

2026-2027
Elmwood Park High School
Course Description Guide



8201 West Fullerton Ave
Elmwood Park, IL 60707
<https://ephs.epcusd401.org/>
Phone: 708-452-7272
Twitter: @ephs401_tigers

Ms. Megan VerVynck, Principal
Mr. John Pomagier, Assistant Principal
Mr. Tom Lentine, Assistant Principal for Athletics and Activities
Ms. Michaela Vasey, Dean of Students
Mr. Emmanuel Zervos, Dean of Students

ELMWOOD PARK COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 401
(708) 452-7292
www.epcusd401.org

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ADMINISTRATION & STUDENT SUPPORT STAFF

Elmwood Park High School Administration		
Principal	Ms. Megan VerVynck	708-583-6211
Assistant Principal	Mr. John Pomagier	708-583-6212
Assistant Principal for Athletics & Activities	Mr. Tom Lentine	708-583-6213
Dean (Students A-L)	Mr. Emmanuel Zervos	708-583-6217
Dean (Student M-Z)	Ms. Michaela Vasey	708-583-6216

Tiger Support Teams			
Team	Gold Team	Black Team	Gray Team
Alpha	A-G	H-PER	PES-Z
Triangle Team Leader	Mr. John Pomagier pomagierj@epcusd401.org (708) 583-6212	Mr. Emmanuel Zervos zervose@epcusd401.org (708) 583-6217	Ms. Michaela Vasey Vaseym@epcusd401.org (708) 583-6216
Counselor	Ms. Emma Chaplinsky chaplinskye@epcusd401.org (708) 583-6204	Ms. Emily Ligocki ligockie@epcusd401.org (708) 583-6207	Ms. Paige Dold doldp@epcusd401.org (708) 583-6201
College & Career Specialist	Ms. Lauren Merkel merkel@epcusd401.org (708) 583-6203		
Social Worker	Mr. Abraham Diaz diazab@epcusd401.org (708) 583-6205	Ms. Rachel Weidner weidnerr@epcusd401.org (708) 583-6210	Ms. Gabriella Parravicini parravicinig@epcusd401.org (708) 583-6223
ALOP Advocate	Mx. Margo Naragon		
Nurse	Ms. Carissa Velez		

Elmwood Park CUSD #401 ensures equal educational opportunities are offered to students, regardless of race, color, national origin, age, gender, religion, or disability. Questions in reference to educational opportunities may be directed Elmwood Park CUSD #401, 8201 West Fullerton, Elmwood Park, IL 60707, 708-452-7292. Dr. Leah Gauthier, Superintendent, is responsible for sex equity (Title IX); The Superintendent is also responsible for handicapped (Section 504) and the homeless liaison is Stephanie Daly. Elmwood Park CUSD #401 does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender or disability.

ACADEMIC DEPARTMENTS & CURRICULUM LEADERS

Executive Director for Curriculum & Instruction	World Language & Music
Darek Naglak naglakd@epcusd401.org	Derek Snitker snitkerd@epcusd401.org
Physical Education & Music	English
Nicole Franklin franklinn@epcusd401.org	Christina Heinen heinenc@epcusd401.org
Mathematics	Science
Brooke Kiska kiskab@epcusd401.org	Jack Doyle doylej@epcusd401.org
Social Studies	Business & CTE
Nora O'Mahoney omahoneyn@epcusd401.org	Marcia Bernas bernasm@epcusd401.org
Special Education Student Support Specialist	
Julia Levit levitj@epcusd401.org	

EPHS GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

There is a 23.0 credit graduation requirement for all Elmwood Park High School students. Each semester-long class will count as 0.5 credits, and each year-long class will count as 1.0 credits (0.5 credits for each semester successfully completed).

There are three possible graduation distinctions for students to receive based upon the courses they successfully complete: General Studies, Career Pathway and Distinguished Scholar. The EPHS minimum graduation requirements for all distinctions will include those listed below.

Minimum Graduation Requirements Credits	General Graduation Course Sequence
● English: 4.0 credits ● Math: 3.0 credits ● Science: 3.0 credits ● Social Studies: 3.0 credits ● Kinetic Wellness: 2.0 credits ● Fine Arts: 1.0 credits ● Business: 0.5 credits ● Consumer Ed: 0.5 credits ● Health: 0.5 credits ● Electives: 5.5 credits ● Total: 23 credits	● English ○ Eng. I, II, III, IV ● Math ○ Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II ● Science ○ Biology, Chemistry, Physics ● Social Studies ○ U.S. History ○ U.S. Government ○ 1.5 Additional Elective Credits: Global Studies, Psychology, Criminal Justice, Sociology, AP Psychology, AP African American Studies ● Kinetic Wellness ○ KW I & II plus two additional KW semester courses required (<i>No exemptions will be granted with the 2.0 credit P.E. waiver</i>) ● Fine Arts ○ Includes Art, World Language and Music Courses ● Business ○ Includes 0.5 credits in Consumer Education and all CTE courses ● Additional Requirement ○ Health

*Course sequences can be adjusted based on levels and four-year planning

GRADUATION DISTINCTIONS

EPHS graduates will receive a District 401 diploma with one or more distinctions:

- General Studies
- Career Pathway
- Distinguished Scholar
- Seal of Biliteracy

Based on coursework, some students could receive both the Career Pathway AND Distinguished Scholar distinctions.

- **GENERAL STUDIES DISTINCTION**

- In order to receive a District 401 Diploma with a General Studies distinction, a student's transcript shows all graduation requirements have been completed, but they have not completed enough courses within a sequence to receive the Career Pathway or Distinguished Scholar Distinctions

- **CAREER PATHWAY DISTINCTION**

- In order to receive a District 401 Diploma with a Career Pathway distinction, a student's transcript must include:
 - Completion of at least 5.0 credits within one specific Career Pathway and
 - Completion of the Career Pathway Capstone course

- **DISTINGUISHED SCHOLAR DISTINCTION**

- In order to receive a District 401 Diploma with a Distinguished Scholar distinction, a student's transcript and high school national testing results must include:
 - Completion of 10 or more honors/AP/dual credit courses with a C or better,
 - Meeting/exceeding English and math standards on state test (ACT),
 - Receiving a 3 or better on at least two Advanced Placement exams

- **SEAL OF BILITERACY DISTINCTION**

- In order to receive a District 401 Diploma with this distinction, students must have attained an "Intermediate High" proficiency in both English and another language through state-approved assessments.
 - Commendation toward Biliteracy: Students who demonstrate significant progress (Intermediate Low) but have not yet reached the Seal's requirement, may be eligible for the State Commendation distinction on their Diploma.

TRANSFER CREDITS

Prior approval must be obtained for all courses taken outside of District 401 to ensure they meet our academic standards and curricular expectations.

EARLY GRADUATION

Any student planning to graduate early, must petition the principal. To do so, the student must inform his/her counselor of this intent on or before the end of his/her junior year. Then he/she must complete the appropriate paperwork which must be approved by the student, parent/guardian, counselor and administration. In accordance with Board policy, all students must attend EPHS for seven full semesters. Students who graduate early are able to participate in senior events.

PARTICIPATION IN COMMENCEMENT

Only students who are qualified to receive a diploma may participate in the cap and gown ceremony, with the exception of students who are entitled to participate under Brittany's Law. A student who qualifies for a diploma after commencement is eligible to participate in the following year's ceremony.

REQUIRED COURSE LOAD

Underclassmen (Freshmen-Juniors) are required to enroll in seven (7) courses each semester they attend Elmwood Park High School. Senior students have the option, depending on their current graduation progress, to be enrolled for five (5)

courses each semester.

¹State requirement is minimum of 1.0 credits of Algebra 1 and one course which must include geometry content ²State requirement is a minimum of 1.0 credits on the history of the United States or a combination of the history of the United States and American government, and at least 0.5 credits of civics coursework will be required

³Exemptions may be granted in accordance with district and state approved guidelines

⁴The principal, in conjunction with the district superintendent, shall have discretion regarding decisions as to what constitutes an assessment of college and career readiness.

HONOR ROLLS

Each semester a 3.7 and a 3.3 honor roll is tabulated and reported in the school and community newspapers. The attainment of honor roll status becomes a part of the student's permanent record. In order to qualify for the honor roll, a student must have no grade lower than a C and must achieve a grade point average of at least 3.3 or 3.7 using the grade point system. A student must be enrolled in a minimum of five (5) courses that receive grades to be eligible for honor roll status.

NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

Students who have displayed qualities of scholarship, leadership, character and service as determined by faculty vote will be invited to membership in the Harold Grothen Chapter of the National Honor Society. A minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.3 is necessary before a student can be considered for possible membership. Students may be inducted into the Society after the tenth or fourteenth quarter.

ACADEMIC RECOGNITION AT GRADUATION

During Commencement, Elmwood Park High School recognizes those students who graduate with honors and those who are members of the National Honor Society. We recognize the Valedictorian of the Senior Class, the senior student who attains the highest cumulative grade point average at the end of the eighth semester, and who has been in residence at Elmwood Park High School for a minimum of four semesters. The senior student who attains the second highest cumulative grade point average and who has been in residence for a minimum of four semesters is designated as the Salutatorian.

Those students graduating in the top five percent are recognized as Tiger Scholars. Those students who graduate in the top ten percent of their class are also recognized at top 10% of the class. Both groups are acknowledged at the honors breakfast and have priority seating and are recognized at the graduation ceremony.

FINAL EXAMS

Students will take final exams during the last week of attendance each semester. Any student who is absent for the final exam will be required to make arrangements with the teacher to make up the exam outside of normal class time. However, final exams will not be administered prior to the week of scheduled exams. If a student will be unavailable during that window, he/she will be issued an incomplete for the course grade, and a plan to remedy the incomplete within the first ten (10) days of the following semester will be determined.

Senior Final Exam Exemption Policy:

Seniors *may* be exempt from their course's final exam if they meet both of the following conditions:

1. They maintain a final course grade of B or higher, and
2. They have no more than 8 total absences during the semester, including both excused and unexcused absences.

For semester-long courses, the exemption applies to the first semester final exam. For year-long courses, the exemption applies to the second semester final exam.

GRADING SYSTEM

A	90-100%	Excellent		WP	Withdrawn - Pass
B	80-89.9%	Good		WF	Withdrawn - Fail
C	70-79.9%	Average		P	Pass
D	60-69.9%	Poor		T	Audit
F	0-59.9%	Failure		I	Incomplete

GRADE WEIGHTS

The grade point average is computed by adding the grade points received in all subjects and dividing by the number of units attempted. This grade-point average is calculated at the end of each grading period. It is used to determine the honor roll each grading period and the class rank.

Advanced Placement A = 6 points B = 5 points C = 4 points D = 1 points F = 0 points	Honors A = 5 points B = 4 points C = 3 points D = 1 points F = 0 points	Regular A = 4 points B = 3 points C = 2 points D = 1 points F = 0 points
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Incomplete grades must be made up by the end of the next grading period. Any incomplete grades not completed will become a grade of "F".

COURSE SELECTION TIMELINE & PROCEDURES
2026–2027

DATE	RISING FRESHMAN	DATE	RISING GRADES 10-12
November	• Parents and students attend the Annual Curriculum Night to learn about program and course offerings at EPHS. • Course Description Guide posted online for review. • Students attend Grade Level Presentations with Counselors on course options and selection process. • Students are provided Grade Level Course Selection sheets to review available course options. • Students will complete course requests in Powerschool during English classes under the direction of Counselors.	November	• Course Description Guide posted online for review. • Teachers will discuss course recommendations with students in their core classes to guide course recommendations. • Students attend Grade Level Presentations with Counselors on course options and selection process. • Students are provided Grade Level Course Selection sheets to review available course options. • Students will complete course requests in Powerschool during English classes under the direction of Counselors.
January	• EPHS and Elm MS compile 8th grade student data to determine recommended placement options. • Families will receive Course Description Communication that will include: ○ Upcoming Course Selection Process ○ Graduation Requirements. ○ Course Description Guide ○ 4 Year Planning Sheet ○ Course Selection Sheet	January	• Families will receive Course Description Communication that will include: ○ Upcoming Course Selection Process ○ Graduation Requirements. ○ Course Description Guide ○ 4 Year Planning Sheet ○ Course Selection Sheet

February	• All course requests due to EPHS Counselors. • Counselors will submit course requests into Powerschool. • 8th Grade course recommendations and selections will be sent to parents . • Parents will review course selections and notify the EPHS counseling department of any change requests prior to the End of March deadline.	February	• Students will meet with counselors to submit course requests and review progress towards graduation. • Notification will be sent to parents and students for final review of Course Requests/Selections • Parents will review course selections and notify the EPHS counseling department of any change requests prior to the End of March deadline.
March	• Any Course Request changes need to be submitted to their respective counselor. • No Course requests will be changed after submitted for scheduling.	March 1st	• Any Course Request changes need to be submitted to their respective counselor. • No Course requests will be changed after submitted for scheduling.
			<u>Special Education Students</u> - Students receiving support within the Special Education Department will participate in making placement & course selections decisions during their Annual Review, Re-Evaluation or Transition IEP Meeting. In February, Case-managers will meet with IEP students to determine available and appropriate elective options, Those selections will then be submitted to the counselors for input.
March 1st Final day for parents/students to submit course request changes			
March - April Course tallies generated based on student requests Student's Alternative Requests used if course requested does not run			

IMPORTANT NOTE: Careful selection of courses is important. Staffing decisions are made and schedules are built based on initial student course requests. Changes to initial requests are not permitted after the March 1 deadline.

PLACEMENT PROCEDURES, COURSE SELECTION CHANGES, COURSE CHANGES/DROPS, COURSE FAILURES AND INCOMPLETE GRADE

PLACEMENT PROCEDURES

8th Grade students are placed into academic coursework through a process that involves articulation between EPHS and Elm Middle School. Course placements are made using the following criteria:

- Teacher Recommendations
- Grades from Previous Semester
- Standardized Test Scores
- Attendance
- Work Completion
- Performance on Curriculum-Based Measures/Assessments

Current EPHS Students are assigned to course levels on the basis of test scores, performance/ achievement, and teachers' recommendations. A student's level of placement will be reviewed each year based upon the following criteria:

- Grades from Previous Semester
- Attendance
- Work Completion
- Performance on Curriculum-Based Measures/Assessments
- Teacher Recommendations

COURSE SELECTION CHANGES

Once registration has been completed at the end of February, students' course requests will be available in the student and parent Powerschool portal for review. Every attempt will be made to meet all requests, but in some cases, scheduling conflicts will occur. Students will be required to select at least two alternate courses. Each year Elmwood Park High School creates a master schedule for the following school year which reflects students' course requests made during registration. Faculty members are employed, e-textbooks are purchased and rooms are assigned on the basis of these requests. Thus, once a student enrolls in a course, he/she is expected to remain in the course. Careful consideration of course selection by the student, parent and counselor prior to registration is critical to this process. Please note the guidelines below which outline appropriate and inappropriate schedule change requests, as personal preferences are not able to be accommodated.

Course Change and Drop Policy

Course selections are considered final once schedules are created. Because we are a small school, scheduling options are limited, and changes affect the entire master schedule. The decision to allow or deny a change of course or course level will be made by the Tiger Team, which includes the teacher, counselor, social worker, student, parent, and either the curriculum leaders and/or administration. Regardless of the request, students must continue attending class and completing assignments until notified of the decision regarding adjustment requests in case space is not available or a request cannot be accommodated.

1. Requested Courses

- a. If you are placed in a course you requested, that placement is considered final.
- b. Requested courses will not be dropped or changed for reasons such as schedule preference, teacher preference, or because graduation requirements have already been met.
- c. The only exception is a documented change in postsecondary (college/career) plans, which must be discussed with your counselor and requires a submission of the Schedule Change Request Form.

2. Courses Assigned Due to Scheduling Conflicts

- a. In some cases, students may be placed in a course they did not request due to scheduling limitations.

- b. If you are unsatisfied with an assigned placement, you may meet with your counselor to explore possible alternatives. Options may be limited depending on space and availability.
3. **Timeline for Schedule Change Requests**
 - a. **First 10 School Days:**
 - i. During this time period, a limited drop/add window is available. All changes require a submission of the Schedule Change Request Form and will be considered on a case by case basis, in accordance with these stated guidelines.
 - b. **After 10 Days:**
 - i. Schedule change requests will not be accommodated except for significant academic or social-emotional reasons, as determined by the Tiger Team.
 - ii. If a student/parent decides to drop a course without engaging in support opportunities/intervention, it will result in a andF on their academic record/transcript, and the student may not be able to enroll in an alternative credit-bearing course, as it will be too late into the semester to do so.
 - c. **At the Semester (Level Changes Only):**
 - i. For teacher-requested level changes (e.g., Grade Level → Honors or vice versa) to be considered for second semester, a student must have prior evidence of having:
 - Regularly communicated with their teacher throughout first semester,
 - Taken advantage of additional support (tutoring, office hours, etc.),
 - Spoken with their counselor regarding the request.
 - ii. If the student has demonstrated consistent effort and the teacher agrees a level change is appropriate, the request may be approved if the schedule allows.
 - A low grade without evidence of effort is not sufficient to justify a level change.
4. **Important Guidelines (apply to all requests)**
 - a. Submission of a Schedule Change Request Form does not guarantee approval.
 - b. Approval depends on:
 - i. Availability of seats in the requested course
 - ii. How the change affects the rest of the schedule
 - iii. Teacher approval (when appropriate)
 - c. Appropriate reasons for a schedule change request:
 - i. Incomplete Schedule (class or period missing)
 - ii. Already received credit/attended summer school for the *same class* that is now in your schedule
 - iii. Missing a graduation requirement in your schedule
 - iv. Schedule is out of sequence (e.g., Business Principles II before Business Principles I)
 - v. Need a prerequisite class
 - vi. Recognized special learning needs agreed upon by student, parent, teacher, counselor, and administration (This may include the special education team, Section 504 Team, and/or Tiger Support Team)

COURSE FAILURES

Any student who fails a core class is strongly encouraged to attend summer school to earn credit and remain on track for graduation. EPHS Summer Academy is a teacher supported online learning environment that allows students to work at their own pace to recover credit. More information can be found online or by contacting the counselors.

INCOMPLETE GRADES

In the event a student is unable to complete coursework due to special circumstances, a teacher or administrator may choose to issue a grade of "I", an incomplete for a class. In the event an incomplete is needed, the teacher will prepare the appropriate Incomplete Grade Agreement, which will be signed by the student and teacher and communicated to the parent. This contract will include a specific plan to finish the course work and a timeline upon which this will be completed. Unless prior approval, all Incompletes must be rectified within 10-business after the close of the semester. The parent will be

notified of the arrangement and provided a copy. A copy of the signed contract will be kept by the student, teacher, and counselor. It is the responsibility of the student to complete the expected work according to the agreed upon timeline. If the contract is not completed, the grade of "I" may be converted to a grade of "F". In the absence of special circumstances, no grade of incomplete will be allowed to remain past the end of the following grading period.

THE 4-YEAR COURSE PLAN GUIDELINES

Freshman Year

Requirements	EPHS Graduation	Distinguished Scholar
English*	English I	English I (Regular or Honors)
Math	Algebra 1	Algebra 1 or Advanced Algebra Honors**
Science	Biology I	Biology I (Regular or Honors)
Social Studies	Global Studies	Global Studies or AP Human Geography
Kinetic Wellness	Kinetic Wellness I (0.5 credit) Health (0.5 credit)	Kinetic Wellness I (0.5 credit) Health (0.5 credit)
Elective	Elective (1.0 credits)	Elective (1.0 credit)
Elective	Elective (1.0 credit)	Elective (1.0 credit) World Language is strongly recommended

Sophomore year

Requirements	EPHS Graduation	Distinguished Scholar
English*	English II	English II (H) or AP Seminar
Math	Geometry	Geometry (Regular or Honors)
Science	Chemistry I	Chemistry I (Regular or Honors)
Social Studies	Psychology (0.5 credit) Criminal Justice (0.5 credit)	AP World History: Modern
Kinetic Wellness	Kinetic Wellness II Drivers Ed (0.5 credit)	Kinetic Wellness II Drivers Ed (0.5 credit)
Elective	Elective (0.5 credit)	Elective (0.5 credit)
Elective	Elective (1.0 credit)	Elective (1.0 credit) World Language is strongly recommended

Junior year

Requirements	EPHS Graduation	Distinguished Scholar
English*	English III	American Studies (H) AP English Language & Composition AP Seminar
Math	Algebra 2 or Occupational Math	Algebra 2, PreCalc Honors, AP Precalc, AP Statistics (if taken concurrently with PreCalc)
Science	Physics	AP Physics 1
Social Studies	US History	American Studies US History (Hon) or AP US History
Kinetic Wellness	Kinetic Wellness III, Strength & Conditioning, Competitive Team Sports	Junior Leaders
Elective	Consumer Education (0.5 credit) Elective (0.5 credit)	Consumer Education (0.5 credit) Elective (0.5 credit)
Elective	Elective (1.0 credits)	Elective (1.0 credit)

Senior year

Requirements	EPHS Graduation	Distinguished Scholar
English*	English IV	English IV or College Composition I or College Composition II or AP English Literature & Composition AP Seminar
Kinetic Wellness	Kinetic Wellness IV, Strength & Conditioning, Competitive Team Sports	Senior Leaders Advanced Strength and Conditioning
Social Studies	US Government (.5 credits) Sociology (.5 credits)	AP Government (1.0 credits), AP Psychology (1.0 credits), AP African American Studies (1.0 credits)
Elective	Elective	Math: Transitional Math, Financial Math, PreCalculus, AP Statistics or AP Calculus
Elective	Elective (1.0 credits)	Science: Anatomy & Physiology Honors, AP Chemistry, AP Physics 2
Elective	Elective (1.0 credits)	Elective (1.0 credit)
Elective	Elective (1.0 credits)	Elective (1.0 credit)

*Students must take these courses in the listed sequence, with English required every semester. English electives may not replace these courses, except for one semester of senior year *and only if* the student has already completed the required 4.0 English credits.

EPHS COURSE LISTING GUIDE

<u>Fine Art</u>	<u>Business</u>	<u>Math</u>	<u>Social Studies</u>
Intro to Art	Business Principles I & II	Algebra I	Global Studies
Photography I Photography II (H)	Consumer Education	Geometry	AP Human Geography ^{AP}
Drawing I	Computer Applications I/II	Algebra II	AP World History: Modern ^{AP}
Painting I	Digital Literacy I & II	Pre-Calculus (Honors)	U.S. History
Ceramics I	Accounting I & II ^H	AP Pre-Calculus ^{AP}	AP U.S. History ^{AP}
Advanced Studio Arts ^H Ceramics + Sculpture II (H) Drawing + Painting II (H)	Financial Investments	Occupational Mathematics	American Studies - US History ^H /English III ^H
AP Art and Design	Marketing I & II ^{DC}	Transitional Math	Intro to Psychology
Sculpture I	Computer Graphics I & II	Advanced Algebra (Honors)	Intro to Sociology
Digital Media Arts	AP Computer Science Principles ^{AP}	Geometry (Honors)	Criminal Justice
<u>World Language</u>	Digital Animation & Website Design	AP Calculus AB ^{AP}	Government
Spanish I ^{MS}	Computer Programming I & II	AP Calculus BC ^{AP}	AP Psychology ^{AP}
Spanish II	Virtual Enterprise International I & II ^{DC}	AP Statistics ^{AP}	AP U.S. Government ^{AP}
Spanish III ^H	Business Law	<u>Science</u>	AP African American Studies ^{AP}
Spanish IV ^H	Drone Operation & Maintenance I & II	Biology	<u>English</u>
Spanish V ^H	Work Based Learning ^H	Biology Honors ^{HMS}	
Heritage Spanish I ^H	<u>Kinetic Wellness</u>	Chemistry	English I / English I Honors ^{HMS}
Heritage Spanish II ^H	Kinetic Wellness I - IV	Chemistry Honors ^H	AP Seminar ^{AP}
AP Spanish Language & Culture ^{AP}	Group Fitness	Physics	English II / English II Honors ^H
Italian I	Strength & Conditioning	AP Physics I ^{AP}	English III
Italian II	Individual Wellness & Fitness	Environmental Science	AP English Language & Composition ^{AP}
Italian III ^H	Personal Safety & Wellness	Introduction to Health Careers ^H	American Studies - English III ^H /US History ^H
Italian IV ^H	Junior Leaders of Kinetic Wellness	Sports Management & Medicine	English IV
<u>English Learner</u>	Competitive Team Sports	AP Chemistry ^{AP}	AP English Literature & Composition ^{AP}
EL I, II, III	Senior Leaders of Kinetic Wellness ^H	AP Physics II ^{AP}	Transitional English
EL Strategic Reading I, II, III	Adv. Strength & Conditioning ^H	AP Biology ^{AP}	College Composition I ^{DC}
<u>Music</u>	Health Education	AP Environmental Science ^{AP}	College Composition II ^{DC}
Chorale	Driver's Education	Anatomy & Physiology Honors ^H	Latinx & Contemporary Authors
Concert Choir ^H		Medical Science Internship ^H	Public Speaking I
Swing Choir ^H			Public Speaking II
Concert Band ^H - Woodwinds & Brass			Creative Writing I
Concert Band ^H - Percussion	^H Indicates an Honors or Accelerated course for the Grading System ^H Indicates that Honors is an option for this course ^{DC} Indicates the course is offered as Dual Credit and an Honors course for the Grading System. ^{AP} Indicates an Advanced Placement (AP) course for the Grading System. ^{MS} Will also be offered at the Middle School for High School credit		Creative Writing II
Jazz Band ^H			Theater Studies I
Piano Methods			Theater Studies II
Guitar Methods			Journalism I
Music Production			Advanced Journalism ^H
AP Music Theory ^{AP}			Journalism & Broadcasting - Workplace Experience ^H
			Fantasy & SciFi

ENGLISH COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

ENGLISH I (REGULAR* AND HONORS)

Grade Level: 9

Credit 1.0 (two semesters)

Prerequisite: Teacher Recommendation for Honors

In English I, students will develop a common understanding of key literary elements , as well as a common vocabulary for discussing them. In alignment with Common Core Priority Standards, significant concepts will be targeted with the reading and thorough analysis of each text. The student is introduced to the technique of interpreting literature with special emphasis on reading strategies and skills, such as inference and main idea. In-depth study of recurrent themes and characterization will also be an integral part of the course. Students will be exposed to independent reading expectations and writing requirements . Students will be introduced to rhetorical analysis and analyze the author's purpose. This course emphasizes well-constructed, multi-paragraph themes.

ENGLISH II (REGULAR* AND HONORS)

Grade Level: 9, 10

Credit 1.0 (two semesters)

Prerequisite: English I or Teacher Rec. for Honors

The second year curriculum allows students to experience a variety of texts from several cultures and time periods. Each credit provides a different cultural and literary experience. Students will gain a greater understanding of the historical framework of each piece. The literature and supplementary materials will provide each student with a multicultural perspective on worldly issues. In conjunction with the Common Core Priority Standards, the sophomore curriculum possesses a rigorous writing and reading focus, while building speaking and listening skills. The course requires students to actively work with their peers while defining themselves as readers and writers.

AP SEMINAR

Grade Level: 10

Credit 1.0 (two semesters)

Prerequisite: English I Honors (Accelerated) or English II Honors; both with Teacher Rec.

AP Seminar is a foundational course that engages students in cross-curricular conversations that explore the complexities of academic and real-world topics and issues by analyzing divergent perspectives. Using an inquiry framework, students practice reading and analyzing articles. Students work collaboratively with a team to identify, investigate, analyze, and evaluate a real-world or academic problem or issue; consider and evaluate alternatives or options; propose one or more solutions or resolutions; and present and defend the argument for their solutions through a multimedia presentation, research studies, and foundational, literary, and philosophical texts; listening to and viewing speeches, broadcasts, and personal accounts; and experiencing artistic works and performances. Students learn to synthesize information from multiple sources, develop their own perspectives in written essays, and design and deliver oral and visual presentations, both individually and as part of a team. Ultimately, the course aims to equip students with the power to analyze and evaluate information with accuracy and precision in order to craft and communicate evidence-based arguments.

ENGLISH III

Grade Level: 11

Credit 1.0 (two semesters)

Prerequisite: English II

The third year of English explores major themes that pervade American life, both past and present. By reading and viewing literature of every genre and other forms of cultural expression in the United States, students understand their literary and cultural traditions, interrogate their own roles in the world, and become more effective critics and builders of American culture. We will investigate enduring questions that persist throughout American literature.

AMERICAN STUDIES - ENGLISH III (HONORS)/US HISTORY (HONORS)**Grade Level: 11****Credit 2.0 (two semesters)****Prerequisite: C or better in Eng II Honors with Teacher Rec.**

This class would combine the curriculum for English III with the US History curriculum. Students would be team-taught over two consecutive periods by an English teacher and a Social Studies teacher with the idea of blending topics and reinforcing writing and reading skills that overlap in both classes. This course includes an emphasis on the development of American culture, including civics, political, economic, geography, and social history and literature from the perspective of the United States and Illinois. This is a 2.0 credit class, one credit for English and one credit for History. This course emphasizes the frequent use of higher order thinking skills in its approach to studying history, advanced reading, writing, speaking, listening, and research skills.

AP ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND COMPOSITION**Grade Level: 11 or 12****Credits 1.0 (two semesters)****Prerequisite: Received an A in English II Honors and with teacher recommendation -or- Received an A or B in AP Seminar or AP Lit and with teacher recommendation**

This is a college-level course with a purpose to enable students to read complex texts with understanding and to write prose of sufficient richness and complexity to communicate effectively with mature readers. While there is an emphasis on style and voice, our primary texts are nonfiction (essays, biographies, visual texts, letters, speeches, journalism, etc.) Students will build skills in critical reading, effective writing, and civil discourse through different modes in the college classroom and beyond. The writing will be formal and informal; it will primarily be responses to your reading, both analyzing it and emulating it, as well as creating original arguments and supporting them through logical development and appropriate style. Students will learn how to synthesize research materials and use proper MLA format. ACT test prep will also be incorporated into the class. Additionally, an important goal of this course is to help to prepare for the AP English Language and Composition exam given in May. The course will teach students the expectations of the AP examiners and will provide many opportunities for practicing writing and reading in the exam format. All students enrolled in Advanced Placement English Language are required to take the Advanced Placement exam in May.

ENGLISH IV**Grade Level: 12****Credit 1.0 (two semesters)****Prerequisite: English III or American Studies**

This course explores the universal theme of identity through various pieces of literature (non-fiction and fiction). In the first semester, students will reflect on their individual academic developments and explore plans for their post-secondary lives. Emphasis will be placed on real-world research and writing skills (college/career searches, college applications, personal statements, cover letters, and resume writing). In the second semester, students will be asked to critically examine how people build their identities and how they function in the world at large. Through the analysis of literature, they will apply a critical lens to contemporary problems. Skill development will include speaking for a variety of purposes and analyzing literature.

TRANSITIONAL ENGLISH**Grade Level: 12****Credit 1.0 (two semesters)****Prerequisite: C or better in English III or American Studies**

This course, equivalent to Triton Community College's Rhetoric 99 class, focuses on writing and reading as related skills by practicing reading comprehension and essay writing in the context of relevant, societal issues community, housing and equity. Students will develop critical thinking skills and the ability to write clear, focused, well-developed, organized essays using fiction, including the novels *A Tree Grows in Brooklyn*, *Silver Linings Playbook* and *The Glass Castle*, along with non-fiction sources. Emphasis will also be placed on real-world research and writing skills (college/career searches, college applications, personal statements, cover letters, and resume writing). A student earning a C or better will earn credit for this course, will be exempt from taking Triton College's placement test, and will enter into a credit-bearing course at Triton College, bypassing Triton's Rhetoric 99.

COLLEGE COMPOSITION I (HONORS and WRIT 1101 DUAL CREDIT)**Grade Level: 12****Credit .5 (first semester)****Prerequisite: English III or American Studies, + a GPA of 3.0**

This honors course emphasizes logical, coherent writing skills for competency in a post-secondary or professional writing situation, including college applications, personal statements, and cover letters. Students will develop critical thinking skills and the ability to write clear, focused, developed, and organized MLA essays about both fiction and nonfiction sources (Bachelor of Arts). This one semester, college-level course is a dual credit (high school and WRIT 1101 college credit) if the senior student receives a C or better at the end of the semester. Students should be aware this class is conducted at the pace and expectation of a college class, where both attendance is counted in the overall course grade and late work is not accepted. Please note that any student who has already taken AP English Language & Composition is not eligible to sign up for this class.

COLLEGE COMPOSITION II (HONORS and WRIT 1102 DUAL CREDIT)**Grade Level: 12****Credit .5 (second semester)****Prerequisite: AP Language or College Composition I, + a GPA of 3.0**

This honors course emphasizes logical, coherent writing skills for competency in a post-secondary or professional writing situation. Students will develop research skills and the ability to write clear, focused, developed, and organized APA-style research (Bachelor of Science). This one semester, college-level course is a dual credit (high school and WRIT 1102 college credit) if the senior student receives a C or better at the end of the semester. Students should be aware this class is conducted at the pace and expectation of a college class, where both attendance is counted in the overall course grade and late work is not accepted.

AP ENGLISH LITERATURE & COMPOSITION**Grade Level: 11 or 12****Credit 1.0 (two semesters)****Prerequisite: A, B, or C in AP English Language & Composition or AP Seminar and with teacher recommendation.**

This is a college-level, dual-credit course that is the equivalent of a second semester English Literature class. Initially, emphasis will be placed on real-world research and writing skills (college/career searches, college applications, personal statements, and cover letters.). Following, the course focuses on fictional literature (poetry, short stories, plays, and novels). It will prepare the student to take and pass the Advanced Placement test given in May; successful performance on this test will earn the student college credit. This course includes extensive training in all modes of discourse, including poetry analysis, prose analysis, and literary argument. In addition, the course includes extensive reading and analysis of demanding and challenging literary works, such as *Frankenstein*, *Death of a Salesman*, and *The Tragedy of Macbeth*. The underlying approach to the study of literature is textual rather than historical, and the selections reflect a concern for depth rather than breadth. The student completing this course can expect to be a fluent, capable writer and a perceptive, critical reader. All students enrolled in Advanced Placement English Literature and Composition are required to take the Advanced Placement exam in May.

PUBLIC SPEAKING I**Grade Level: 10, 11 & 12****Credit 0.5 (one semester)****Prerequisite: English I or English I Honors**

Public Speaking I is designed to provide experience and training in public speaking so that students are equipped with the skills essential for success in the business and academic worlds of today and tomorrow. Students present various formats of speeches and are responsible for constructive feedback of their peers' speeches.

PUBLIC SPEAKING II**Grade Level: 10, 11 & 12****Credit 0.5 (one semester)****Prerequisite: Public Speaking I with teacher recommendation**

Public Speaking II has the student expand upon the speaking and listening skills learned in Public Speaking I. Students learn to tailor a message to suit a particular audience, enhance the message through technology,

understand logic and reasoning, develop listening skills, identify propaganda techniques, and understand the physical producers of voice to control and vary tone, volume, pitch and rate. Students participate in workshop-oriented groups to develop the various skills listed above.

CREATIVE WRITING I

Grade Level: 10, 11 & 12

Credit 0.5 (one semester)

Prerequisite: English I or English I Honors

Creative Writing I has the student look at various fiction pieces, in addition to writing their own creative products. The formats the student will read and write will include poetry and short stories.

CREATIVE WRITING II

Grade Level: 10, 11 & 12

Credit 0.5 (one semester)

Prerequisite: Creative Writing I with teacher recommendation

This course will expand on the writing techniques and strategies explored in Creative Writing I. This course will rely heavily on the workshop model of revision and discussion of the creative texts that students write, which is an adapted version of the workshop model used in Creative Writing graduate school programs around the country. Students will produce a large volume of creative work and will critically read and provide thoughtful feedback on their peers' writing in various genres. Students will ultimately choose one genre to focus on for a longer, more polished product. Students will defend their creative writing product by writing an introduction to their own work and writing critically about their influences and techniques.

THEATER STUDIES I

Grade Level: 10, 11 & 12

Credit 0.5 (one semester)

Prerequisite: English I or English I Honors

Theater Studies I is designed to give the student an appreciation of the world of theater and an opportunity to discover the artist we each hold within. In this course, students will study the wide range of knowledge demanded by theater and develop personally as they apply their newfound knowledge in classroom activities. This course enriches student's awareness, skills, and self appreciation enabling them to build a foundation for future arts development. Theater I provides for diverse learning styles and capabilities and allows students to experience the joy that comes from artistic communication.

THEATER STUDIES II

Grade Level: 10, 11 & 12

Credit 0.5 (one semester)

Prerequisite: Theater Studies I with teacher recommendation

Advanced Theater will further develop skills and knowledge acquired in Introduction to Theater Studies. This intensive course focuses on character development, emotional and sensory recall, movement, articulation, diction, and voice. Script selection and reading will be a major topic in this course.

JOURNALISM I

Grade Level: 10, 11 & 12

Credit 1.0 (two semesters)

Prerequisite: English I or English I Honors

The construct of the course will focus on the study of rhetoric in many different forms. Students will read a wide range of prose fiction and non-fiction in order to explore how reputable authors use linguistic patterns to persuade, inform, entertain, and explore. The class is designed entirely around a project-based learning scenario; students will create an original, authentic product that will be shared with the entire school district. The Tiger Newspaper is a student-led publication created and distributed using a wide range of technological resources. Much like a real-world working scenario, students will be asked to conduct research to develop their ideas, revise their products, and adhere to deadlines.

Advanced JOURNALISM (HONORS)

Grade Level: 10, 11 & 12

Credit 1.0 (two semesters)

Prerequisite: Journalism I with teacher recommendation

This honors course will further develop skills and knowledge acquired in Journalism I and is designed to lead students to a critical understanding of the media that surround us. The course focuses on the analysis of two

major media industries — news and entertainment — and is designed entirely around a project-based learning scenario wherein students will create an original, authentic product that will be shared with the entire school district. EPTV is a student-led broadcast that is created and distributed using a wide range of technological resources. Much like a real-world working scenario, students will be asked to conduct research to develop their ideas, revise their products, and adhere to deadlines.

JOURNALISM AND BROADCASTING – WORKPLACE EXPERIENCE (HONORS) Grade Level: 11, 12

Credit 1.0 (two semesters)

Prerequisite: Advanced Journalism with teacher recommendation

The Journalism and Broadcasting—Workplace Experience course provides students with work experience in a field related to journalism and/or broadcasting. Goals are typically set cooperatively by the student, teacher, and district. This course also includes classroom activities, involving further study of the field or discussion regarding experiences that students encounter in the school, throughout the district, and within the community. This class is repeatable.

FILM AND MEDIA STUDIES

Grade Level: 10, 11, 12

Credit 0.5 (one semester)

Prerequisite: English I or English I Honors

Students explore film and media by analyzing these genres and interpreting the narrative and artistic decisions of writers and directors to better understand the art of providing information and storytelling and its purposes. Students gain a more sophisticated understanding of society and its cultural products by considering individual creativity and collaborative fabrication, culture, and mass culture.

FANTASY & SCI FI

Grade Level: 11, 12

Credit 1.0 (two semesters)

Prerequisite: English II or English II Honors

This course will focus on literature in the genres of Science-Fiction and Fantasy, such as *The Hobbit*, *iRobot*, and *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*. Students will explore the lore, world-building, and story elements authors use to explore themes about humanity and society. Through this course, students will be primarily exposed to short stories and novels; however, they will also explore other modes within the genres such as films, video games and comics. The coursework will include both analysis and creative forms of writing, as well as extended projects and discussions.

LATINX & CONTEMPORARY AUTHORS

Grade Level: 10, 11, 12

Credit .5 (one semester)

Prerequisite: English II or English II Honors

Do you enjoy stories that reflect your everyday life? Stories that touch on the conflicts of bullying, relationships, and the pulls on your identity? Specifically, do you find yourself sometimes living in two worlds—the private world of your friends and the public world of your parents and school? If these plotlines intrigue you, consider taking the Latinx Experience course, where the texts and conversations will be centered around Contemporary, Latino/a authors, poets, musicians, and filmmakers and the layered complexities of living in the twenty-first century. One of the main novels used will be Julia Alvarez's *In the Time of the Butterflies* and Erika Sanchez' *I'm Not Your Perfect Mexican Daughter*. Additionally, the class will include memoir writing, class discussions, and short presentations of family traditions, original work, and historical events related to the themes of ethnicity, identity, and external and internal influences.

MATHEMATICS COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

ALGEBRA I

Grade Level: 9

Credit 1.0 (two semesters)

Prerequisite: None

The content of Algebra 1 is organized around families of functions, with special emphasis on linear, exponential, and quadratic functions. Students will learn to represent functions through verbal descriptions, equations, tables, and graphs. There will be opportunities to participate in the exploration of mathematical concepts, cooperative learning activities, and small group discussion.

GEOMETRY

Grade Level: 10

Credit 1.0 (two semesters)

Prerequisite: Algebra I, Advanced Algebra (Honors)

The content of Geometry includes Geometric forms, shapes, patterns and relationships. Algebraic methods are used as they apply to geometric situations. The use of logical reasoning is stressed, which helps the students in real life situations. There will be opportunities to participate in the exploration of mathematical concepts, cooperative learning activities, and small group discussion.

ALGEBRA II

Grade Level: 11

Credit 1.0 (two semesters)

Prerequisite: Geometry

The content of this course gives students a strong background in mathematical reasoning and problem solving that will be important in the future. The course emphasizes using functions, equations, and graphs to model problem situations. There will be opportunities to participate in the exploration of mathematical concepts, cooperative learning activities, and small group discussion.

PRECALCULUS (HONORS)

Grade Level: 11,12

Credit 1.0 (two semesters)

Prerequisite: Algebra II, Geometry (Honors)

This is a college preparatory course designed to complete the student's study of high school algebra and move into topics covered in a trigonometry and an introductory calculus course. This class is intended for those students entering college or taking an advanced placement math course. There will be opportunities to participate in the exploration of mathematical concepts, cooperative learning activities, and small group discussion.

AP PRECALCULUS

Grade Level: 11, 12

Credit 1.0 (two semesters)

Prerequisite: Geometry Honors/Algebra 2 with teacher recc.

AP Pre-Calculus will prepare students for calculus and other college level mathematics courses. This course is designed to help students develop a strong foundation for calculus. Upon successful completion of the AP exam, this course will also fulfill the college math requirement when a student's major does not require calculus courses.

OCCUPATIONAL MATHEMATICS

Grade Level: 11, 12

Credit 1.0 (two semesters)

Prerequisites: Geometry

Students will develop the necessary skills required for technical and vocational trades as well as other career pathways. This course includes practical on-the-job applications and solving real world problems. Topics will include basic mathematics, ratios and proportions, measurement, algebra, practical geometry applications, trigonometry, and statistics.

TRANSITIONAL MATH**Grade Level: 12****Credit 1.0 (two semesters)****Prerequisites: C or better in Algebra II**

This transitional course is for high school seniors who have passed Algebra II with a C or better and will prepare them for a general education college-level math course. The course will serve as a prerequisite for the following college-level courses: General Education Statistics, General Education Mathematics, Quantitative Literacy, Elementary Mathematical Modeling or a technical/occupational mathematics pathway. *Taking and passing this course means that you will not have to take the college-level entrance exam. You will be placed into a credit-bearing course.* Topics will include but not be limited to the following: Numeracy – Operation sense, estimation, measurement, quantitative reasoning, Algebra – Operations on expressions and functions (must include at least one factoring technique in context), construction and solving of equations, Functions and modeling – Characteristics of functions including graphical analysis, modeling with geometry and modeling with linear and nonlinear functions (must include at least three types of nonlinear functions from the following list: polynomial, rational, radical, exponential, logarithmic)

ADVANCED ALGEBRA (HONORS)**Grade Level: 9****Credit 1.0 (two semesters)****Prerequisites: Teacher Recommendation**

This course allows students to build a strong foundation in algebraic topics such as polynomial functions, logarithms, and key features of graphs. Students will be able to explore functions through various representations such as verbal descriptions, equations, tables, and graphs. There will be opportunities to participate in the exploration of mathematical concepts, cooperative learning activities, and small group discussion.

GEOMETRY (HONORS)**Grade Level: 10****Credit 1.0 (two semesters)****Prerequisites: Advanced Algebra Honors**

The content of this course includes congruence, similarity, triangles, trigonometry, circles, quadrilaterals, and other polygons. Students will write proofs, use deductive reasoning and justify their answers. Students will also explore coordinate geometry. There will be opportunities to participate in the exploration of mathematical concepts, cooperative learning activities, and small group discussion.

AP CALCULUS AB**Grade Level: 11, 12****Credit 1.0 (two semesters)****Prerequisites: AP Precalculus or Precalculus Honors**

This course will meet all the College Board topic requirements for an AB advanced placement calculus class. The equivalent of one semester of college calculus, the course begins with functions and graphs and proceeds through limits, continuity, derivatives and their applications, integrals and their applications, and the Fundamental Theorem of Calculus. The use of the graphing calculator and computers as tools to assist in sound problem solving techniques will be emphasized. The course will create the ideal environment for the integration of mathematics, science, and technology. As a result of successfully completing the course, together with their performance on the AP exam, students may receive college credit and/or advanced placement in calculus at several colleges and universities. All students enrolled in AP Calculus AB are required to take the Advanced Placement exam in May.

AP CALCULUS BC**Grade Level: 11, 12****Credit 1.0 (two semesters)****Prerequisites: AP Precalculus or Precalculus Honors**

Following the College Board's suggested curriculum designed to parallel college-level calculus courses, AP Calculus BC courses provide students with an intuitive understanding of the concepts of calculus and experience with its methods and applications, and also require additional knowledge of the theoretical tools of calculus. These courses assume a thorough knowledge of elementary functions, and cover all of the calculus topics in AP Calculus AB as well as the following topics: vector functions, parametric equations, and polar coordinates; rigorous definitions of finite and nonexistent limits; derivatives of vector functions and parametrically defined functions; advanced techniques of integration and advanced applications of the definite integral; and sequences and series.

AP STATISTICS**Grade Level: 11, 12****Credit 1.0 (two semesters)****Prerequisites: Precalculus Honors or AP Precalculus (either can be concurrent)**

This course will meet all the College Board topic requirements for an advanced placement (AP) Statistics class. It is the equivalent of one semester of college statistics. The course introduces students to the major concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing, and drawing conclusions from data. Four broad conceptual themes covered are: Exploring Data, Planning a Study, Probability Models, and Statistical Inference. As a result of successful completion of this course, and performance on the AP exam, students may be able to receive college credit and/or advanced placement in statistics at numerous colleges and universities. All students enrolled in AP Statistics are required to take the Advanced Placement exam in May.

SCIENCE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

BIOLOGY I

Grade Level: 9

Credit 1.0 (two semesters)

Prerequisite: None

Biology is an introductory course in the life sciences that explores how living things work and behave. Students investigate the structure and function of living things, the flow of energy through organisms and ecosystems, and the principles of genetic inheritance and variation. Students also study natural selection, evolution, and the impacts of humans on Earth's systems and the biosphere. Learning will include laboratory investigations, as well as both group and individual work.

BIOLOGY I HONORS

Grade Level: 9

Credit 1.0 (two semesters)

Prerequisite: Teacher Recommendation

Biology Honors is an introductory course in the life sciences. The Biology Honors curriculum topics are similar to that of Biology, and the course is designed to challenge the science student who is highly motivated and academically mature enough to handle a teaching method which incorporates problem solving, analysis, and inquiry.

CHEMISTRY I

Grade Level: 10

Credit 1.0 (two semesters)

Prerequisite: Biology

Chemistry is the science that deals with the properties and structure of matter. As one of the exact sciences, it requires mathematical skills involving proportions. This course is recommended for all students interested in the teaching of science, engineering, medicine, pharmacy, nursing, and health careers. Basic principles and laboratory activities stress understanding concepts above rote memory. Topics covered include atomic structure, chemical formulas, chemical bonding, chemical reactions, nuclear processes, stoichiometry, gas laws, and climate change.

CHEMISTRY I HONORS

Grade Level: 10

Credit 1.0 (two semesters)

Prerequisite: Biology Honors or Teacher Recommendation

Chemistry Honors is an accelerated course introducing the science of chemical properties and structure of matter. In this course, there is an emphasis on group and individual learning. The Chemistry Honors curriculum expands upon concepts in Chemistry and is designed to challenge the science student who is highly motivated and academically mature enough to handle a teaching method which incorporates problem solving, analysis and inquiry.

PHYSICS

Grade Level: 10, 11

Credit 1.0 (two semesters)

Prerequisite: Biology, Chemistry, and Algebra

This course is a look into classical mechanics and conservation laws, electromagnetism, waves and optics, thermodynamics, and modern/nuclear physics. This course uses mathematics as a tool to aid in the explanations of natural phenomena. Equations are used as one of many different models, to explain the physical world around us. The class includes experiments and demonstrations, which verify or prove scientific principles that explain the physical world. Our goal is to increase the student's scientific literacy while instilling a genuine wonder about the world we live in.

AP PHYSICS 1**Level: 10, 11****Credit 1.0 (two semesters)****Prerequisite: Honors Chemistry or Teacher Recommendation, Algebra 1, Geometry, and Algebra 2 or higher concurrently.**

AP Physics is an algebra-based physics course equivalent to the first semester of an introductory, algebra-based college physics course. A year-long course, students have time to foster deeper conceptual understanding through student-centered, inquiry-based instruction. Students have time to master foundational physics principles while engaging in science practices to earn credit or placement in college. Course topics include Newtonian mechanics (including rotational dynamics and angular momentum); work, energy, power, and fluid dynamics. All students enrolled in AP Physics 1 are required to take the Advanced Placement exam in May.

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE**Grade Level: 11, 12****Credit 1.0 (two semesters)****Prerequisite: Biology, Chemistry, Physics concurrently**

Environmental Science is an introductory lab course for students who wish to study the natural sciences in an interdisciplinary context that includes consideration of how humans have influenced various systems around us. This course offering has a widespread focus on many aspects of biology, earth and atmospheric sciences, fundamental principles of chemistry and physics, human population dynamics, and an appreciation for the Earth and its natural resources. Students may take Environmental Science concurrently with any Chemistry course and should NOT be used as a substitute for Physics.

AP ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE**Grade Level: 11, 12****Credit 1.0 (two semesters)****Prerequisite: Biology, Chemistry, Physics concurrently**

AP Environmental Science teaches you the scientific principles and methodologies for understanding the natural world, focusing on interrelationships between humans and the environment, energy transfer, Earth systems, and sustainability. Topics include ecosystems, biodiversity, populations, Earth systems, land and water use, energy resources, pollution, and global change. The course involves lab investigations, field work, data analysis, and the application of scientific knowledge to evaluate and propose solutions to environmental problems.

INTRO TO HEALTHCARE CAREERS**Grade Level: 10, 11, 12****Credit 0.5 (one semester)****Prerequisite: Biology**

This course will expose students to the variety of opportunities available within the healthcare industry (such as nursing, therapy, vision and dental care, administrative services, and lab technology). The main purpose of the course is to assist students in further development of their interest into a tentative career choice. The content will provide in-depth information about health occupation careers and trends, the occupational and educational opportunities, and the educational, physical, emotional, and attitudinal requirements.

SPORTS MEDICINE AND MANAGEMENT**Grade Level: 11, 12****Credit 1.0 (two semesters)****Prerequisite: Biology and Chemistry**

The Sports Medicine and Management course combines student interests in physical activity and science. Designed for students interested in fields such as athletic training, physical therapy, nursing, exercise physiology, EMT/Paramedic, and other allied medical fields, this course introduces students to the basic principles and techniques for the prevention, recognition, treatment, and rehabilitation of common injuries and illnesses related to physically active people. This lab-based course includes taping and bandaging, proper use of protective padding, treatment modalities, medical terminology, budgeting, ordering supplies, as well as general operation of an athletic training room facility. More advanced topics include injury assessment, the phases of healing, and the use of exercise and equipment to help in the reconditioning of injured athletes.

AP CHEMISTRY**Grade Level: 12****Credit 1.0 (two semesters)****Prerequisite: B or better in Chemistry and Physics, or C or better in AP Physics 1**

The AP Chemistry course provides students with a college-level foundation to support future advanced coursework in chemistry. Students cultivate their understanding of chemistry through inquiry-based investigations, as they explore topics such as atomic structure, intermolecular forces and bonding, chemical reactions, kinetics, thermodynamics, and equilibrium. Labs and demonstrations will be a part of the course to engage students in developing explanations and predictions of natural phenomena. Students who enroll in this course should have a grade of 'C' or better in Chemistry Honors and be proficient in algebra. All students enrolled in AP Chemistry are required to take the Advanced Placement exam in May.

AP PHYSICS 2**Grade Level: 12****Credit 1.0 (two semesters)****Prerequisite: B or better in AP Physics 1**

AP Physics 2 is a continuation of AP Physics 1. Also Algebra-based, it is a physics course equivalent to the second semester of an algebra-based Physics college course. A year-long course, students will again have time to foster deeper conceptual understanding through student-centered, inquiry-based instruction. Students have time to master foundational physics principles while engaging in science practices to earn credit or placement in college. Course topics include principles of fluids, thermodynamics, electricity, magnetism, optics, and topics in modern physics. All students enrolled in AP Physics 2 are required to take the Advanced Placement exam in May.

AP BIOLOGY**Grade Level: 11, 12****Credit 1.0 (two semesters)****Prerequisite: B or better in Biology, Chemistry, and Physics**

AP Biology provides a college-level biology experience for students interested in biological research and/or health-related fields. Students are expected to build on their knowledge from previous science coursework through inquiry-based investigations and statistical analysis. Major topics include cell communication, cellular energetics, genetics and evolutionary biology. All students are required to take the Advanced Placement exam in May. Junior students may take AP Biology concurrently with Physics, but must be enrolled in Physics.

ANATOMY & PHYSIOLOGY HONORS**Grade Level: 11, 12****Credit 1.0 (two semesters)****Prerequisite: Biology and Chemistry**

Anatomy & Physiology is designed to help students prepare for higher education, to further their studies in an area of biological interest or to enter a health-related profession. The course material contains general information on a wide range of topics that are relevant to the health and well-being of not only students, but all members of the communities in which they live. This course deals with the most wondrous of all structures – the human body. It presents information about the body's structures and its functions. It attempts to discover answers to such questions as: What enables people to move? How is it possible for them to talk? How can they see the expanse of the food they eat? How do individuals derive from food the energy they need for exercise and other types of activities? All these and other human activities make up life; Anatomy and Physiology attempts to explain them. Anatomy and Physiology will provide for the student a basic understanding and working knowledge of the human body. Extensive laboratory work will be an integral part of this course.

MEDICAL SCIENCE INTERNSHIP (HONORS)**Grade Level: 11, 12****Credit 1.0 (two semesters)****Prerequisite: Intro to Healthcare or Anatomy & Physiology, Sports Medicine, and Teacher****Recommendation**

The Medical Science Internship course offers high school students a comprehensive, hands-on learning opportunity in athletic training. Students will work under the direct supervision of a certified athletic trainer gaining practical experience in athletic training services. This immersive course emphasizes the development of professional competencies, which students will document in a portfolio regularly reviewed and signed off by their clinical instructor. Course goals will be collaboratively established by the student, their teachers, and workplace supervisors to ensure alignment with both educational and career objectives. In addition to hands-on learning, students will participate in weekly classroom instruction that reinforces theoretical knowledge, explores topics relevant to their workplace experiences, and develops essential employability skills.

SOCIAL STUDIES COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

GLOBAL STUDIES

Grade Level: 9, 10

Credit 1.0 (two semesters)

Prerequisite: None

This course systematically addresses civics, economics, geography and history from a global perspective. This course includes instruction on the ISBE instructional mandates in the study of the world with specific focus on topics/themes such as the history of the pre-enslavement of Black people prior to 1619, world genocides in the 20th and 21st centuries, the Native American Genocide in North America, famine in the world from 1830 onwards, the Holocaust, and specific lessons from the history of the world. This course will provide instruction to students on historical thinking skills such as gathering information, creating claims, and making conclusions. This class provides an introductory framework for students in the areas of civic engagement around the world, economics, how geography influences cultures around the globe, and gaining historical content knowledge.

AP HUMAN GEOGRAPHY

Grade Level: 9 ONLY

Credit 1.0 (two semesters)

Prerequisite: Teacher Recommendation from Elm Middle School.

This course introduces students to the systematic study of patterns and processes that have shaped human understanding, use, and alteration of Earth's surface. Students employ spatial concepts and landscape analysis to examine socio economic organization and its environmental consequences. They also learn about the methods and tools geographers use in their research and applications. The curriculum reflects the goals of the National Geography Standards (2012). The AP Human Geography course is equivalent to an introductory college-level course in human geography. There are no prerequisites for AP Human Geography. Students should be able to read college level texts and write grammatically correct, complete sentences.. All students enrolled in AP Human Geography are required to take the Advanced Placement exam in May.

AP WORLD HISTORY: MODERN

Grade level: 10

Credit 1.0 (two semesters)

Prerequisite: Passing Grade in AP Human Geography of C or higher AND Teacher Recommendation from Global Studies Teacher

In AP World History: Modern, students investigate significant events, individuals, developments, and processes from 1200 to the present. Students develop and use the same skills, practices, and methods employed by historians: analyzing primary and secondary sources; developing historical arguments; making historical connections; and utilizing reasoning about comparison, causation, and continuity and change over time. The course provides six themes that students explore throughout the course in order to make connections among historical developments in different times and places: humans and the environment, cultural developments and interactions, governance, economic systems, social interactions and organization, and technology and innovation. AP World History: Modern is designed to be the equivalent of an introductory college or university survey of modern world history. There are no prerequisites for AP World History: Modern. Students should be able to read a college-level textbook and write grammatically correct, complete sentences. All students enrolled in AP World History are required to take the Advanced Placement exam in May.

UNITED STATES HISTORY

Grade Level: 11

Credit 1.0 (two semesters)

Prerequisite: None

This course systematically addresses civics, economics, geography and history from the perspective of the United States and Illinois. United States History is a required course for graduation. This class provides an introductory framework for students in the areas of civic engagement and gaining historical content knowledge. This course emphasizes the frequent use of higher order thinking skills in its approach to studying history. Advanced Reading, writing, speaking, listening, and research skills, in the context of social studies, will be developed.

AMERICAN STUDIES - US HISTORY (HONORS)/ENGLISH III (HONORS)**Grade Level: 11****Credit 2.0 (two semesters)****Prerequisite: English II Honors or Teacher Rec. Students need to have completed prior social studies classes with a B or better in addition to meeting the English requirement.**

This class would combine the curriculum for English III with the US History curriculum. Students would be team-taught over two consecutive periods by an English teacher and a Social Studies teacher with the idea of blending topics and reinforcing writing and reading skills that overlap in both classes. This course includes an emphasis on the development of American culture, including civics, political, economic, geography, and social history and literature from the perspective of the United States and Illinois. This is a 2.0 credit class, one credit for English and one credit for History. This course emphasizes the frequent use of higher order thinking skills in its approach to studying history, advanced reading, writing, speaking, listening, and research skills.

AP UNITED STATES HISTORY**Grade Level: 11****Credit 1.0 (two semesters)****Prerequisite: Passing Grade in AP World History: Modern C or Higher or teacher recommendation**

In AP US History, students investigate significant events, individuals, developments and processes in nine historical periods from approximately 1491 to the present. Students develop and use these same skills and methods employed by historians: analyzing primary and secondary sources, developing historical arguments, making historical connections, and utilizing reasoning about comparison, causation, continuity and change. The course also provides eight themes that students explore throughout the course in order to make connections among historical developments in different times and places: American and national identity, work, exchange, and technology, geography and the environment, migration and settlement, politics and power, America in the world, American and regional culture, and social structures. AP US History is the equivalent to a two semester introductory college course in US history. There are no prerequisites for AP US History. Students should be able to read a college-level textbook and write grammatically correct, complete sentences. All students enrolled in AP United States History are required to take the Advanced Placement exam in May.

AP U.S. GOVERNMENT & POLITICS**Grade Level: 12****Credit 1.0 (two semesters)****Prerequisite: Passing Grade in AP United States History OR American Studies and teacher recommendation**

AP U.S. Government and Politics provides a college-level, nonpartisan introduction to key political concepts, ideas, institutions, policies, interactions, roles, and behaviors that characterize the constitutional system and political culture of the United States. Students will study U.S. foundational documents, Supreme Court decisions, and other texts and visuals to gain an understanding of the relationships and interactions among political institutions, processes, and behaviors. Underpinning the required content of the course are several big ideas that allow students to create meaningful connections among concepts throughout the course. Students will also engage in skill development that requires them to read and interpret data, make comparisons and applications, and develop evidence-based arguments. In addition, they will complete a political science research or applied civics project. AP U.S. Government and Politics is equivalent to an introductory college course about U.S. government. There are no prerequisite courses for AP U.S. Government and Politics. Students should be able to read a college-level textbook and write grammatically correct, complete sentences. There is a required project that adds a civic component to the course, engaging students in exploring how they can affect, and are affected by, government and politics throughout their lives. The project might have students collect data on a teacher-approved political science topic, participate in a community service activity, or observe and report on the policymaking process of a governing body. Students should plan a presentation that relates their experiences or findings to what they are learning in the course. All students enrolled in AP U.S. Government and Politics are required to take the Advanced Placement exam in May.

INTRODUCTORY PSYCHOLOGY**Grade Level: 10, 11, 12****Credit 0.5 (one semester)****Prerequisite: None**

The EPHS Introductory Psychology class is organized according to the American Psychological Association's standards for teaching psychology in secondary schools. Organization of these standards reflects a foundational base to the course, Scientific Inquiry and Research Methods, and five pillars: Biological, Cognition, Development and Learning, Social and Personality, and Mental and Physical Health. By the end of this introductory class, students will be able to define psychology as a discipline and identify its goals as a science, differentiate scientific and non-scientific approaches to knowledge, explain the value of both basic and applied psychological research, identify careers individuals can pursue in psychological science, identify ways individuals can use psychological science in any career and gain a greater understanding of themselves through the psychological perspective.

AP PSYCHOLOGY**Grade Level: 11,12****Credit 1.0 (two semesters)****Prerequisite: None**

The AP Psychology course introduces students to the systematic and scientific study of human behavior and mental processes. While considering the psychologists and studies that have shaped the field, students explore and apply psychological theories, key concepts, and phenomena associated with such topics as the biological bases of behavior, sensation and perception, learning and cognition, motivation, developmental psychology, testing and individual differences, treatments of psychological disorders, and social psychology. Throughout the course, students employ psychological research methods, including ethical considerations, as they use the scientific method, evaluate claims and evidence, and effectively communicate ideas. The AP Psychology course is designed to be the equivalent of the Introduction to Psychology course usually taken during the first college year. There are no prerequisites for AP Psychology. Students should be able to read a college-level textbook and write grammatically correct, complete sentences. All students enrolled in AP Psychology are required to take the Advanced Placement exam in May.

INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY**Grade Level: 11,12****Credit 0.5 (one semester)****Prerequisite: None**

Sociology is the study of human societies and of human behavior in social settings. Sociology establishes criteria for analyzing social problems and the organization of social institutions such as the family, our educational system, our economic and political systems. Sociology closely examines issues related to racial, ethnic and socioeconomic stratification. Sociology examines the process of socialization by studying various social forces that influence our individual identity. Units have been created with the hope that generalizations about human behavior can be made thus allowing students to better understand their role in society and how improvements in social conditions can be made.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE**Grade Level: 10, 11, 12****Credit 0.5 (one semester)****Prerequisite: None**

The EPHS Criminal Justice class is a College and Career Pathway class that specifically addresses the Illinois Human and Public Services Core Competency of Health, Safety, and Legal Responsibilities. Students will develop and use their understanding of safety, and legal expectations in order to adhere to organizational procedures in regards to the local, state, and federal law. Specifically, this course focuses on career awareness. Career awareness activities provide information about possible career clusters and specific jobs that are available in the area of criminal justice, and how students can explore one's own abilities and interests.

GOVERNMENT**Grade Level: 12 only****Credit 0.5 (one semester)****Prerequisite: Passing Grade in United States History OR Concurrent Enrollment in United States History**

This course examines the multiple components of the United States Government. Units include foundations of American government, a detailed look into the legislative, executive, and judicial branches, political parties, interests groups, civil rights, elections and voting will also be covered. Students will learn about the State of Illinois and local governments, with an emphasis on civic engagement and political participation.

This course satisfies the ISBE instructional mandate that each secondary school student shall be required to complete one semester in civics, which shall focus on government institutions, the discussion of current and controversial issues, simulations of the democratic process, and service learning where students identify an interest and need in the community where they develop and complete a service project addressing the community need with structured activities and self assessment and reflection.

AP AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDIES**Grade Level: 12 only****Credit 1.0 (full year)****Prerequisite: C or above in United States History or AP United States History or American Studies and Teacher Recommendation and Teacher Approval**

AP African American Studies is an interdisciplinary course that examines the diversity of African American experiences through direct encounters with varied sources. Students explore key topics that extend from early African kingdoms to the ongoing challenges and achievements of the contemporary moment. Given the interdisciplinary character of African American Studies, students in the course will develop skills across multiple fields, with an emphasis on developing historical, literary, visual, and data analysis skills. This course foregrounds a study of the diversity of Black communities in the United States within the broader context of Africa and the African diaspora.

FINE ARTS & WORLD LANGUAGE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

INTRO TO ART

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

Credit 0.5 (one semester)

Prerequisite: None

This is an introductory visual arts course that integrates art with students' personal and academic interests and ability to explore and communicate ideas and concepts. Through learning foundational drawing, painting, and ceramic skills, students will practice creative thinking, self-expression, planning, and problem solving. Technology will be used to create drawings and support various aspects of the artmaking process.

DIGITAL MEDIA ARTS

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

Credit 0.5 (one semester)

Prerequisite: None

Digital Media Arts offers a dive into the dynamic world of Digital Media Arts, where creativity meets technology! This introductory course offers students the opportunity to extend their exploration of the elements and principles of art using essential digital tools and techniques used in today's visual arts. Through in-depth projects and guided instruction, students will develop foundational skills in popular digital art software, including Adobe Photoshop for graphic design, Adobe Illustrator for vector art, Procreate for digital painting, Adobe After Effects for motion graphics, and Blender for 3D modeling. Students will engage in various creative projects that emphasize artistic expression and technical proficiency. By the end of the course, participants will have a diverse portfolio showcasing their work across different media, preparing them for further study in digital arts or related fields.

PHOTOGRAPHY I

Grade Level: 10, 11, 12

Credit 0.5 (one semester)

Prerequisite: Passing grade in either Intro to Art or Digital Media Arts

This course is an introduction to Photography course, which exposes students to the materials, processes, and artistic techniques of taking artistic photographs. Students learn about the operation of a digital camera, composition, lighting techniques, camera angles, and basic photo editing. As students advance, the instruction regarding the creative process becomes more refined, and students are encouraged to develop their own artistic style. May not be taken concurrently with Intro to Art or Digital Media Arts.

PHOTOGRAPHY II

Grade Level: 10, 11, 12

Credit 0.5 (one semester)

Prerequisite: Passing Grade in Previously Taken Photography

Advanced photography is designed to give you a more in-depth experience of capturing images and taking successful photographs. We will focus on more advanced techniques and how to edit photos. We will discuss the work of great photographers alongside your own photographs to better understand artistic concepts and artwork.

DRAWING I

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

Credit 0.5 (one semester)

Prerequisite: Passing grade in Intro to Art

This course is designed to develop the students ability to draw from observation using a wide variety of materials and techniques. Figure drawing, abstraction and realism will be explored. Students will learn how to experiment, practice and develop ideas. May not be taken concurrently with Intro to Art.

PAINTING I

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

Credit 0.5 (one semester)

Prerequisite: Passing grade in Intro to Art

This course provides a basic understanding of the tools, processes, and language relative to the painting media. Students will synthesize these understandings into individual paintings. Learners will integrate and build upon their knowledge of color theory, composition, and drawing to create paintings of subjects in traditional and abstract styles. May not be taken concurrently with Intro to Art.

CERAMICS I**Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12****Credit 0.5 (one semester)****Prerequisite: Passing grade in Intro to Art**

This course is for students with a personal interest in pottery and clay as an art medium. Students will create three-dimensional artwork, using a variety of ceramic techniques such as clay hand building techniques and wheel throwing. Within the projects there will be an emphasis on planning, sketching, and personal reflection. May not be taken concurrently with Intro to Art.

SCULPTURE I**Grade Level: 9, 10, 11 & 12****Credit 0.5 (one semester)****Prerequisite: Passing grade in Intro to Art**

This course provides a hands-on approach for understanding and making contemporary sculpture. Students will create three-dimensional artwork using a variety of sculptural tools, and art mediums such as paper mache, wire, clay, fabric and plaster. Within the projects there will be an emphasis on planning, presentation, use of techniques, use of vocabulary, and personal reflection. May not be taken concurrently with Intro to Art.

CERAMICS & SCULPTURE II**Grade Level: 11, 12****Credit 0.5 (one semester)****Prerequisite: Passing Grade in Ceramics I and Sculpture I**

Ceramics and Sculpture II is offered to students who are interested in gaining a deeper knowledge of 3D art mediums such as clay, wheel throwing, and sculpting. This class will explore advanced skills building upon those taught in ceramics and sculpture and expand their knowledge of experimentation, ideation and use of more advanced materials. This class can help prepare students for AP Art and Design. May not be taken concurrently with Ceramics I and/or Sculpture I.

DRAWING & PAINTING II**Grade Level: 11, 12****Credit 0.5 (one semester)****Prerequisite: Passing grade in Drawing I and Painting I**

Drawing and Painting II is offered to students who are interested in gaining a deeper knowledge of 2D art mediums. This class will explore advanced skills building upon those taught in drawing and painting and expand their knowledge of experimentation, ideation and use of more advanced materials. This class can help prepare students for AP Art and Design.

AP ART and DESIGN**Grade Level: 11, 12****Credit 1.0 (two semesters)****Prerequisite: 2 intermediate art classes**

As an AP art student, students will make works of art by practicing experimenting and revising, investigate materials process and ideas, and learn how to effectively communicate ideas through art. The goal will be to create a portfolio of college level art work, then at the end of the school year submit it digitally for evaluation to the College Board. The AP Exam will be the student's body of art work that was created in class accompanied by written statements. Students will determine in the early stages of this course if they intend to focus on 2D or 3D art for their portfolio. This course can be repeated for credit as long as the alternative portfolio is submitted.

CHORALE**Grade Level: 9, 10****Credit 1.0 (two semesters)****Prerequisite: None**

This course, intended for freshmen/sophomores who are in their first year of choir, combines the best of personal enjoyment while developing vocal skills and studying the fundamentals of musicianship. Special emphasis is put on the development of sight singing skills necessary for future placement into advanced choral groups. A commitment to singing and performing is important, and upon successful completion of Chorale, a student can then audition for Concert Choir and/or Swing Choir. *Chorale students participate in the four major concerts of the year and attendance at all concerts is required.*

CONCERT CHOIR**Grade Level: 10, 11, 12****(HONORS OPTION and DIRECTOR'S APPROVAL)****Credit 1.0 (two semesters)****Prerequisite: One year of Chorale and/or Director's approval**

This course combines the best of personal enjoyment while developing vocal skills and studying the fundamentals of musicianship. Special emphasis is put on the development of sight singing skills necessary for future placement into advanced choral groups. This class is repeatable. *Attendance at all four major concerts, plus EPHS Graduation is required.*

SWING CHOIR (HONORS)**Grade Level: 10, 11, 12****Credit 1.0 (two semesters)****Prerequisite: Director's approval**

This course is designed for advanced students who perform a wide variety of choral literature, from classical to contemporary. Swing Choir also focuses on music reading, sight singing, and more advanced music theory concepts. The Swing Choir perform for concerts, festivals, and community events as well as four school concerts per year and commencement. This class is repeatable. *Attendance at the four major concerts, plus EPHS Graduation, is required with occasional out of school performances throughout the school year.*

AP MUSIC THEORY**Grade Level: 10, 11, 12****Credit 1.0 (two semesters)****Prerequisite: Concurrent enrollment in Band or Choral course strongly recommended, strong prior knowledge of music notation, and/or approval of instructor required. Fluent ability to read music notation and/or approval of the instructor.**

The AP Music Theory course is designed for the mature musician who is interested in enhancing their music ability through a rigorous study of music theory. The class will enable the student to understand the theoretical and historical significance of harmonic structure as it relates to Western music. During the course of the class, students will develop the necessary technical skills used in analysis of music both structurally and harmonically. In addition, students will devote a significant amount of time developing their aural capabilities, such as sight singing, interval and chord recognition, melodic dictation, and harmonic dictation. Ultimately, the class will prepare students for the AP Music Theory AP examination given in the spring, as well as entrance examinations given by schools of music for entering freshmen music majors. Concurrent enrollment in Band or Choir classes is strongly encouraged.

CONCERT/MARCHING BAND – WOODWINDS AND BRASS**Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12****(HONORS OPTION and DIRECTOR'S APPROVAL)****Credit 1.0 (two semesters)****Prerequisite: Passing Grade in previous year's Concert Band or Director's approval**

Woodwind and Brass students will work on total musicianship, developing performance skills, and building further knowledge of fundamentals of music theory. Concert/Marching Band will perform in four formal concerts throughout the year. Students will participate in activities of the Marching Tigers during Q1 and Basketball Band during Q2-3. All band students should be available for Band Camp rehearsals during the summer in preparation for the upcoming season's marching show. Band Camp is held for one full week, usually the first week of August. Concert Band should be considered a four-year commitment whenever possible. Prerequisites: ability to fluently read standard music notation, passing grade in previous year's Concert Band class, and/or approval of the instructor.

CONCERT/MARCHING BAND – PERCUSSION**Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12****(HONORS OPTION and DIRECTOR'S APPROVAL)****Credit 1.0 (two semesters)****Prerequisite: Passing Grade in previous year's Concert Band or Director's approval**

Percussion students will work on total musicianship, developing performance skills, and building further knowledge of fundamentals of music theory. Concert/Marching Band will perform in four formal concerts throughout the year. Students will participate in activities of the Marching Tigers during Q1 and Basketball Band during Q2-3. All band students should be available for Band Camp rehearsals during the summer in

preparation for the upcoming season's marching show. Band Camp is held for one full week, usually the first week of August. Concert Band should be considered a four-year commitment whenever possible.

Prerequisite: passing grade in previous year's Concert Band class, and/or approval of the instructor.

JAZZ BAND (HONORS OPTION and DIRECTOR'S APPROVAL)

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

Credit 1.0 (two semesters)

Prerequisite: Passing Grade in previous year's Jazz Band or Director's approval

All interested students with band experience on an appropriate instrument (saxophone, trumpet, trombone, drum set, bass, guitar, piano) may join Jazz Band to continue work on total musicianship, developing performance skills, and building further knowledge of fundamentals of music theory and basic improvisation. Jazz Band members perform in three or four formal concerts throughout the year. Concurrent enrollment in Concert/Marching Band strongly encouraged. Jazz Band should be considered a four-year commitment whenever possible. Prerequisites: ability to fluently read standard music notation, passing grade in previous year's Jazz Band class, and/or approval of the instructor.

PIANO METHODS

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

Credit 1.0 (two semesters)

Prerequisite: None

This course is designed for students with little or no piano experience. Using the electronic piano lab (MIDI), the class will introduce students to music notation, basic music theory, keyboard technique, and music terminology through the study of keyboard repertoire.

GUITAR METHODS

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

Credit 1.0 (two semesters)

Prerequisite: None

This course is designed for students who are interested in learning how to play the guitar and/or to develop strong technical skills in guitar performance. This course will introduce the techniques and musicianship skills in order to perform classical, blues, jazz, rock, and pop repertoire. Students will learn music reading skills, sight-reading, chords, collaboration, practice skills, and expressive performance and listening skills. Electric guitars and Classical Guitars are provided and stay in the classroom.

MUSIC PRODUCTION

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

Credit 1.0 (two semesters)

Prerequisite: None

This course will explore the fundamentals of creating and organizing music with computers and teach students the ins and outs of using sound engineering hardware. This is a project-based class in which students will use different software applications to create and arrange music. Students will learn how to manipulate music by creating medley mixes, music re-arranging, and exploring the digital world of music. Digital audio, MIDI, and recorded audio will be used and incorporated to create music files. Students will learn basic concepts for making beats and music patterns to be used in music production. Keyboard skills are helpful but not necessary. Enrollment is open to all students, grades 9-12.

SPANISH I

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

Credit 1.0 (two semesters)

Prerequisite: None

During the first year, emphasis is placed on developing listening, reading, writing and speaking skills. These skills are developed by conversations and daily oral and written work. In addition to speaking and understanding the language on a novice level, the students who successfully complete the course will also be able to compose simple paragraphs using the present tense to describe various aspects of their lives (home, family, food, school, community) and read basic selections with comparative ease. Throughout the year various aspects of both Mexican and Spanish culture are also discussed.

SPANISH II**Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12****Credit 1.0 (two semesters)****Prerequisite: Spanish I or Teacher Recommendation**

During the second year, greater emphasis will be placed on continuing to develop listening, speaking, reading and writing skills. Emphasis will also be placed on increasing the students' ability to express themselves accurately in both the present and past tenses. In addition to using the present tense learned in Spanish I, students will be able to write and speak about a variety of past events, including a trip they went on and their childhoods. Structure and syntax will be studied in greater depth, so that these aspects of language can be used effectively and correctly in oral and written work. (Students who have taken Spanish I during grade 7 & 8 may earn one full high school credit in World Language if they earn credit in Spanish II during their first year at EPHS.)

SPANISH III (HONORS)**Grade Level: 10, 11, 12****Credit 1.0 (two semesters)****Prerequisite: Spanish II or Teacher Recommendation**

At the third year level, appropriate selections of standard literary works are read. Together with short stories, novellas, authentic articles and various culture studies, students will form the basis for improvement in reading, writing, listening and speaking as they expand their knowledge of the Spanish vocabulary. Written composition work will include story summaries, recounting of a personal experience and other suitable topics. A continual study of vocabulary, grammar and syntax will make the students better able to speak and write correctly. Beyond reviewing and building upon what they already know, students will learn additional grammatical structures to express recommendations, doubts, future actions, and hypotheticals in Spanish. Mexican, Paraguayan, and Dominican cultures will be emphasized via written and audio-visual materials.

SPANISH IV (HONORS)**Grade Level: 11, 12****Credit 1.0 (two semesters)****Prerequisite: Spanish III or Teacher Recommendation**

Students in the fourth year will improve their skills in written and oral Spanish through various projects and written assessments during the year. Such projects may include newsletters, cultural comparisons, short essays, infographics, and presentations. Students will also hone their literacy skills while reading various novellas and other various authentic materials. There will be extensive review of grammar, syntax and higher-level vocabulary that was covered in level 3. Students will participate in The Pulsera Project near the end of Semester 1. Honors credit may be earned.

HERITAGE SPANISH I (HONORS)**Grade Level: 9, 10, 11****Credit 1.0 (two semesters)****Prerequisite: Placement Exam**

This course would provide our heritage speaker population the chance to improve their writing and reading skills. It would also help expand their vocabulary. Students will read two short novellas, one each semester. The goal of this class is to help students increase their literacy in Spanish skills to move on to Spanish IV Honors or Heritage II. Topics include: accent marks, unique punctuation marks and other nuances of Spanish for native speakers, and cultural aspects that will continue to be studied in Heritage II and AP Spanish Language and Culture.

HERITAGE SPANISH II (HONORS)**Grade Level: 10, 11, 12****Credit 1.0 (two semesters)****Prerequisite: Heritage I**

This course would provide our heritage speaker population the chance to improve their speaking and writing skills. Students will be exposed to expository and argumentative writing. Students will also work on building skills for the five Advanced Placement Spanish Language and Culture tasks (presentational writing, presentational speaking, interpersonal speaking, cultural comparisons and interpretive reading). The ultimate goal of this class is to help students increase their skills to move on to our AP Spanish Language and Culture course.

SPANISH V (HONORS)**Grade Level: 11,12****Credit 1.0 (two semesters)****Prerequisite: Spanish IV or Teacher Recommendation**

Students will take a year-long course offered in Spanish to enhance presentational, interpersonal, and interpretive communication skills while honing their abilities to analyze, compare, and contrast various Spanish-speaking and indigenous cultures throughout the world. Students will consider various products, practices, and perspectives demonstrated in Hispanic documentaries, films, and programs to evaluate how Latino, indigenous and Spanish cultures are presented in the media. Additionally, students will make connections between historical events and their representation in cinema, and create connections to both our local community and national community of Latinos in the United States.

AP SPANISH LANGUAGE AND CULTURE**Grade Level: 11, 12****Credit 1.0 (two semesters)****Prerequisite: Teacher Recommendation or Spanish IV or Heritage Spanish**

Students in the AP Spanish course will cover material equivalent to a 3rd year college course in advanced Spanish composition and conversation. This course will emphasize the use of Spanish for active communication. It will encompass oral skills, reading comprehension, grammar, and composition. Extensive training in the organization and writing of compositions and the expression of ideas orally, will be an integral part of this Spanish A.P. course. This class will allow students to continue to build proficiency through a variety of interactive and non-interactive activities such as compositions, essays, oral presentations, skits, in-depth studies of Spanish and Latin American literature, history, and geography. All students enrolled in Advanced Placement Spanish are required to take the Advanced Placement exam in May.

ITALIAN I**Grade Level: 9, 10, 11,12****Credit 1.0 (two semesters)****Prerequisite: None**

The student is introduced to the basics of understanding and speaking Italian. *These skills are developed by conversations and daily oral and written work. In addition to speaking and understanding the language on a novice level, the students who successfully complete the course will also be able to compose simple paragraphs using the present tense to describe various aspects of their lives (home, family, food, school, community) and read basic selections with comparative ease.* The student builds vocabulary, practices pronunciation, studies grammar, reads simple passages and writes original sentences. Italian culture is introduced and studied through lecture, readings, film and music.

ITALIAN II**Grade Level: 10, 11,12****Credit 1.0 (two semesters)****Prerequisite: Italian I**

During the second year, greater emphasis will be placed on reading and writing skills. Emphasis will also be placed on increasing the students' ability to express in both the present and past tenses. In addition to using the present tense learned in Italian 1, students will be able to write and speak about a variety of past events, including a trip they went on and their childhoods. Structure and syntax will be studied in greater depth, so that these aspects of language can be used effectively and correctly in oral and written work. Students will develop more insights into Italian culture.

ITALIAN III (HONORS)**Grade Level: 11,12****Credit 1.0 (two semesters)****Prerequisite: Italian II**

At the third year level, appropriate selections of standard literary works are read. Together with short stories, novellas, authentic articles and various culture studies, students will form the basis for improvement in reading, writing, listening and speaking as they expand their knowledge of Italian vocabulary. Written composition work will include story summaries, recounting of a personal experience and other suitable topics. A continual study of vocabulary, grammar and syntax will make the students better able to speak and write correctly. Beyond reviewing and building upon what they already know, students will learn additional grammatical structures to express recommendations, doubts, future actions, and hypotheticals in Italian.

Students will continue to develop insights into Italian culture.

ITALIAN IV (HONORS)

Grade Level: 12

Credit 1.0 (two semesters)

Prerequisite: Italian III

Students in the fourth year will improve their skills in written and oral Italian through various projects, written assessments and presentations during the year. Such projects may include newsletters, cultural comparisons, essays, short speeches and research projects. Students will also hone their literacy skills while reading novellas and other various authentic materials. There will be extensive review of grammar, syntax and higher-level vocabulary that was covered in level 3. Students will continue to develop insights into Italian culture.

KINETIC WELLNESS COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

KINETIC WELLNESS I

Grade Level: 9

Credit 0.5 (one semester)

Prerequisite: None

This class will provide the opportunity for students to learn basic skills, rules, and strategies. During this course, students are introduced to individual personal fitness (stretching, physical strength, cardiovascular conditioning) and team-based sports/activities, and fitness activities. In addition, students will complete the state requirements for fitness testing.

HEALTH EDUCATION

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

Credit 0.5 (one semester)

Prerequisites: None

Health Education is a course (required by the State of Illinois) designed to teach students ways of maintaining good physical, mental and social health. The following topics are covered: mental health and mental illness; body systems; prevention and control of diseases; physical fitness; tobacco, alcohol, and drugs; human sexuality; nutrition; STDs education; coping with death.

GROUP FITNESS

Grade Level: 9 or 10

Credit 0.5 (one semester)

Prerequisite: None

This class is designed to offer students the opportunity to exercise: TABATA, HIIT, Circuit Training, Resistance/Light Weight Training, Yoga, Pilates and Walking with the use of heart rate monitors, students will analyze their exercise output and set goals for their next session. Base level course for those who want to be introduced to a variety of exercise methods that tone and strengthen the entire body. In addition, students will complete the state requirements for fitness testing. This course may be repeated one time in a different semester. (2 semester max)

KINETIC WELLNESS II

Grade Level: 10

Credit 0.5 (one semester)

Prerequisite: None

This class will provide students with the opportunity to continue improving on skills, rules, and strategies for individual and team-based sports and fitness activities. This course includes an emphasis on personal fitness (stretching, physical strength, cardiovascular conditioning) as well as continued development of team sports and activities. In addition, students will complete the state requirements for fitness testing.

DRIVER EDUCATION-CLASSROOM

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

Credit 0.5 (one semester)

Prerequisite: Must be at least 15 years old at start of class

This one-semester course is typically offered at the sophomore level. The Classroom Driver Education course is designed to cultivate desirable attitudes toward safe driving and traffic safety. The rules and regulations of safe driving are presented in the classroom phase of Driver Education. Upon successful completion of the Classroom AND Behind the Wheel instruction, students are eligible to take the Illinois State Driver's License test. **According to the Illinois School Code 105 ILCS 5/27-24.2: Each student must be enrolled in high school and receive a passing grade in at least eight courses during the previous two semesters prior to enrolling in a driver education course.**

DRIVER EDUCATION - BEHIND THE WHEEL**Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12****No credit****Prerequisite: Concurrent enrollment in Classroom****Fee: \$275**

The driving phase of driver education will be offered to a limited number of students before school or after while currently enrolled and passing the classroom portion. *Eligibility is based on passing their 8 previous courses, no outstanding district fees, and passing the permit/vision test.* This course consists of 6 hours of behind-the-wheel time with a certified instructor and approximately 12 hours of driving observation. Grades are issued for the course.

KINETIC WELLNESS III**Grade Level: 11****Credit 0.5 (one semester)****Prerequisite: None**

This class will provide students with the opportunity to continue improving on skills, rules, and strategies for individual and team-based sports and fitness activities. This course includes an emphasis on personal fitness (stretching, physical strength, cardiovascular conditioning) as well as the continued development of team sports and activities. In addition, students will complete the state requirements for fitness testing.

INDIVIDUAL WELLNESS & FITNESS**Grade Level: 11, 12****Credit 0.5 (one semester)****Prerequisite: None**

This class is designed for students to gain the necessary information on how to establish a healthier lifestyle and better understand the close relationship between your physical health and fitness. We will be learning basic kitchen skills and be given instructions on how to shop, plan out and practice making healthy and nutritious meals. Nutrition and Exercise Logs will be kept. Each student will participate in group health, fitness and nutritional goals and will then establish his/her own fitness and nutritional goals for the semester.

PERSONAL SAFETY & WELLNESS**Grade Level: 11, 12****Credit 0.5 (one semester)****Prerequisite: None**

This is a one-semester course that focuses on the theory and practice of self-defense in response to physical attack. Students will learn the skills necessary to try and avoid violence and unsafe situations. Students completing this course will also learn various self-defense techniques to have as options if they need to defend themselves. Additional topics covered include personal awareness and safety tactics, and real-world applications.

JUNIOR LEADERS OF KINETIC WELLNESS**Grade Level: 11****Credit 1.0 (two semesters)****Prerequisite: Teacher Recommendation**

The purpose of this class is to develop the student's leadership skills, to enable them to assist our Kinetic Wellness staff with in-class activities. Through the use of leadership skills, they will develop self-confidence and positive self-esteem. They will acquire attitudes and habits of loyalty, self-control, cooperation, and courtesy. Course outcomes include the following statements. Students will learn to apply the rules and regulations of all Kinetic Wellness activities. Students will learn how to officiate and apply proper techniques of officiating in game situations. Students will learn proper exercise techniques, proper safety rules and will monitor student performance of these techniques. Students will become proficient in performing and supporting peers in a variety of Kinetic Wellness activities. *There may be an additional fee required for this course for the purchase of special t-shirt and for possible field trips.*

COMPETITIVE TEAM SPORTS**Grade Level: 11, 12****Credit 0.5 (one semester)****Prerequisite: Pass 2 Kinetic Wellness Classes and with teacher recommendation**

This course is for a student who has advanced knowledge and skills in a variety of team sports. Choosing this course means you have the desire to compete against others with a similar intensity level. Students are expected to have a firm grasp of the official rules for a variety of team sports. The focus will be on teamwork, sportsmanship, strategy, and the improvement of knowledge and individual skills. This class will be run similarly to an athletic team. Units will involve skills, drills, scorekeeping, and competitive play. This course may be repeated one time, in a different semester, with teacher approval only.

STRENGTH & CONDITIONING**Grade Level: 11, 12****Credit 0.5 (one semester)****Prerequisite: None**

During this course, students will participate in basic to advanced strength training exercises that involve anaerobic and aerobic exercises. Throughout the course, students will learn to identify muscular anatomy and understand how to develop those muscles through various exercises. Participation will include, but not limited to, cardio and weight training activities. The weight room is the main classroom setting where students will be provided with a weight lifting plan that is developed by the teacher (2-semester Max).

ADVANCED STRENGTH & CONDITIONING (HONORS)**Grade Level: 11, 12****Credit 0.5 (one semester)****Prerequisite: B or better in Strength & Conditioning and teacher recommendation**

This honors class is offered to students involved in athletics or who have completed strength training. The focus of this course will be to improve functional strength, speed, agility, and explosive power that will translate into better sports performance. This course includes high-intensity weight, functional, and plyometric training. The advanced strength training class is designed to provide each student with the knowledge needed to understand the importance of strength and fitness training. This course may be repeated in a different semester.

KINETIC WELLNESS IV**Grade Level: 12****Credit 0.5 (one semester)****Prerequisite: None**

This class will provide students with the opportunity to continue improving on skills, rules, and strategies for individual and team-based sports and fitness activities. This course includes an emphasis on personal fitness (stretching, physical strength, cardiovascular conditioning) as well as the continued development of team sports and activities. In addition, students will complete the state requirements for fitness testing. This course may be repeated in different semesters.

SENIOR LEADERS OF KINETIC WELLNESS (HONORS)**Grade Level: 12****Credit 0.5 (one semester)****Prerequisite: Junior Leaders & Teacher Recommendation**

Skills learned and developed in the Junior Leader - Kinetic Wellness program will now be put into practice. Leadership skills will be used to assist our Kinetic Wellness staff in various class activities. Leaders will lead exercises, officiate, assist with equipment, as well as motivate and encourage students. Senior Leaders will be assigned to a teacher for the semester and will be given further instructions of duties and leadership roles. Only one period of the day can be considered Honors credit, but the individual can be a leader for a second class if they have an opening in their schedule. There may be an additional fee required for this course for the purchase of special t-shirt. This course may be repeated in the same semester, but not for Honors credit.

Total Fitness Dual Credit**Grade Level: 10****Credit 0.5 (one semester)****Teacher Recommendation****Prerequisite: None**

Explore the fundamentals of fitness and build a foundation for lifelong physical activity. Students will gain practical knowledge in proper exercise form and learn the critical importance of heart rate health through the

effective use of heart rate monitors. The curriculum incorporates a diverse mix of fitness modalities, such as Yoga, Tabata, Pilates, and Weight Training, allowing students to track tangible progress in their cardio endurance and muscular strength. Identification of large muscle groups will be incorporated so that students can develop a full-body approach to their fitness journey. This course is purposefully designed to align with the Health Science Pathway.

BUSINESS EDUCATION & COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

BUSINESS PRINCIPLES I

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

Credit 0.5 (one semester)

Prerequisite: None

This course is designed to provide students with an overall understanding of many aspects of the business world, including concepts, functions, and skills for meeting the challenges of operating a business. Business Principles will unlock the mysteries of what businesses are, how they operate, and what impact they have on students' lives. Students will learn about our economic environment, business ownership and how business and government function in our economy. This course will also serve as a background for future business courses at Elmwood Park High School.

BUSINESS PRINCIPLES II

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

Credit 0.5 (one semester)

Prerequisite: Business Principles I

This course is a continuation of the topics covered in Business Principles I. The topics expanded upon include careers in our global economy, business ethics and small business management concepts. Students will learn about basic functional areas, such as finance, management, marketing, administration and production. Students will prepare for roles as consumers, workers, and citizens. This course will also serve as a background for future business courses at Elmwood Park High School.

DRONING I

Grade Level: 10, 11, 12

Credit: 0.5 (one semester)

Prerequisite: None

Drone I will introduce students to drone practical applications and opportunities, equipment, regulations, and flight, as well as advanced modules on mission planning and mapping and data. Alternative energy and the use of AI will be explored as part of the course studying drone applications in the private and public sector. Additional time will be dedicated to careers relating to drone technology.

DRONING II

Grade Level: 11, 12

Credit: 0.5 (one semester)

Prerequisite: Drone Operation & Maintenance I and either AP CSP or CP I

Drone II will cover advanced drone applications with students utilizing computer science principles and coding to fly automated drones. Students will complete the FAA Part 107 Remote Pilot Certificate preparation course in preparation to take the FAA Part 107 Remote Pilot Certificate Exam. Students need to be 16 years or older to sit for the certification exam and have a teacher recommendation with a passing grade in Drone Operation and Maintenance I to take this course.

CONSUMER EDUCATION

Grade Level: 11, 12

Credit 0.5 (one semester)

Prerequisite: None

This course provides students with personal financial management techniques. Students learn how to clarify their own values, goals, and priorities before they are faced with adult concerns. Students will cover financial and resource management topics. Consumer topics addressed include shopping, automobile ownership, housing, banking services, credit, taxes, insurance, and consumer action. ***This course DOES satisfy the Consumer Education requirement for the State of Illinois.***

COMPUTER APPLICATIONS I

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

Credit 0.5 (one semester)

Prerequisite: None

Students will develop basic skills in touch keyboarding and proper technique. Major emphasis is placed on keyboarding techniques, speed and accuracy development, proofreading, and correcting errors. Formatting and production that meet business standards are introduced.

COMPUTER APPLICATIONS II

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

Credit 0.5 (one semester)

Prerequisite: Computer Applications I

Information Processing II reinforces skills learned in Information Processing I. Special emphasis is placed on production formatting in an effort to help students complete a variety of work in a limited amount of time. Students will use the features of word processing software as a tool to create and upload documents, create slideshows using presentation software. Students will create business letters, prepare reports, edit and utilize spreadsheets, create memorandums and engage in business correspondence. Students will review basic language skills with data to create customizable reports and letters. This course will incorporate keyboarding skills and the editing, formatting, and printing of documents.

DIGITAL LITERACY I

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

Credit 0.5 (one semester)

Prerequisite: None

This course is designed to teach the fundamentals of using digital devices to provide students with employability skills that are of high demand in the workplace. Students will gain experience and practical application through hands-on use of word processing, computer concepts, the Internet, telecommunications, information processing equipment and emerging communication software. The following topics will be covered: editing and formatting text and documents, illustrating documents with graphics, merging files, Internet safety, privacy and security, digital footprints and online reputations, information literacy, creative credit and copyrights, digital citizenship and ethical issues. Integration of the Microsoft Office Suite, Google, and several open source applications will be used as application tools in this learning environment. Workplace skills as well as communication skills will be taught and integrated throughout this course. ***Students may have the opportunity to earn industry recognized digital literacy certification as part of this course.***

DIGITAL LITERACY II

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

Credit 0.5 (one semester)

Prerequisite: Digital Literacy I

This course is designed to teach the fundamentals of using electronic devices to provide students with skills for working in an Internet or networked work environment at both entry-level and upper-level management positions. Students will gain experience and practical applications through hands-on use of spreadsheet software, and presentation software, the Internet, and communication software. The following topics will be covered: worksheet basics; formatting and editing worksheets, calculating worksheet data, working with charts, creating slideshows and presentations, as well as a continuation of the themes of privacy and security, digital footprints and online reputations, information literacy, creative credit and copyrights, digital citizenship and ethical issues. Integration of the Microsoft Office Suite, Google, and several open source applications will be used as application tools in this learning environment. ***Students may have the opportunity to earn industry recognized digital literacy certification as part of this course.***

ACCOUNTING (HONORS)**Grade Level: 11, 12****Credit 1.0 (two semesters)****Prerequisite: none**

Accounting I & II are skill level courses that are of value to all students pursuing a background in business, finance, marketing, and management. These courses include planned learning experiences that develop initial and basic skills used in systematically computing, classifying, recording, verifying, and maintaining numerical data involved in financial and product control records, including the paying and receiving of money. Instruction includes the interpretation, and analysis of data to provide assistance to management for decision-making. Accounting computer applications will be integrated throughout the course where applicable. Career opportunities in the accounting field will be discussed throughout the school year. Practice sets will be utilized throughout the school year. Practice sets with business papers will be used to emphasize actual business records management. These courses provide a technical background for college-bound students who plan a business curriculum as well as those who wish vocational preparation.

FINANCIAL INVESTMENTS**Grade Level: 11, 12****Credit 0.5 (one semester)****Prerequisite: none**

The accounting cycle, system design, cash control, inventory methods, receivables, and depreciation methods will be covered in the accounting section. The Investments portion of the class will introduce planning, implementing, and managing a successful investment program. Students will experience investing by raising money and investing in the stock market.

MARKETING I & II (DUAL CREDIT)**Grade Level: 11, 12****Credit 1 (two semesters)****Prerequisite: Teacher Approval**

This course provides a basic understanding of marketing principles. Topics include marketing, buyer behavior, trend analysis, and the basics of product development, pricing, wholesaling, merchandising, and product development. Marketing II is a continuation of Marketing I with a focus on the dynamic activities that are associated with merchandising. Students will become acquainted with the various marketing careers, wholesaling, pricing, sales promotion, creative selling techniques, merchandise planning, advertising. *Students who enroll in this course will complete the application process to become a student at Triton College. Upon acceptance by Triton College and completion of the course in addition to Marketing I with a final grade of C or better, in both Marketing courses, the student will receive dual credit from Triton Community College. Completion of Marketing II is required to obtain the college credit (DUAL CREDIT).*

COMPUTER GRAPHICS I**Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12****Credit 0.5 (one semester)****Prerequisite: None**

This is an introductory class exploring the manipulation of images and symbols through the use of the stated software, photography, source images (Internet), printed page, scanners, and the historical and design process/techniques. Students will use image-editing programs to manipulate scanned images, computer graphics and original artwork, as well as, creating graphical headers, interactive menus and buttons and visually appealing backgrounds. Through this course, students will experiment with the language of design to create a variety of works that will be incorporated into a marketing portfolio. Students will work with Adobe Photoshop.

COMPUTER GRAPHICS II**Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12****Credit 0.5 (one semester)****Prerequisite: Comp. Graphics I**

Students will work primarily with Adobe Illustrator, Photoshop and InDesign to create graphics such as characters, objects and logos to be used in marketing and advertising design. Students will create their own business idea and create a logo along with their own print and electronic advertising materials as part of a capstone project to the course.

AP COMPUTER SCIENCE PRINCIPLES**Grade Level: 10, 11, 12****Credit 1.0 (two semesters)****Prerequisite: C or better Algebra 1**

AP Computer Science Principles offers a multidisciplinary approach to teaching the underlying principles of computation. The course will introduce students to the creative aspects of programming, abstractions, algorithms, large data sets, the Internet, cybersecurity concerns, and computing impacts. AP Computer Science Principles will give students the opportunity to use technology to address real-world problems and build relevant solutions. The AP Assessment for this course includes a performance task that will be integrated into class time and will be submitted electronically to the College Board, as well as, a written End of Course Exam. Scores on each of these components will be used to determine the students total AP score.

DIGITAL ANIMATION**Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12****Credit 0.5 (one semester)****Prerequisite: None**

This studio class is a computer-based course that explores a variety of animation and production techniques. Through the creation of short digital animations, students will explore 2-Dimensional methods of animation, methods of production, basic editing processes, stylistic/visual concerns and how to incorporate the images onto web enabled files. Instruction will include multimedia authoring, applications and programming tools such as Javascript to use hardware and software to capture, edit, create animated text, graphics and images. This will be incorporated into a marketing portfolio. Students will work with Adobe Animate.

WEBSITE DESIGN**Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12****Credit 0.5 (one semester)****Prerequisite: None**

The CodeHS Web Design course is a project-based course that teaches students how to build their own web pages. Students will learn the languages HTML and CSS, and will create their own live homepages to serve as portfolios of their creations. By the end of this course, students will be able to explain how web pages are developed and viewed on the Internet, analyze and correct errors on existing websites, and create their very own multi page websites. Students will learn the foundations of user interface design, rapid prototyping and user testing, and will work together to create professional, mobile responsive websites.

COMPUTER PROGRAMMING I**Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12****Credit: 0.5 (one semester)****Prerequisite: Minimum of C in Algebra I**

This course is an interactive introductory course for students brand new to programming that teaches the foundations of computer science using the Python language. Focus will be on developing algorithms, number calculations and data, making decisions, and repetition and loops. Learn how to think computationally and solve complex problems, skills that are important for every career.

COMPUTER PROGRAMMING II**Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12****Credit: 0.5 (one semester)****Prerequisite: Computer Programming I**

This course builds on the basic coding structures and skills from Computer Programming I to add graphics, functions, arrays, 2D arrays, and Internet coding. Learn how to think computationally and solve complex problems.

VIRTUAL ENTERPRISE INTERNATIONAL I & II (DUAL CREDIT)**Grade Level: 11, 12****Credit 1.0 (two semesters)****Prerequisite: One Credit of Business Education and teacher recommendation**

This capstone course provides a macro-level simulated business environment in which students create and manage a virtual company, conducting business with other "firms" nationally and internationally. Students are involved in every aspect of running the business (formulating, analyzing and evaluating decisions), including human resources, accounting, product development, production, distribution, marketing and sales. In the simulated business environment, students belong to a specific department depending on skills, prior

knowledge, and personal interest. Leadership opportunities within the firm provide further relevant experience. The program enables participants to experience careers, acquire global economic knowledge, learn about interconnections amongst the industry government, develop interpersonal and organizational skills, utilize technology as applied in business, and gain a clear understanding of how employees work together to meet the goals of the company while at the same time conveying the professional expectations of the workplace. This is a repeatable credit course. There is an additional fee required for this course. *Students who enroll in this course will complete the application process to become a student at Triton College. Upon acceptance by Triton College and completion of the course with a final grade of C or better, the student will receive dual credit from Triton Community College.*

BUSINESS LAW

Grade Level: 11, 12

Credit 0.5 (one semester)

Prerequisite: none

This course is designed to provide an understanding of the basic principles as applied to ordinary business transactions. It provides instruction in guarding against ordinary legal errors. The laws of contracts, negotiable papers, employer and employee relationships, agency bailments, and insurance are stressed. Since many of the cases are presented from the business point of view, the course may be considered as a business background as well as a personal use.

WEB DESIGN

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

Credit 0.5 (one semester)

Prerequisite: none

The CodeHS Web Design course is a project-based course that teaches students how to build their own web pages. Students will learn the languages HTML and CSS, and will create their own live homepages to serve as portfolios of their creations. By the end of this course, students will be able to explain how web pages are developed and viewed on the Internet, analyze and correct errors on existing websites, and create their very own multi page websites. Students will learn the foundations of user interface design, rapid prototyping and user testing, and will work together to create professional, mobile responsive websites.

WORK BASED LEARNING

Grade Level: 12

Credit 0.5 (one semester)

Prerequisite: Instructor Permission Only

This senior level course offers second-semester senior students a unique and personalized opportunity to gain workplace experience in a career pathway of interest, while developing employability skills that cross all career sectors. Senior students participate in both online instruction and on-the-job training. The second-semester program enables senior students to gain an understanding of how employees work together to meet the goals of the company while at the same time conveying the professional expectations of the workplace. The experience will be differentiated, depending on the host employer and the needs of the senior student. Grade and credit are based on both on-the-job performance and online employability training lessons. Senior students will need to be at least 16 years of age, have reliable transportation, and be able to commit to the weekly hours and on-the-job requirements. In addition, seniors would have completed all of the tiers or are currently enrolled in a year long AP Class and had a successful first semester (grade of C or better). While senior students are supported in finding job site placements, ultimately, the student is responsible for securing employment for the term. Internet access is required.

ENGLISH LEARNER COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

EL I, II, and III classes will focus on learning the basics of the English language, as well as exploring American culture. Using a variety of methods, students will work on grammar, spelling, vocabulary, reading comprehension, reading fluency, and writing. In addition, students will learn about American history, customs, traditions, holidays, etc. As students progress, they will be introduced to a variety of applications in daily life, including work applications, bank forms, bills, invoices, doctor forms, etc.

EL I

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11,12

Credit 1.0 (two semesters)

Prerequisite: Placement determined by ACCESS test scores of 1.0 -1.9 and teacher recommendation

EL II

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11,12

Credit 1.0 (two semesters)

Prerequisite: Placement determined by ACCESS test scores of 2.0 -2.9 and teacher recommendation

EL III

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11,12

Credit 1.0 (two semesters)

Prerequisite: Placement determined by ACCESS test scores of 3.0 -3.9 and teacher recommendation

EL Strategic Reading is designed to be a continuation of EL I, II and III that ensures a student progresses into full integration in general education courses with an emphasis on literacy.

EL Strategic Reading I

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11,12

Credit 1.0 (two semesters)

Prerequisite: Placement determined by ACCESS test scores of 1.0-1.9 and teacher recommendation

EL Strategic Reading II

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11,12

Credit 1.0 (two semesters)

Prerequisite: Placement determined by ACCESS test scores of 2.0 -2.9 and teacher recommendation

EL Strategic Reading III

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11,12

Credit 1.0 (two semesters)

Prerequisite: Placement determined by ACCESS test scores of 3.0 -3.9 and teacher recommendation

MTSS STUDENT SUPPORT COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

TIGER LEARNING LAB - MATH

Grade Level: 9, 10

Credit 0.5 (one semester)

Prerequisite: Teacher Rec.

Students entering 9th or 10th grade would be recommended for this course if they struggle in math or English. This course is designed to help develop the necessary skills to ensure student success in Algebra I and Geometry. Students may be recommended for this course based on Star data and teacher recommendations.

STRATEGIC READING

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

Credit 0.5 (one semester)

Prerequisite: Teacher Rec.

Strategic Reading is an intensive reading program designed to meet the needs of students whose reading achievement is below grade level. The program directly addresses the identified reading needs of students through the use of adaptive and instructional software, high-interest literature, and remediation of reading skills.

SUCCESS RESOURCE - INTERNALIZERS

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

Credit 0.5 (one semester)

Prerequisite: Teacher Rec.

This course is designed for students who struggle with internal motivation, stress and anxiety. Students will be identified based on their individual needs through the MTSS process. In this course, students will discover ways to cope with stress and anxiety and ways to manage their academic success.

SUCCESS RESOURCE - EXTERNALIZERS

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

Credit 0.5 (one semester)

Prerequisite: Teacher Rec.

This course is designed for students who struggle with school success due to exhibiting externalizing behaviors that may disrupt their learning and/or the learning of others. In this course, students will find ways to manage relationships as well as their emotions in order to be successful in the school setting.

SPECIAL EDUCATION COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

CO-TAUGHT COURSES

Grade Level: 9,10,11,12

Credits 0.5 (one semester) or 1.0 (two semesters)

Prerequisite: Placement based on IEP

Courses offered in a co-taught model, include a general education teacher, as well as, a special education teacher. Courses offered in a co-taught model are offered based upon student need as indicated within their Individualized Education Plan (IEP). These courses are subject to the class size ratio requirements per special education legislation.

INSTRUCTIONAL ACADEMIC COURSES

Grade Level: 9,10,11,12

Credits 1.0 (two semesters)

Prerequisite: Placement based on IEP

Instructional special education classes are available in the areas of English, social studies, mathematics, science, health, and consumer education. These classes are taught by teachers with a special education license and are subject to the class size requirements per special education legislation. The course outcomes for Instructional classes are based upon the outcomes of the general education core course with modifications to material and resources to ensure appropriate levels of instruction to meet the needs of students with IEPs.

EMOTIONAL SUPPORTS PROGRAM

Grade Level: 9,10,11,12

Credits (various)

Prerequisite: Placement based on IEP

The Emotional Supports Program is designed for students in grades nine through twelve who have been identified as having behavioral, social and/or emotional disabilities that adversely impact students' participation within the general education environment. This is a supportive, specialized program that emphasizes modification of behaviors and uses daily instruction to support the development of appropriate behavior, social skills and academic responses. Behavior modification procedures and techniques are used to address individualized goals for each student. In addition, a number of support services are utilized to assist students.

CORE PROGRAM

Grade Level: 9,10,11,12

Credits (various)

Prerequisite: Placement based on IEP

This program is designed for students in grades nine through twelve who have been identified as having disabilities that inhibit their participation within the general education learning environment. Students who participate in the CORE program require an alternative curriculum that is based in developing functional academic, independent living, social, language, and employment skills at cognitively appropriate levels.

ADDITIONAL COURSE OPTIONS

STUDY HALL

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

No Credit Awarded (one semester)

Prerequisite: None

Students may elect to enroll in a study hall, which will provide students the opportunity during the school day to prepare, organize, plan and complete assignments for their classes. Study Hall is a supervised work space for students to focus on their academic work and engage in academic tasks related to their current coursework.

DUAL CREDIT COURSES

Grade Level: 11, 12

Credits 1.0 (per course)

Prerequisite: Acceptance into Triton College

Elmwood Park High School is pleased to offer junior and senior students the opportunity to enroll in Triton College classes while still in high school, as a way to broaden their course opportunities and support the progression along their post-secondary journey. Students who take advantage of this opportunity will earn high school credits towards graduation as well as college credits, which will appear on an official Triton College transcript, and which are often transferable to other institutions of higher learning. Courses traditionally offered have been in these two year sequential programs: Allied Health, Automotive Technology, Computer Science, Criminal Justice, Early Childhood Education, Engineering Technology, Hospitality/Culinary Arts, Nursing Assistant, and Personal Training. Credits earned in these areas apply towards both a Certificate and an Associate in Applied Science. However, course options vary by semester and are posted by Triton College approximately 6 weeks before the semester begins.

Students at EPHS may complete the application process for Triton and register through EPHS for a Triton course during the registration window at the high school, and then will choose a specific course when the list of courses becomes available for either Fall or Spring Semester.

Students who successfully enroll in a Triton College course will not be required to attend a 7th period class at EPHS. Students are responsible for their own transportation to the college campus where classes take place at various times according to the college course schedule and the Triton College calendar.

Tuition, fees, and cost of books will be the responsibility of EPCUSD401 provided the student completes the Triton course with a final grade of "C" or better. If the student earns a "D", drops or fails the course, all costs associated will become the responsibility of the family of the student.

Students who wish to enroll in a Triton course will need to complete an application and submit standardized test scores and/or take the Triton Placement Exam in order to be accepted as a student of the college. Elmwood Park school counselors will facilitate this process for each interested individual.

Triton College Dual Enrollment Career Academies

Grade Level: 11, 12

Credits 4.0 (two semesters)

Prerequisite: Acceptance

The Triton College Dual Enrollment Career Academies offers high school juniors and seniors a chance to take selected courses at Triton College while still attending EPHS. Students spend part of their day at their high school and the rest on Triton's campus, with transportation provided at no extra cost to families.

This program allows students to earn dual credit—both high school and potentially transferable college credits—along with industry certifications or licenses. It's a great opportunity for students to explore career options and earn up to 12 college credits in a full academic year. For more details, interested students can reach out to the counseling department.

Triton Dual Enrollment Programs:

- Barbering
- Certified Nursing Assistant
- Criminal Justice

- Dental Assistant
- Education
- Emergency Medical Technician
- Electrocardiogram (EKG)
- Fire Science
- Heating, Ventilation and Cooling (HVAC)
- Optician
- Physical Therapy & Sports Medicine Aide
- Sports Conditioning
- Sports Management
- Welding

Technology Center of Dupage

Grade Level: 11, 12

Credit 4.0 (two semesters)

Prerequisite: Acceptance

The Technology Center of DuPage (TCD) offers juniors and seniors career and technical education electives to prepare them for college and careers. Operated through a joint agreement of 14 high school districts, including District 401, students spend four periods at EPHS and the rest of their day at TCD in Addison, IL. Transportation is provided at no cost to families.

TCD provides opportunities for dual credit (high school and potentially transferable college credits), industry certifications or licenses, and career exploration. For more information, students can contact their counselor and visit the TCD website at www.tcdupage.org.

TCD Programs:

- Auto Body Repair & Refinishing
- Automotive Technology
- Computer Information Systems & Game Design
- Construction Trades
- Cosmetology
- Manufacturing, CNC & Machining Technology
- Medical Assisting
- Medical Terminology & Healthcare Careers
- Multimedia Television Production
- Professional Cooking, Baking & Service
- Robotics & Automation Technology