prerequisite: Accounting 3

This class continues with basic accounting concepts and principles. The class is directed toward the knowledge and skills needed to prepare for an accounting position following high school graduation. Departmental, corporate and management accounting are the focus. (1 HS credit) ©

BUSINESS LAW (11-12) One semester

Recommended: General Business

This course will give the students a greater understanding of economics ranging from the viewpoint of the individual consumer or small business owner to the global economy. The course will study the law of supply and demand, forms of business, labor unions, government finances and influence on the economy, money and prices, inflation and deflation cycles. (1 HS credit)

ENTREPRENEURSHIP (10-12) One semester

Prerequisite: General Business

Entrepreneurship courses help students develop the knowledge and skills necessary to own and operate their own businesses. The course content typically covers topics from a number of fields: economics, marketing principles, human relations, and psychology, business and labor law, legal rights and responsibilities of ownership, business and financial planning, finance and accounting, communication, information management, risk management, and strategic management. Students may qualify for the college credit if they complete an Entrepreneurship education offering in which BizInnovator Startup concepts have been integrated and they pass the University of Iowa proficiency exam. Those who pass are eligible for three University of Iowa ENTR:1010 Exploring Entrepreneurship credits for a reduced course fee.

FINANCIAL LITERACY (9-12) One Semester **(Required) (RAI)**

Students will get an introduction to financial responsibility. Topics covered include: goal setting, financial decision making, budgeting, checking accounts, financial institutions, saving, investments, credit, taxes, career options, compound interest, loans, insurance and financial experts. (1 HS credit)

SPORTS & ENTERTAINMENT MARKETING (11-12) One Semester

Recommended: Principles of Marketing

This course is designed to study marketing principles and concepts in the sports and entertainment industry. Instructional areas will include: An orientation to the sports and entertainment industry, economics, event execution, career opportunities, decision making, event marketing, advertising and promotion, and legal aspects/contracts. (1 HS credit)

SPORTS MANAGEMENT (11-12) One Semester

Recommended: General Business

Students will study the highly competitive field of sports management which provides sports minded people with a head for business opportunities for exciting careers in the world of athletics. Sports management professionals work as team managers, athletic directors, sports agents and recruiters, marketing and PR professionals, and more. (1 HS credit)

BUSINESS TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION

MICROSOFT OFFICE (9-12) One Semester

This class looks at many features of Microsoft Office. Word, Excel and PowerPoint will be used to create many documents, spreadsheets and presentations. Flyers, mail merges, graphs, charts and adding animations to a presentation will be a few of the concepts learned during the semester. (1 HS credit) ©

WEB PAGE DESIGN (9-12) One Semester

This class will give students an introduction to web pages. HTML coding will be done initially and programs for designing web pages will be used. (1 HS credit) ©

COMPUTER SCIENCE/PROGRAMMING

WEB PAGE DESIGN (9-12) One Semester

This class will give students an introduction to web pages. HTML coding will be done initially and programs for designing web pages will be used. (1 HS credit) ©

COMPUTATIONAL SCIENCE (9-12) One Semester

Prerequisite: Algebra I

The student will be introduced to modeling software and visualization with an introduction to the Fortran 95 computer language. Study will include If-Then, For-Next, While Loops, Repeat-Until Loops, Read-Data, Arrays, Strings, Input, Sorts, and other programming commands. A background in Algebra 1 is recommended for students considering this course. (1 HS credit) ©

COMPUTER PROGRAMMING 2 (9-12) One Semester

Prerequisite: Computational Science

C++ language will be studied. Sorting techniques, files, and graphing will be used. The student will be required to write a large program in the C++ language. (1 HS credit) ©

AP COMPUTER SCIENCE A (10-12) Full Year **(RAI)**

Prerequisite: Programming 2

AP Computer Science A is a two-semester course that introduces the student to procedure oriented programming. The student will be using Java as the programming language. This course will be the equivalent of the first semester of a college computer science curriculum. The course is recommended for students thinking of entering fields of computer science, mathematics, engineering, or any of the sciences. Students successfully completing this course may take the AP Computer Science A Exam to earn up to three (3) semester hours of college credit. Students will receive a weighted grade. (2 HS credits) ©

SQL (10-12) Full Year

Prerequisite: AP COMPUTER SCIENCE A

This course of study teaches students to analyze complex business scenarios, design and create data models, and create databases using SQL. Oracle SQL Developer Data Modeler and Application Express (APEX) are utilized to provide practical, hands-on, engaging activities. Leveraging project-based learning techniques, students will create and work with projects which challenge them to design, implement, and demonstrate a database solution for a business or organization. (2 HS credits) ©

INDEPENDENT COMPUTER TOPICS (11-12) One Semester or Full Year

Prerequisite: SQL

Starting out the semester working with python to learn the syntax and differences between it and other languages. Think of a project to create while learning the language and base the daily work off of what is needed for the project. After making a basic form of the project, making a more advanced or comprehensive version of the same project in the same language and then in C#. Revamped

programs demonstrate top down programming with modularization with an included flow chart. The main focus while working with Python is the differences in syntax compared to other languages, and the focus of C# is the basis around object orientation and visual aspects like multiple forms. (1 HS credit per semester) ©

VREP (GRAPHIC ENGINEERING) (9-12) One Semester

Students will use Blender - a free and open source 3D creation suite which supports the entirety of the 3D pipeline (modeling, rigging, animation, simulation, rendering, compositing, motion tracking, video editing, and game creation) - to create projects based on individual interests. Students will earn either a "Pass" or "Fail" grade. (1 HS credit) ©

FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES

FOOD PREP 1 (9-12) One Semester

A semester course designed for those wishing to increase their knowledge and skills in the area of foods and food preparation. The course includes information on food sanitation and safety, kitchen principles, nutrition, buying food products, food preparation in the areas of fruits and vegetables, grains and breads, and careers related to foods. Cooking labs will be done in which students practice food preparation skills and techniques. (1 HS credit)

FOOD PREP 2 (9-12) One Semester

Prerequisite: Food Prep 1

A semester course designed for those interested in gaining advanced experience in foods using the knowledge gained in Foods I. This course will continue with finishing up basic food preparation in the areas of dairy, eggs and proteins. The course will include a study of advanced food preparation techniques, food competitions: cupcake wars, food trucks competition, and menu planning and preparation. A more in-depth look at careers and occupations related to food will also be explored. (1 HS credit)

BAKING AND PASTRY ARTS (10-12) Fall Semester

Prerequisite: Food Prep 1 and Food Prep 2

Students in Baking and Pastry Arts take on the world of pastry chefs. Baking principles and procedures will be examined and applied through hands-on practice and weekly food labs. Possible cooking units include pastries, pies and tarts, shortened cakes, whipped-cakes, cake decorating, gingerbread houses, quick breads, yeast breads, and other baked goods of student interest. Students will also explore measuring using weight, calculating baker's percentage, cost analysis of baked goods, and industry standards for commercial baking. (1 HS credit)

CULINARY ENTERPRISE (FOOD PREP 3) (10-12) Spring Semester

Prerequisite: Food Prep 1 and Food Prep 2

Recommended: Baking and Pastry Arts

A semester course in which students will gain real life skills in a business and management situation. The students will run and operate a small business "West End Eats" creating meals, take and bake orders and special orders for staff. Students will be in charge of testing, marketing, menu writing and pricing, ordering, selling, packaging and producing products. Advanced culinary techniques will also be covered. (1 HS credit)

CHILD DEVELOPMENT I (9-12) Fall Semester

A semester course that studies the growth and development of children from conception through the age of two. It emphasizes prenatal and post-natal care as well as the physical, social, emotional, and intellectual development of the child. Parenting responsibilities and skills at each stage of development are addressed. Many areas of parenting will be covered including topics such as the roles and responsibilities of parents, the age for parenting, and parenting styles. It also explores safety issues when raising children and careers and employment opportunities in child development. (1 HS credit)

CHILD DEVELOPMENT II (9-12) Spring Semester (offered even years)

Recommended: Child Growth and Development

A semester course that continues the studies of the growth and development of children, picking up from semester one, covering ages three and continuing through the school age child. Emphasized will be the physical, social, emotional and intellectual development of the child. Parenting responsibilities and skills at each stage of development are addressed. Also explored is early childhood education. (1 HS credit)

HOMES AND INTERIOR DESIGN (9-12) Spring Semester

A semester where students will explore the elements and principles of design in housing and interior design. Students will study floor plan basics. Exploration of careers and hobbies in these areas will also be briefly covered. Project based. (1 HS credit)

TEXTILES & FASHION DESIGN & SEWING CONSTRUCTION (9-12) Fall Semester (offered odd years)

A semester where students will explore the elements and principles of design in textiles and fashion. Students will increase their knowledge of the use of patterns and sewing techniques to design and create projects. Hand and machine sewing will be covered. Project based. (1 HS credit)

FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES ASSISTANT (10-12)

Prerequisite: Previous enrollment in FCS class and Instructor Approval

A student must schedule the same class period every day in order to apply for the family and consumer assistant position. The family and consumer sciences assistant must have previous experience in the areas of Food Prep 1 and Food Prep 2 classes. The assistant will help and encourage the students in Food Prep 1. Students selected will also complete a minimum of 2 cooking research projects throughout the semester. (Food Science, test kitchen, cultural foods) An application and interview process will be used in the selection of this assistant. Application consideration includes knowledge of the use of equipment in the department, organizational skills, ability to work with individual students, ability to answer individual questions and to demonstrate needed techniques, and the ability to offer encouragement. (1 HS credit per semester)

INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY

FOUNDATIONS OF CONSTRUCTION (9-12) One Semester

This course exposes students to the opportunities available in construction-related trades. Students learn about the processes involved in construction projects and may engage in a variety of small projects. This course emphasizes responsibility, qualifications, work environment and career paths within construction-related fields. (1 HS credit)

PRINCIPLES OF CONSTRUCTION 1 (9-12) One Semester

Prerequisite: Foundations of Construction

This course provides information related to the building of wooden structures. Students will learn skills for rough construction and finish work. Students learn to read blueprints, use tools and machines properly and safely and actually build a scale model in a small group effort. Students will also build an independent project of their choosing to demonstrate fine woodworking skills. (1 HS credit)

MANUFACTURING (9-12) One Semester

This is a one-semester course exposing the students to the fast paced environment of manufacturing. Students will be introduced to key aspects in the manufacturing industry (wood based) like advertisement, prototype construction, factory line layouts and product production and final products. (1 HS credit)

PRINCIPLES OF CONSTRUCTION 2 (10-12) One Semester

Prerequisite: Foundations of Construction and Principles of Construction 1

This course provides students with the knowledge of various types and grades of wood, proper and safe use of hand and power tools, and site selection and preparation. Special emphasis will be placed on theory of construction methods applicable to floor, wall, roof, and/or stair framing. Individual projects will show students enhanced skills. (1 HS credit)

CONSTRUCTION (11-12) Full Year

Prerequisite: Foundations of Construction, Principles of Construction 1 and 2

This course will expose students to a variety of aspects of building construction and/or carpentry. All course work focuses upon a particular skills or set of skills related to one subtopic or carpentry skills such as designing and building a wooden project. (2 HS credit)

COMPUTER-AIDED DRAFTING & DESIGN (11-12) One Semester

This course will help students develop general drafting skills, and place a particular emphasis on interior and exterior residential design, site orientation, floor plans, design sketches, and presentation drawings. It starts out with some basic hand drawing and then progressively switches to Computer Drafting. (1 HS credit) ©

BASIC ELECTRONICS TECHNOLOGY (9-12) One Semester

This is a beginning level course. The course will reinforce skill development in applied mathematics and physics through theory and laboratory assignments based on industry procedures. Students will be provided instruction on safety, introduction to the Electronics industry, tool and equipment use, soldering techniques, and employability skills and habits. Students will be involved in activities, which will reinforce Problem Solving, Teaming, Language Arts, Science, and Mathematics skills through real-life industry examples and procedures. The course will give students the opportunity to study devices that use DC to Series-Parallel circuits and AC concepts. (1 HS credit)

HOME REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE (9-12) One Semester

In this course students will explore a broad base knowledge of home repair and maintenance. Students will have the opportunity to perform many of the skills necessary for residential maintenance. Students will be exposed to skills such as dry walling and repair, painting interior and exterior, basic electrical repair, basic plumbing repair, floor care, and furniture repair/refinishing. (1 HS credit)

INTRODUCTION TO DRONES (9-12) One Semester

In this course students will explore a broad based knowledge with an introduction to Drones. Safety, Design, Fundamentals of Flight, Electric Motors, Flight Control, Power & Speed, Maintenance & Care, and Regulations will all be introduced. Students will work with a drone to learn maintenance, flight control, program for flight (coding), and basic repairs to a drone. (1 HS credit) ©

STRUCTURAL DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY (10-12) One Semester

In this class you will study how design and strength go together by Building Models and then testing just how strong they are. We will use towers and bridges as our main test structures and if time allows housing. (1 HS credit)

INTRODUCTION TO WELDING (11-12) One Semester

Introduction to Welding will introduce students to the welding/metalworking field. Students will learn Traditional Arc (Stick) Welding and Gas Metal Arc Welding (MIG), along with Plasma Cutting. Students will understand basic welding techniques and cover basic shop safety and welding safety. Students will be introduced to career opportunities within the field of welding. (1 HS Credit)

JOURNALISM

INTRO to JOURNALISM (9-12) One semester *Elective

As of the 2023-24 school year, Intro to Journalism and Journalism Productions are combined into one semester. This newly combined class emphasizes the skills of the journalist and includes journalistic ethics, writing, and production of school media. Units include writing a lead; writing with objectivity, accuracy, and balance; basic photography; writing captions; and AP style. Students will then actively help to produce the school yearbook (*The Comet*) and the online news site (*The Orbit*) by contributing to the publications, as well as creating short videos for the NP Broadcast. Students will have a basic using online creations tools similar to that of InDesign and Illustrator for typesetting, layout design and placement of graphics, as well as using PhotoShop for the basic manipulation of digital photos. Students work as “staff” during the first semester of Journalism Production and may then apply to work as editors during subsequent semesters. The course is required for those students wishing to be part of the school broadcast, newspaper or yearbook staff. (1 HS Credit) ©

YEARBOOK EDITOR (10-12) Full Year **(RAI)*English Elective**

Prerequisite: Beginning 2021-2022: Intro to Journalism and Journalism Production are required.

During this year long course, students will produce the North Polk High School Yearbook, *The Comet*. By the end of the course, students will be proficient using online creations tools similar to that of InDesign and Illustrator for typesetting, layout design and placement of graphics, as well as using PhotoShop for manipulation of digital photos. Students are responsible for meeting deadlines, selling ads, writing copy, taking photos, and other duties as assigned by the instructor. Students develop and use the skills they learned in Intro to Journalism and Journalism Production to keep the faculty and student body informed and entertained in a responsible, journalistic manner. The course may be repeated for elective credit. (2 HS Credits) ©

NEWSPAPER EDITOR (10-12) Full Year *English Elective

Prerequisite: Intro to Journalism and Journalism Production

Editors select, assign, edit, and publish news and content appropriate for each of the student newspaper publications. Students are responsible for meeting deadlines, selling ads, writing copy, taking photos, and other duties as assigned by the instructor. Students will

be responsible for promoting North Polk news via various social media outlets. Students develop and use the skills they learned in Intro to Journalism and Journalism Production to keep the faculty and student body informed and entertained in a responsible, journalistic manner. The course may be repeated for elective credit. (2 HS credits) ©

BROADCASTING EDITOR (10-12) Full Year *English Elective

Prerequisite: Intro to Journalism and Journalism Production; Also allowed if a student has taken AV Communications or was apart of Communications Club

Editors select, assign, edit, and produce news and content appropriate for each of the student news broadcasts. Students are responsible for meeting deadlines, selling ads, writing copy, taking photos, and other duties as assigned by the instructor. There will be a live broadcasting component in this class. Students develop and use the skills they learned in Intro to Journalism and Journalism Production to keep the faculty and student body informed and entertained in a responsible, journalistic manner. The course may be repeated for elective credit. (2 HS credits) ©

LANGUAGE ARTS

ENGLISH 9 Full Year (Required) (RAI)

This class is required for all 9th graders. Students develop foundational skills in reading, writing, speaking, and critical thinking. Throughout the year, students read a variety of literary and informational texts—including novels, short stories, poems, and other selected works—to interpret, analyze, and evaluate how authors develop ideas. Students also expand their vocabulary and practice expressing themselves clearly and effectively through a range of written assignments, with an emphasis on structured, coherent essays. (2 HS credits)

ENGLISH 10 Full Year (Required) (RAI)

Prerequisite: English 9

This class is required for all 10th graders, and will focus on literature and writing. Emphasis is placed on American literature and includes Shakespeare’s *Romeo and Juliet*, Harper Lee’s *To Kill a Mockingbird*, Mitch Albom’s *Tuesdays with Morrie*, and other selected works. Students will make connections between the themes of literature and their own lives, and practice various reading strategies to deepen their comprehension. Students will also refine their writing skills as they compose persuasive essays, review grammar and usage, practice writing timed essays and complete assignments requiring research and documentation. (2 HS credits)

ENGLISH 11 Full Year (RAI)

Prerequisite: English 10

This class will focus on critical reading and writing. It will emphasize composition skills and strategies for personal and public writing, and will expand upon the composition skills covered in English 10. Included will be nonfiction writing for academic, workplace, and informational purposes, with a particular focus on analyzing and crafting arguments and developing research writing skills. Discussion and presentation skills will be developed and practiced throughout the course as English 11 students study various pieces of literature, analyzing the real world implications for the writer’s work as well as the strategies the author uses to convey his or her purpose. (2 HS credits)

ENGLISH 12 Full Year or Semester (RAI)

Prerequisite: English 11

This course will focus on advancing writing and composition skills from English 10 and English 11 to uses beyond the classroom and “real world” applications through essays, research, and professional writing. Additionally, students will continue to refine close reading skills through the use of selected short stories, a variety of nonfiction texts and articles, and longer works of fiction. Students will also leave this class with communication skills that can be applied in their everyday lives. (1 HS credit per semester)

AP LANGUAGE/COMPOSITION (11-12) Full Year (RAI)

AP English Language and Composition is an introductory college-level composition course. Students cultivate their understanding of writing and rhetorical arguments through reading, analyzing, and writing texts as they explore topics like rhetorical situation, claims and evidence, reasoning and organization, and style. Students will receive a weighted grade. (2 HS credits)

AP LITERATURE/COMPOSITION (11-12) Full Year (RAI)

AP English Literature and Composition is an introductory college-level literary analysis course. Students cultivate their understanding of literature through reading and analyzing texts as they explore concepts like character, setting, structure, perspective, figurative language, and literary analysis in the context of literary works. Students will receive a weighted grade. (2 HS credits)

English Electives

MEDIA ANALYSIS (11-12) One Semester **(RAI)**

Media has changed the world in which we live and the ways in which we think. This course will help students improve their understanding of what is going on in the world, teach them to analyze fact vs fiction in media, and make them aware of the tactics used to mold their thinking and sell them products and ideas. This course will explore the impact of news, social media, and entertainment media on our society and provide students with the skills necessary to analyze and utilize media in a variety of contexts. (1 HS credit)

COMMUNICATIONS (11-12) One Semester **(RAI)**

Reading, writing, speaking and listening are studied as methods of exploring and evaluating technological advances in trades, industry and professions. Adapting communication for different audiences, evaluating industry-related literature and basic business writing and speaking are emphasized.. (1 HS credit)

DYSTOPIAN LITERATURE: Exploring Futures Gone Awry (10-12) One Semester

In this thought-provoking elective English course, students will dive into the dark and often unsettling worlds of dystopian literature. From Ray Bradbury's *Fahrenheit 451* to Suzanne Collins' *The Hunger Games*, this class will explore the genre's exploration of oppressive governments, societal breakdowns, and the struggle for individuality in the face of conformity. Students will analyze key themes such as power, surveillance, freedom, and resistance, while developing critical thinking and reading skills. By examining both classic and contemporary works, we will discuss the ways dystopian authors reflect and warn against current social, political, and technological trends. This course encourages students to question the future of their own world and consider how the dystopian genre serves as a lens for examining both the human condition and the impact of societal choices. (1 HS credit)

INTRO TO CREATIVE WRITING (9-12) One Semester **(RAI)**

Creative Writing is a one semester exploration of the nature of creative expression, including instruction in poetry, personal essay, and short story. The course is workshop-based, with students producing and sharing writing in a variety of ways. Students are assessed on work ethic and contribution to the writing community as well as the written products created. Students create various writing projects, showing strengths and growth in various genres, as well as compile writings for the semester in their writing notebooks. Students will learn to give meaningful feedback to other writers as well as identifying and problem-solving issues in their own work. (1 HS credit)

MATHEMATICS

ALGEBRA 1 (9-12) Full Year **(Required) (RAI)**

This course builds on a student's understanding of expressions, equations, inequalities, and linear functions learned in 8th grade. Operations with polynomials, factoring, radicals, exponents, quadratic functions, and quadratic equations complete the course. (2 HS credits)

GEOMETRY (Plane and Solid) (9-12) Full Year **(Required) (RAI)**

Prerequisite: Algebra 1

A systematic and deductive study of lines, angles, triangles, quadrilaterals, and other geometric figures as they exist in both a plane and a 3-dimensional world. Once the properties of the figure are established by deductive reasoning, the properties of algebra are applied in finding length, size, area, and volume. This course emphasizes geometry as an axiomatic system including the study of postulates, theorems, and formal proofs: concepts of congruence, similarity, parallelism, perpendicularity, and proportion; and problem solving. **A graphing calculator is recommended for this class. A TI-84 will be sufficient for this and future math classes. If you are planning to major in engineering or something math related,** (2 HS credits)

APPLIED MATH (10-12) **(Algebra 2 or Applied Math Required)**

Prerequisite: Geometry
(2 HS credits)

Topics covered include fundamental operations with whole numbers, fractions, decimals and signed numbers; percents; geometric figures and basic constructions; area and volume formulas; English/Metric systems; measurements; and the interpretation of graphs and charts. A course in algebra and trigonometry for technicians. Topics covered include polynomials, equations, systems of linear equations, factoring, quadratic equations, trigonometry, powers, roots and logarithms.

ALGEBRA 2 (10-12) Full Year (**Algebra 2 or Applied Math Required**) (RAI)

Prerequisite: Algebra 1

Most areas of Algebra I are reviewed and studied in greater depth. Topics include theorems; operations with rational and irrational expressions; factoring of rational expressions; in-depth study of linear equations and inequalities; quadratic equations; solving systems of linear and quadratic equations; graphing of constant, linear, and quadratic equations; properties of higher degree equations; and operations with rational and irrational exponents. **A graphing calculator is recommended for this class. A TI-84 will be sufficient for this and future math classes. If you are planning to major in engineering or something math related, a TI-Inspire is recommended.** (2 HS credits)

PRE-CALCULUS (10-12) One Semester (RAI)

Prerequisites: Algebra 2 and Geometry

Pre-Calculus is a course designed for students planning on entering AP Calculus. The course is a detailed study of polynomial and rational functions and their graphs, complex numbers and power series, and circular, logarithmic and exponential functions. The students will study analytical geometry and be introduced to calculus through limits. This course is designed for math, engineering, science, construction, and drafting or technology fields. **A graphing calculator is recommended for this class. A TI-84 will be sufficient for this and future math classes. If you are planning to major in engineering or something math related, a TI-Inspire is recommended.** (1 HS credit)

DMACC STATISTICS (10-12) One Semester (RAI)

Prerequisites: Algebra 2 and Geometry

This one semester course provides an introduction to the study of likely events and the analysis, interpretation, and presentation of quantitative data. Course topics include basic probability and statistics; discrete probability theory, odds and probabilities, probability trees, populations and samples, frequency tables, measures of central tendency, normal distribution and measures of variability, and presentation of data (including graphs). **A graphing calculator is recommended for this class. A TI-84 will be sufficient for this and future math classes. If you are planning to major in engineering or something math related, a TI-Inspire is recommended.** (1 HS credit)

TRIGONOMETRY (10-12) One Semester (RAI)

Prerequisites: Algebra 2 and Geometry

Trigonometry is a one-semester course which is a continuation of Algebra 2 with a focus on trigonometry and an introduction to some Calculus topics. Students will study relations, functions, graphs, inverse trigonometric functions, fundamental identities, complex numbers, limits, and derivatives. The student will analyze and graph mathematical functions. There is an emphasis on verification of trigonometric identities using all of the basic trigonometric identities. Students will use graphing calculators in activities that are appropriate to the topics being studied. **A graphing calculator is recommended for this class.** (1 HS credit)

AP CALCULUS AB (11-12) Full Year (RAI)

Prerequisite: Trigonometry

Recommended: Pre-Calc

This course deals with limits of functions, differentiation of functions and integration of functions. Calculus will give the student a great background in higher-level math for college, particularly for mathematics and pre-engineering courses. Students must complete both semesters in order to receive a weighted grade. An opportunity to take the College Board AP Test will be given in the spring. **A graphing calculator is required for this class. A TI-84 will be sufficient for this and future math classes. If you are planning to major in engineering or something math related, a TI-Inspire is recommended.** Students will receive a weighted grade. (2 HS credits)

AP CALCULUS BC (12) Full Year (RAI)

Prerequisite: AP Calculus AB

AP Calculus BC is roughly equivalent to both first and second semester college calculus courses; it extends the content learned in AB to different types of equations and introduces the topic of sequences and series. Students will receive a weighted grade and have the opportunity to take the AP test in the spring. **Recommended student supplies : Graphing Calculator** (2 HS credits)

AP STATISTICS (12) Full Year (RAI)

Prerequisite: Algebra 2

This course will introduce the major concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing, and making decisions from data. It includes four main topics. These are exploring data, sampling and experimentation, anticipating patterns, and statistical inference. **Required student supplies: Graphing Calculator** Students will receive a weighted grade and have the opportunity to take the AP test in the spring. (2 HS credits)

MUSIC

CHOIR (9-12) Full Year

Students will study a variety of music while developing their vocal skills and musical knowledge. This performance-based class concerts and other performances, which are integral to the curriculum. All performances are considered extensions of the classroom experience. Private or group lessons are required for all choir members.

(1 high school credit per semester)

CHAMBER CHOIR (9-12) Full Year

Prerequisite: Students must audition for this ensemble in the spring of the preceding school year.

Students in this performance-based class will study a variety of music while advancing their vocal skills and aural techniques. The class includes concerts and other performances, which are integral to the curriculum. All performances are considered extensions of the classroom. Private or group lessons are required for all choir members.

(1 high school credit per semester)

BAND (9-12) Full Year (Symphonic Band, Marching Comets, and Comet Pep Band)

Band is a multi-functional ensemble of 9-12 students, whose focus is musical growth. Symphonic Band is the core band of the instrumental music department, providing an opportunity for musical growth by all students in a concert band setting. Individual lessons are also a core part of band, and are given to every band student. In the fall, the band operates as the Marching Comets. During marching season, all students participate in a variety of performances, including home football games, parades, and competitions. Other opportunities exist through the instrumental music program; including internal solo/ensemble contests, jazz studies, and pep band. In the winter season, the band takes on the duties as the Comet Pep Band at some home sporting events. (1 HS credit per semester) **Second semester band will be divided into two sections, one 9/10 band and one 11/12 band.*

ADVANCED INSTRUMENTAL METHODS (Semester-Long, Available both semesters)

Advanced Instrumental Methods is open to any 9-12 band student, whose focus is musical growth. This class is an opportunity to extend and grow learning beyond what we do in band. It is open to students who are members of the band. This class would be separate from concert band. This class replaces lessons and open practice time in the band room. Students must be a member of either the 9/10 or 11/12 band to take this class. (1 HS credit)

PERCUSSION CLASS (9-12) 2nd Semester Only (Members of percussion section only)

Band is a multi-functional ensemble of 9-12 students, whose focus is musical growth. Percussion class is an extension of what we do in band. It is open to students who are members of the percussion section in the second semester only. This class would be separate from concert band. Due to the large number of percussionists in band, this class will be available to percussionists to have more opportunities to play. Students must be a member of the percussion section in band to participate. Percussionists can choose between this class or concert band or participate in both. (1 HS credit)

COLOR GUARD (9-12) One Semester

Color Guard meets everyday first semester concurrently with marching band. Students will rehearse during and outside the school day. The color guard will prepare a routine for use with the marching band. This is a performance-based group with required participation in all performances.

MUSIC THEORY & HISTORY 1 (9-12) First Semester

Prerequisite: Instructor Approval

Students will study scales, keys, melody, harmony, sight singing, ear training, music analysis and composition. (1 HS credit)

MUSIC THEORY & HISTORY 2 (9-12) Second Semester

Prerequisite: Instructor Approval

Students will study scales, keys, melody, harmony, sight singing, ear training, music analysis and composition. (1 HS credit)

ADVANCED MUSIC THEORY & HISTORY 4 (9-12) Spring Semester

Prerequisite: Instructor approval

Students will study scales, keys, melody, harmony, sight singing, ear training, music analysis and composition. (1 HS credit)

MUSIC & THEATRE MANAGEMENT, TECHNOLOGY, AND PRODUCTION (9-12) Fall Semester only

This course focuses on the technical and production aspects of theatrical performances. Students will explore the roles and responsibilities of a creative team and learn how each contributes to a professional production. They will apply their knowledge and skills to design and create a production of their own, incorporating their creative vision, AI tools, and techniques learned throughout the course, culminating in a presentation at the end of the semester.

Students will also receive instruction on the basic functionality of the auditorium's light and sound systems and will assist with the setup and teardown of performance venues. Equipment assessment and safety practices will be emphasized as a key component of the course. Additionally, students will contribute to the construction and building of the set for the fall musical.(1 HS credits)

MUSICAL THEATER PERFORMANCE (Grades 9–12) Spring Semester Only

This performance-based course explores the history and development of American musical theater. The class combines performance and traditional coursework in a hybrid format. Students will develop skills in group line reading, monologue delivery, audition techniques, and building an audition portfolio. Additionally, students will engage in both group and individual research projects throughout the semester. The semester will culminate in a Theater Showcase and a CD Recording Session featuring songs and monologues compiled during the course. (1 HS credits)

DMACC FUNDAMENTALS OF MUSIC (Grades 9-12) Spring Semester Only

Students will develop their music literacy skills through learning and applying the foundational elements of music. This course will prepare students for the Music Theory course sequence. Students will earn 3 DMACC (MUS102) credits and 1 HS credit.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION/HEALTH

WALKING FITNESS (9-12) One Semester

This course is designed to give the student a practical understanding of cardiovascular fitness produced by walking. Experiences are provided to help the student understand the benefits, organization, implementation, and evaluation of a balanced aerobic fitness program utilizing walking as the primary activity. (1 HS credit/semester)

TEAM/DUAL SPORTS (9-12) One Semester

This class combines aspects of competitive team sports and dual/individual sports. Below are descriptions of each of these components:

Competitive team - This course helps students develop knowledge, experience, and skills in a single sport or activity (such as but not limited to basketball, volleyball, football, lacrosse, broomball, tchoukball, soccer, kickball, and baseball/softball). Another main focus will be on sportsmanship and cooperation in a competitive setting.

Dual/individual sports - This course helps students develop knowledge, experience, and skills in a single sport or activity (such as but not limited to Badminton, Eclipse Ball, Tennis, Pickleball, Disc Golf, Kan Jam, Bocce Ball, Hantis, etc). Another main focus will be on sportsmanship and cooperation in a sports setting. **Required supplies: PE clothing, gym shoes, and padlock** (1 HS credit/semester)

LIFETIME FITNESS (9-12) One Semester - Fall Only

This course emphasizes activities that help develop muscular strength, flexibility, and cardiovascular fitness. The class will also be participating in activities like biking, roller-blading, and walking. Students will have the opportunity to create their own Personal fitness plan and follow it throughout the semester. Students will be setting goals and working toward those goals throughout the semester. They will have access to lifting weights, cardio equipment, outdoor facilities, and fitness equipment in the fitness room. Students will have the opportunity to work independently or in a group throughout the semester. **Required supplies: PE clothing, gym shoes, and padlock** (1 HS credit/semester)

ATHLETIC ENHANCEMENT (9-12) One Semester

This is a daily course set up to provide progressive and structured lessons for students seeking high intensity training. Through this training, we will improve our student-athletes' mental and physical ability to compete in our high school athletic programs. Students will follow a set program that is designed to help them improve their functional strength, speed, quickness, agility and explosiveness, mobility and flexibility, confidence and trust, and the ability to limit injuries. Students will be given a pre-assessment and post-assessment on a variety of functional strength and fitness activities. This class will meet the requirements of the athletic program to train in and out of season. If you are not an athlete this course may not be for you. Coaches suggest athletes take athletic enhancement both semesters. **Required supplies: PE clothing, gym shoes, and padlock** (1 HS credit/semester)

EARLY BIRD ATHLETIC ENHANCEMENT (9-12) One Semester

This is a daily course set up to provide progressive and structured lessons for students seeking high intensity training. This class will meet before school. Through this training, we will improve our student-athletes' mental and physical ability to compete in our high school athletic programs. Students will follow a set program that is designed to help them improve their functional strength, speed, quickness, agility and explosiveness, mobility and flexibility, confidence and trust, and the ability to limit injuries. Students will be given a pre-assessment and post-assessment on a variety of functional strength and fitness activities. This class will meet the requirements of the athletic program to train in and out of season. If you are not an athlete this course may not be for you. Coaches suggest athletes take athletic enhancement both semesters. **Required supplies: PE clothing, gym shoes, and padlock** (1 HS credit/semester)

SPORTS PERFORMANCE AND NUTRITION (11-12) (Fall and Spring)

Grades 11–12 | Prerequisite: Athletic Enhancement

This advanced course integrates strength and conditioning principles with sports nutrition to enhance athletic performance and overall wellness. Students explore exercise physiology, biomechanics, and evidence-based nutritional strategies to optimize training, recovery, and sports performance. Through hands-on training, performance testing, and advanced program design, students learn to apply scientific concepts to real-world athletic settings. Topics include energy systems, macronutrient balance, hydration, supplementation, and ethical considerations in performance enhancement. Ideal for student-athletes or those interested in kinesiology, health sciences, or fitness careers. Required Materials: **Appropriate PE clothing and appropriate athletic shoes (no dudes, slides, uggs, crocs, boots, etc...)** (1 HS credit Per Semester)

YOGA/MINDFULNESS (9-12) One Semester

This class will focus on strategies that students can use to help maintain and improve their overall health by participating in yoga, pilates, PIYO, core balance/stability exercises, foam rolling, walking, and mindfulness activities. It is designed to introduce students, safely, to the basic postures, breathing techniques, and relaxation methods of yoga and other activities. Students will begin to experience the benefits of stretching, moving, and breathing freely as they relieve built up stress, learn to relax, and ultimately get more out of day to-day life; striving to attain an overall good quality of life. Assessment will include but not limited to student taught workouts/exercises, self-reflection, journaling, and goal setting. ***Students who take this course repeatedly will be held to higher expectations (for example: leading the class through yoga sequences, more demanding activities and assessments, more in-depth knowledge about yoga and mindfulness as a whole).*** **PE clothing to move comfortably in through the variety of different movements/postures, padlock, and students can bring their own yoga mat if they want.** (1 HS credit/semester)

PEER PARTNER PE (11-12) One Semester

Prerequisite: See a PE teacher for an application/more information.

The Peer Partner Physical Education program (Peer Partner PE) is an inclusive approach to physical education that pairs students with special needs with their general education peers (peer partner). The peer partner demonstrates PE activities and motivates the students with special needs to participate in PE class. The program is designed to be adaptive for the special education students to participate. Some of the same sports are played as in regular PE, but with some modifications of activities and equipment. Students will have to fill out an **application** in order to take this class. **Required supplies: Appropriate clothing and shoes in which one can be active.** (1 HS credit)

HEALTH 1 (9-10) One Semester

The goal of this class is to help students to become more health literate individuals in order to have the ability to access, understand, appraise, apply, and advocate for health information and services to maintain or enhance one's own health and the health of others. Topics/skills covered in this class include (but aren't limited to): S.M.A.R.T goal setting, healthy decision making, mental health (personality, self-esteem, emotions, stress management), social health (peer relationships, dating, choosing abstinence, violence

prevention), nutrition, and substance abuse. Students will also receive CPR/First Aid training. **This course IS a prerequisite of Health 2.** (1 HS credit)

HEALTH 2 (10-12) One Semester - Spring Only

Prerequisite: Health 1

This class will use the foundation of information that students learned in Health 1 and will go more in depth with some of the subjects; allowing students to execute the skill of advocacy and raise awareness to others in the community through a variety of projects/activities. Students will further their knowledge of the health skills and apply those skills to their everyday life. Students may also have the opportunity to explore and learn about different health science career paths and the skills and/or education needed within those specific health fields. **Topics/skills covered may vary depending upon class size and/or interest of students.* (1 HS credit)

SCIENCE

FOUNDATIONAL SCIENCE (9-12) Full Year (**Required**) (**RAI**)

The first semester covers several physics-based topics and incorporates mathematical and engineering applications of the laws of physics. Topics include: nature of science, forces of motion, energy, waves, electricity, and magnetism. Most of these topics require secure Algebra skills, so some students will benefit from taking this course after successfully completing Algebra I.

The second semester covers earth science topics, including astronomy, Earth's structure, natural disasters and their effects on society, weather, and climate. Laboratory study and project-based learning is incorporated to enhance understanding of the concepts. (2 HS credits)

BIOLOGY (9-12) Full Year (**Required**) (**RAI**)

This course is designed to provide information regarding the fundamental concepts of life and life processes. Topics include cell structure and function, ecology, genetics, and natural selection and evolution. (2 HS credits)

AP BIOLOGY (10-12) Full Year (**RAI**)

Prerequisites: Biology and Chemistry

AP Biology is an introductory college-level biology course. Students cultivate their understanding of biology through inquiry-based investigations as they explore topics like evolution, energetics, information storage and transfer, and system interactions. Students will have the opportunity to take the AP exam at the end of the course. AP Biology is graded on a weighted scale. (2 HS credits)

CHEMISTRY IN COMMUNITY (11-12) One Semester (**Required Chemistry or Chemistry in Community + 1 Science Elective**)

Prerequisite: Algebra 1

One semester will be spent introducing the theories and concepts of modern chemistry. Students will explore the fundamental principles of chemistry, which characterize the properties of matter and how it reacts. The topics will be presented to increase awareness and understanding of the role of chemistry in everyday life through readings, lab activities, and projects. Chemistry is the study of matter and the changes it undergoes. Basic mathematical knowledge is required. This course is not designed to prepare students for college rigor or college chemistry. AREAS OF STUDY: 1. Atomic Structure and Periodic Properties 2. Chemical Reactions and Bonding 3. Molecular Structure and Properties 4. Conservation of Mass and Stoichiometry 5. Reaction Rates 6. States of Matter and Energy Change. (1 HS credit)

CHEMISTRY (9-12) Full Year (**Required Chemistry or Chemistry in Community + 1 Science Elective**) (**RAI**)

Prerequisite: Algebra 1

This is an introductory high school chemistry course that incorporates more of the computational understanding associated with chemical knowledge. Topics covered include atomic structure, electron probability, the periodic table and periodic properties, bonding, formulas and names, equations, chemical reactions, the mole and stoichiometry, gases, solutions, and acids/bases. Many of these topics require strong algebra skills. Laboratory study is designed to enhance understanding of the concepts. Students are encouraged to take this class if they are interested in taking AP Biology, AP Chemistry, and/or DMACC science courses prior to graduation. This course will satisfy North Polk's science requirement and 4-year university admission. (2 HS credits)

AP CHEMISTRY (10-12) Full Year (**RAI**)

Prerequisites: Algebra 1, Algebra 2, and Chemistry

AP Chemistry is a rigorous two-semester course designed to be the equivalent of a college-level introductory chemistry course. Topics will include Atomic Structures, Compound Properties, Properties of Substances, Chemical Reactions, Kinetics,

Thermochemistry, Equilibrium, Acids and Bases, and Thermodynamics. Approximately 25 percent of the instructional time engages students in labs and investigations. At the end of the course, students are eligible to take the AP Chemistry exam. Students will receive a weighted grade. (2 HS credits)

PHYSICS (10-12) Full Year **(RAI)**

Prerequisite: Geometry

Recommended: Algebra 2

This is a traditional introductory high school physics course that involves the study of forces and laws of nature affecting matter. Topics include mechanics, heat, waves, magnetism and electricity. Many of these topics require strong algebra and geometry skills. Laboratory study is designed to enhance understanding of the concepts. (2 HS credits)

DMACC ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE (10-12) Full Year **(RAI)**

Recommended: Biology, Chemistry or AP Chemistry

This course combines the basic principles of environmental science with ecology. Issues examined include environmental policy, sustainability, and biodiversity. Energy conservation, water resources, agriculture, climate change, and waste management are also emphasized. Students will receive 4 DMACC credits for ENV 115 (3 credit), and ENV 116 (1 credit). (2 HS credits)

FORENSIC SCIENCE (10-12) One Semester (offered even years)

This course surveys key topics in forensic science, including the application of the scientific process to forensic analysis, procedures and principles of crime scene investigation, physical and trace evidence, and the law and courtroom procedures from the perspective of the forensic scientist. Major topics include processing a crime scene, collecting and preserving evidence, identifying types of physical evidence, organic and inorganic analysis of evidence, hair, fibers, and paint, toxicology, arson and explosion investigations, serology, DNA, fingerprints, firearms, and document analysis. (1 HS credit) Ⓢ

ZOOLOGY (10-12) One Semester **(RAI)** (offered odd years)

Recommended: Biology

The course gives an introduction to zoology, with particular emphasis on dissections across several phyla. The main form of assessment includes lab practicals over specific anatomy following each dissection. In addition, the students should acquire basic knowledge of biodiversity and evolution. (1 HS credit) Ⓢ

ANATOMY & PHYSIOLOGY (10-12) Full Year **(RAI)**

Prerequisite: Biology

This course presents the human body and biological systems in detail. Students learn anatomical terminology, study cells and tissues, explore functional systems (skeletal, muscular, circulatory, respiratory, digestive, nervous, etc.) and will dissect cats. (2 HS credits) Ⓢ

SCIENCE RESEARCH AND DESIGN One Semester

Recommended Prerequisites: Foundational Science

Science Research and Design is designed to give students experience in the scientific process. Students will independently conduct projects of their choosing. Students will conduct research pertinent to their project, determine an appropriate experimental design, collect and analyze data, then communicate their data in a variety of media. Students in science research and design should expect to dedicate a significant amount of their time reading scientific articles related to their topic, preparing for weekly lab meetings, collecting data, and writing a final paper. Students should expect the same workload in this class as any other AP course offered in the science department.

SOCIAL STUDIES

WORLD GEOGRAPHY & CULTURES (9) One year **(Required)** **(RAI)**

This course provides an overview of world geography, including the physical environment, the political landscape, the relationship between people and the land, economic production and development, and the movement of people, goods and ideas. (1 HS credit)

AMERICAN HISTORY (10) One Year **(Required)** **(RAI)**

American History I (first semester) - This is the fall semester for the 10th grade American History requirement. Topics covered in this class will include: Manifest Destiny, Slavery and Sectional Conflict, Civil War, Reconstruction, Settling the West, Gilded Age,

Industrialization, and the Progressive Era. (1 HS credit)

AMERICAN HISTORY II (second semester) - This is the spring semester for the 10th grade American History requirement. Topics covered in this class include: World War I, Roaring Twenties, Great Depression, World War II, Cold War, Civil Rights Movement, Vietnam, and Post-Cold War America. (1 HS credit)

WORLD RELIGIONS (10-12) One Semester **(RAI)** (offered even years)

This course is an overview of the most practiced religions around the globe. Religions studied will include: Christianity, Judaism, Islam, Buddhism, Hinduism, and others. This course will not promote any one religion over another. However, this course will allow students to learn about the historical origins, fundamental beliefs, and impact on history of many different religions. The role that religion plays in people's lives as well as conflict over religion will be studied. (1 HS credit)

THE WORLD WARS (10-12) One Semester **(RAI)** (offered even years)

Prerequisite: One year of American History

This course is an in-depth study of the time period 1914-1945, with a focus on World War 1, the interwar period, and World War 2. This class is a blend of American and World History. Topics studied will include: causes of World War 1, the Treaty of Versailles, the rise of Totalitarianism following World War I, the Munich Conference, the Battle of Britain, Pearl Harbor, D-Day, the Holocaust, and many other topics. Major battles of World War 2 will be studied, although military strategy is not the primary focus of this course. The class will finish with an analysis on the end of the war, and how the post World War 2 order changed the global balance of power. (1 HS credit)

HISTORY THRU FILM (11-12) One Semester **(RAI)**

This course examines Hollywood feature films and historical dramas as historical evidence. Students view movies on various topics and participate in discussions, and write essays comparing that film evidence to information in more traditional sources, such as articles, film reviews and critical commentaries. Students will evaluate the legitimacy of film evidence as compared to the historical event on which it was based. Films viewed in this class will change from semester to semester and will include R rated films. (1 HS credit)

ANCIENT CIVILIZATIONS (10-11) One Semester **(Required if Modern World History not taken) (RAI)**

This class will provide a basic overview of world history examining the ancient civilizations of Greece, Rome and Egypt, as well as Africa, India and China. (1 HS credit)

MODERN WORLD HISTORY (10-11) One Semester **(Required if Ancient Civilizations not taken) (RAI)**

This class will provide an overview of the history of human society in the past few centuries – from the Renaissance period to the contemporary period – exploring political, economic, social, religious, military, scientific, and cultural developments. (1 HS credit)

ECONOMICS (11-12) One Semester **(RAI)**

Economics is a one-semester course designed to provide students with a foundational understanding of how economic principles influence individuals, businesses, and governments. Blending key concepts from both macroeconomics and microeconomics, the course explores topics such as supply and demand, market structures, economic systems, fiscal and monetary policy, and the role of international trade. Students will analyze real-world scenarios to understand how economic decisions are made and their impact on local and global economies. Through interactive discussions, critical thinking exercises, and practical applications, this course equips students with the tools to make informed decisions as consumers, workers, and citizens in an interconnected world. (1 HS Credit)

BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES Formerly Psychology/Sociology (10-12) One Semester **(RAI)**

This course is designed to combine some of the main principles of both psychology and sociology. Units from psychology will include: memory, mental health/stress, learning, and social psychology. Units from sociology will include: groups/conformity, socialization, culture, and social inequality/stratification. Research from both fields will be incorporated into each unit and the connections between these two fields of study will be discussed.

AP PSYCHOLOGY (11-12) One Year **(RAI)**

Recommended: High School Psychology (offered every odd year)

The AP Psychology course is designed to introduce students to the systematic and scientific study of the behavior and mental processes of human beings and other animals. Students are exposed to the psychological facts, principles, and phenomena associated with each of the major subfields within psychology. They also learn about the ethics and methods psychologists use in their science

and practice. Students will receive a weighted grade for this class and will have the opportunity to take the AP test in the spring. (1 HS credit)

DMACC INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHOLOGY (9-12) One Semester **(RAI)**

A survey of psychology including theoretical and experimental findings and applications from areas such as physiological, learning, memory, personality, developmental, social, abnormal, and therapy. Students will receive 3 DMACC credits for PSY111. (1 HS credit)

DMACC DEVELOPMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY (9-12) One Semester **(RAI)**

Recommended: AP Psychology or DMACC Introduction to Psychology

The study of factors that affect human development from conception to death, with emphasis on topics such as physical, cognitive and social changes, methods of study and current issues. Students will receive 3 DMACC credits for PSY 121. (1 HS credit)

GOVERNMENT (12) One Semester Required **(Required if AP Government not taken) (RAI)**

This course meets the Government course requirement from the state of Iowa. Topics studied in this course include: Comparing forms of government, founding documents of American democracy, the Constitution, the Bill of Rights and civil liberties, Federalism, civic participation, political parties and interest groups, political campaigns and elections, the legislative branch, the executive branch, the judicial branch, and state and local government in Iowa. (1 HS credit)

(1 HS credit)

AP GOVERNMENT (12) One Year **(Required if Government not taken) (RAI)**

This course provides an analytical perspective on government and politics in the United States. This course covers constitutional underpinnings of the U.S. government, political beliefs and behaviors, political parties and interest groups, the institutions and policy process of national government, and civil rights and liberties. Students earn a weighted grade and will be given the opportunity to take the AP test in the spring. (1 HS credit)

WORLD LANGUAGE

Some colleges and universities suggest having a foreign language (for at least 2 years) prior to attending, as to avoid cost, time and stress. This depends on your intended course of study or major at individual colleges. If you intend to seek a four-year degree, please check the admissions requirements for the universities and colleges in which you are interested, as well as the area of study you intend to follow.

SPANISH 1 (9-12) Full Year **(RAI)**

This course is designed to introduce students to Spanish language and culture. It emphasizes basic grammar and vocabulary with the students correctly spelling and saying over 400+ vocabulary words. Students will read, write, speak, and understand the language at a basic level. (2 HS credits)

SPANISH 2 (10-12) Full Year **(RAI)**

Prerequisite: Spanish 1 (recommend a C or better in Spanish 1)

This course builds upon the skills developed in Spanish 1, extending students' ability to understand and express themselves in Spanish and increasing their vocabulary. (2 HS credits)

SPANISH 3 (11-12) Full Year **(RAI)**

Prerequisite: Spanish 2 (recommend a C or better in Spanish 2)

Spanish 3 focuses on having students express increasingly complex concepts both verbally and in writing while showing some spontaneity. Comprehension goals for students may include attaining faster understanding when listening to the language spoken at normal rates, being able to paraphrase or summarize written passages, and conversing easily within limited situations. (2 HS credits)

SPANISH 4 (12) Full Year **(RAI)**

Prerequisite: Spanish 3 (recommend a C or better in Spanish 3)

Spanish 4 focuses on advancing students' skills and abilities to read, write, speak and understand the Spanish language so that they can maintain simple conversations with sufficient vocabulary and an acceptable accent, have sufficient comprehension to understand

speech spoken at a normal pace, and write narratives that indicate a good understanding of grammar and a strong vocabulary. There will be an emphasis on speaking the language 2nd semester. (2 HS credits)

WORK BASED LEARNING

DMACC Work-Based Learning S1 (11-12) Fall Semester (option to take all-year)

This course offers students the opportunity to explore potential careers, develop essential job-readiness skills, and cultivate the attitudes necessary for professional success. Students will investigate career fields of interest through workplace visits, trade fairs, career day events, and guest speakers. Key activities include practicing resume writing, completing job applications, and mastering interview techniques. Additionally, students will engage in problem-solving exercises, assess their interests and abilities, set career goals, and develop the skills needed to thrive in a diverse workplace environment. The course includes a 15-hour job shadowing experience in a business setting related to the student's academic interests. Students will earn 6 DMACC credits [SDV 132 Career Exploration, SDV133 Job Shadowing and WBL 300 Internship (only if prearranged) (Fall Semester)

DMACC Work-Based Learning S2 (11-12) Spring Semester (option to take year-round)

This course is designed to help students develop the essential skills needed to secure employment and succeed in the workplace. Students will explore key aspects of professional career placement, including interview techniques, job application materials, electronic career portfolios, managing their digital footprint, and creating a professional image. They will also learn how to negotiate job offers. Key tasks include preparing a cover letter, resume, acceptance letter, resignation letter, thank-you letter, and responses to behavioral interview questions. In addition, students will practice workplace problem-solving, explore their interests and career goals, and develop the skills necessary to thrive in a diverse work environment. Students will apply these skills in a real-world setting by working a minimum of 120 hours during the semester, with guidance from both their employer/supervisor and the instructor. Upon completion, students will earn 6 DMACC credits (SDV 134 Employability Skills, WBL 200 Practicum/Field Experience and WBL300 (only if prearranged) and 2 high school credits per semester. Students must secure employment within the first two weeks and provide their transportation. **Students must have or obtain employment within the first 2 weeks of the course and will need to provide their transportation.**

OTHER

ELP (Extended Learning Program) Independent-Study (9-12) One Semester or Full Year

Prerequisite: Identified for ELP programming services

This class “serves students who require instruction and education services commensurate with their abilities and beyond those provided by the regular school program.” (Iowa Code 257.44). Students will work with the ELP teacher to: 1) Identify a topic of interest to study in-depth. A project proposal, daily goal or reflection log, final project with presentation, and final reflection paper are required. 2) Work on college and/or career exploration. Career-based mentorships are available. 3) Prepare for and participate in individual academic contests/competitions such as World Food Prize, Law Day, Know Your Constitution, etc. 4) University of Iowa AP Online Academy for Talented and Gifted - AP Biology, AP Calculus AB, AP Chemistry, AP Computer Science A (Java), AP Computer Science Principles, AP English Language and Composition, AP English Literature and Composition, AP Environmental Science, AP Macroeconomics, AP Microeconomics, AP Psychology, AP Spanish, AP Statistics, AP US Government, AP US History (1 pass/fail HS credit)

ORBIS PROJECT-BASED EXPERIENCE (11-12) One Semester

This 2 period class engages teams of students in partnership with the workforce in solving real problems and contributing to the betterment of our local and global community. Experiences are grounded in the Universal Constructs (critical thinking, complex communication, creativity, collaboration, flexibility and adaptability, productivity and accountability) and much of the learning will occur at the work site of the partnership organization. Authentic problems will lead to project ideas, and students’ passions will be

matched to projects. Students must have 2 - 3 adjacent class periods open everyday (preferred periods to start or end the day) to allow for travel time to Ankeny or to the work site. Students receive a Pass/Fail grade for ORBIS. (1 or 2 HS credits)

ORBIS KARL TRANSPORTATION AND BUSINESS ACADEMY (11-12) One Semester

This course provides an integrated approach to learning about all aspects of a large organization in the transportation industry. Participants will engage in authentic learning experiences in a business atmosphere as they explore various careers, solve problems, and engage in project work as a team. This class will meet daily at Karls Chevrolet in Ankeny during 6th, 7th, and 8th periods. Students earn a Pass/Fail grade for this course. (2 HS credits)

ORBIS SECRETARY OF STATE PROJECT-BASED EXPERIENCE (11-12) One semester

This course will engage teams of students in partnership with the workforce in solving real problems and contributing to the betterment of our local and global community. This course will be held at the Secretary of State's office where a team of students will be actively involved in fast-paced project work and research throughout the legislative session. Students must have 3 adjacent class periods everyday (preferred periods at the beginning of the day) to allow for travel time to Des Moines. Students earn a Pass/Fail grade for this course. (2 HS credits)

It is the policy of the North Polk Community School District not to illegally discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, disability, religion, creed, age (for employment), marital status (for programs), sexual orientation, gender identity and socioeconomic status (for programs) in its educational programs and its employment practices. There is a grievance procedure for processing complaints of discrimination. If you have questions or a grievance related to this policy, please contact the district's Equity Coordinator Kristi Mixdorf.