Blue Mountain Union School
2026 - 2027
Program of Studies



Blue Mountain Union School Mission

The Blue Mountain Union School mission is to develop citizens who:

- **RESPECT** – others and themselves
- **THINK** – creatively, collaboratively, and critically
- **THRIVE** – locally and globally
- **PERSEVERE** – through challenges
- **UNLEASH THEIR POTENTIAL** – by finding and using their voice

TABLE OF CONTENTS

CREATING YOUR HIGH SCHOOL SCHEDULE	4
PERSONAL LEARNING PLAN	5
COURSE PROFICIENCY LEVELS	6
ELECTIVE COURSES	6
DRIVER EDUCATION PROCEDURE	6
AUDITING COURSES	8
INDEPENDENT STUDY	8
COURSE ADD/DROP PROCEDURE	9
EARLY COLLEGE	9
EARLY GRADUATION	9
DUAL ENROLLMENT COURSES	9
SNHU, CCV & VTSU IN THE HIGH SCHOOL	10
FLEXIBLE PATHWAYS TO SECONDARY SCHOOL COMPLETION	10
BLUE MOUNTAIN HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS	12
BMU GRADUATION PROFICIENCIES & TRANSFERABLE SKILLS	13
DETERMINING GPA	14
ACADEMIC TRANSCRIPTS	15
ELECTIVES	15
ENGLISH	15
FINE ARTS	16
HEALTH	18
MATHEMATICS	18
MULTI PATHWAY STUDIES	19
PHYSICAL EDUCATION	20
SCIENCE	20
CAPSTONE: RESEARCH & INQUIRY	21
SOCIAL SCIENCES	21
WORLD LANGUAGE	22
VERMONT VIRTUAL LEARNING COOPERATIVE (VTVLC)	23
RIVER BEND CAREER & TECHNICAL CENTER	23
SAINT JOHNSBURY ACADEMY CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND LYNDON INSTITUTE CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION	24

Creating Your High School Schedule

Future Options

- No matter if you are going to college or directly into the work force, strong grades will help open more doors and create good habits for life.
- Keep in mind, no matter how focused you are on what you will be doing after high school, plans change. It is important to keep your doors open. Studies have shown that on average each person has multiple careers during their life span.

Required Credits

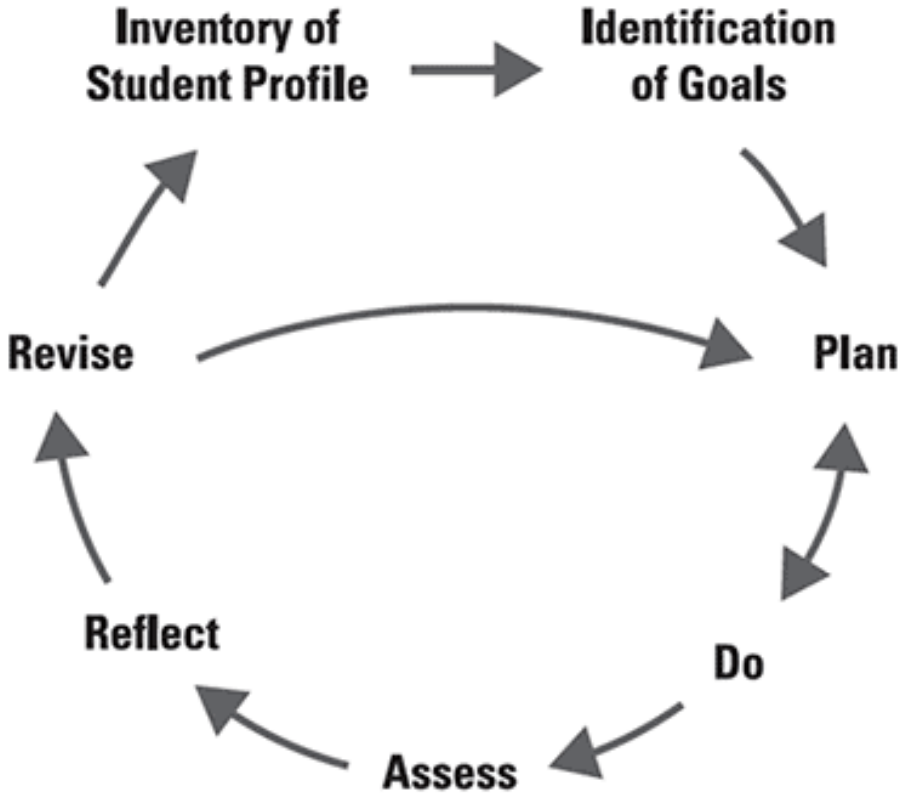
- The State of Vermont and the Blue Mountain Union School Board require certain classes must be completed in order to graduate. The classes required for all BMU students are: Algebra/Geometry, US History, Health, Physical Education, and Senior Seminar (please see page 10 for more information).
- The flexibility of requirements allows class selection to be individualized to accent your personal interest. For example, you could take Pre-Calculus or RBCTC Math or Algebra II for a math credit. You could take Music/Art every year, even though only one Fine Art credit is required.

Student E-Portfolio

- The E-Portfolio includes the following: about me, future planning including results from an interest inventory, academic class list for each year in high school, the personalized learning plan – with academic, personal, and the transferable skills and indicators – which students present to a panel their senior year.
- Students can customize their high school experience depending on their preferences, skills, and personal motivation.
- Students have participated in early college, early graduation and have even taken a full semester of college courses here at Blue Mountain Union.
- Students can take up to six (6) credit hours outside of BMU through Vermont's Dual Enrollment Program.
- River Bend Career and Technical Center, Lyndon Institute Career and Technical Education, and Saint Johnsbury Career & Technical Education are also an option for students. They, too offer college course opportunities.
- Students can choose to add more art courses, online courses through programs such as VTVLC, or other courses to their schedule, based on their PLPs.

Personal Learning Plan

The State of Vermont requires each student to have a Personalized Learning Plan through Act 77 in order to "help students achieve academic success, be prepared for post-secondary opportunities, and engage actively in civic life. "Schools began implementation of PLPs in the fall of 2015. Schools are expected to assist students in identifying" their goals, learning styles, and abilities and align this with the school's academic expectations and student's pathway toward graduation" (http://education.vermont.gov/plp-working-group/main).



This Personalized Learning Plan is a creation that is intended to be updated and modified as students' needs change. This plan will include the student's intentions related to curricular choices, their personal goals, their future career goals, assessment data, work and life experiences, and other relevant information about the student to help form a complete picture that will help lead to success for the individual both during the high school years and beyond. This plan will be helpful to the students, their families, and educators working with the student. This plan serves as an impetus in guiding the student toward their life goals and interests and for educators and administrators for course planning and development. The PLP will include Self Discovery, Career Exploration, Academic Planning, and Post-Secondary Preparation. Students will work on their PLP's during advisory times, in meetings with the VSAC Outreach counselor, and with their school counselor. Parents are not only encouraged to be part of the process, but to understand that their input is valuable and beneficial to their child's future.

Course Proficiency Levels

To assist in the course selection process, a rating indicating the difficulty is assigned to each course. The degree of difficulty ranges from Conceptual to Honors.

Conceptual/General/Applied: Reserved for students who need reinforcement in the basic subject skills.

Common Core (Proficient): Courses concentrate on more demanding academic tasks and are designed for a student who is proficient in the application of the basic learning skills. Successful completion of Proficient courses will prepare the student for college and/or career readiness.

Common Core Honors (Proficient with Distinction): Courses designed for the student who has demonstrated excellent subject ability, discipline, and aptitude. These are particularly aimed at students considering a four-year college program.

Elective Courses

High school electives are courses that either fall outside of the main core academic subject areas (such as Math, English, History, Science, etc.) or are courses that are with the core subject area but the credit requirement has already been met. At this time, Driver's Education is the only designated elective credit being offered.

Driver Education Procedure

BMU School District recognizes the importance of driver education in preparing students to be responsible vehicle operators on our public highways. Our Driver Education class, which meets Vermont Driver Education course requirements, is offered to each student during his or her high school years as space permits. The following administrative procedures will be used in support of the Driver Education classes at Blue Mountain Union School.

With the exception of international exchange students, every student enrolled at Blue Mountain Union School, home school, or attending an independent school who resides in the District will be offered Driver Education in accordance with the following enrollment requirements:

- Students MAY not take Driver's Education without the hard copy of their learners permit on file in the principal's office.
- Parents of Driver Education students **must attend one informational meeting** with their child at the beginning of the semester. If they do not attend, they will be dropped from the course.
- The priority of acceptance for the course will be as follows:

- The date that the School Counselor Department receives a hard copy of the permit issued by the DMV (brought to us by the student), then
- **Students must have 10 hours of documented driving time before starting Driver's Education**
- Date of birth, then
- BMU students who has been enrolled for at least one complete semester prior to taking the course, or home study students who live in the BMU School District, then
- Independent School students whose parents/guardians live in the district

- No grade nine students will be enrolled in this course unless there are extenuating circumstances and the Principal and Instructor approve the admission.

- BMU's Driver Education class consists of two parts:

  - Part 1: Classroom
  - Part 2: Driving/Observation

- Students must successfully complete both parts in order to pass the class. The Driver Education course consists of at least:

  - 30 hours of Driver Education classroom instruction
  - 6 hours of behind-the-wheel instruction
  - 6 hours of in-car observation

Student Expectations: Specific to Driver Education

- Students will come to the behind-the-wheel session with their permit or they will not be allowed to drive (there must be 2 students per driving session, unless the plan has been previously arranged with an administrator).
- Students will be proficient in the required behind-the-wheel skills and be able to demonstrate knowledge of the major concepts discussed in the class. Demonstration of classroom concepts and behind-the-wheel skills are of major importance for successful completion of Blue Mountain Driver Education class.
- Students who miss their appointments for in car driving instruction may make up one appointment at the convenience of the teacher.
- If a student misses' school, she/he may not participate in a driving lesson.
- Students who fail, are removed from, or drop the class, will not be automatically rescheduled for Driver Education at BMU School. Students may appeal to the Principal and Instructor for re-enrollment in a future Driver Education class.
- Students must successfully complete the final driving skill evaluation in order to successfully complete Driver Education. Students who fail the driving/observation part of the class will be scheduled for a retest. Students, who are still unable to demonstrate satisfactory driving competency skills at the conclusion of the retest will fail the class

and will not be enrolled in a future Driver Education class at BMU School unless there are extenuating circumstances and the Principal and Instructor approve the admission.
- Driver Education students who successfully complete the Driver Education Program, will receive course completion cards required for their driver license testing. To do this means the student has earned at least an 80%.

Auditing Courses

Students may request to audit a course in advance, rather than take the course for credit. Such a request may be granted only on a space available basis and will be at the discretion of the principal. Students electing to audit a course are expected to complete all assignments and tests, as required by the teacher. Students will be removed from the class if course work is not completed on time. Audited courses will not be computed into a student's grade point average. Students, who are permitted to drop a course at the end of the first grading period, may request to audit the course for the remainder of the semester or school year.

Independent Study

Independent Study is a unique program that Blue Mountain offers to 10th, 11th and 12th grade students. Sophomores and Juniors are limited to one independent study course per semester. Seniors may undertake up to two independent study courses per semester, depending upon availability and administrative approval. Freshmen may not enroll in Independent Study unless there are extenuating circumstances.

This program broadens the curriculum by offering students an opportunity to pursue an area of academic interest under the guidance of an advisor who has special skills in that field. Independent study projects may not replicate the existing curricula at Blue Mountain. Specialized topics contained within existing courses may be pursued at the advanced level after the student has taken the appropriate prerequisites.

It is important for students to understand the workload for an independent study course is equal to an in-person course offered at the high school. Students take responsibility for their own learning in an independent study course.

Proposal Submission Process - The paperwork for Independent Studies can be found in the school counseling department

- A proposal needs to include the following:
    - A description of the independent study
    - Learning goals
    - Work environment and location
    - The means of assessing work and anticipated credits
    - A learning/time log must be turned in each quarter

This is a first come, first serve basis. Independent studies need to be documented in a student's Personalized Learning Plan.

Students should begin this process immediately upon creating their schedule.

Course Add/Drop Procedure

The Blue Mountain add/drop procedure consists of the following:

With the scheduling team's permission and a note from a parent/guardian, a student may drop a course without penalty prior to the fifth school day of the marking period in which the course begins. A student may not drop a course at any time if he/she is not maintaining six and a half credits. Students may drop a course and substitute a replacement course to bring them up to the six and a half credits minimum, if the instructor has room in the course and signs off on adding the student to the replacement course.

After the five-day period has passed, a student may not drop a course even with parent/guardian permission. Students may withdraw from a course and receive a "WP" (Withdrawal Pass) if the student is passing at the time of withdrawal. The student, failing at the time of withdrawal, will receive a grade of "WF" (Withdrawal Fail).

Early College

Students who complete a majority of their high school graduation requirements are eligible for Early College. Early College allows a high school senior to attend a college in Vermont tuition free. This means the student and family do not pay for the cost of the courses. Additional charges/fees will be incurred and are the responsibility of the family (room, board, cost of books, and other additional fees regarding admission to the college/university).

Early Graduation

Early graduation is when a student would like to graduate before the traditional four-year high school program. A student who graduates early are able to earn their high school diploma in three years instead of four. Any student who is considering applying for early graduation must have a graduation plan approved by the School Counselor and the Principal by October of their sophomore year. The student must submit a letter of request to the School Board by June of their sophomore year of high school. This information must be included in the student's Personalized Learning Plan.

Dual Enrollment Courses

Dual Enrollment is a unique enrichment program in which high school junior and senior students are given the opportunity to take college level courses. Students can earn credits that can be used to meet both high school and college requirements. Students need to work with their school counselor to ensure they are taking the appropriate courses. This is a great opportunity for students to earn free college credits while still in high school. BMU currently offers in house Dual Enrollment courses through Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU), Community College of Vermont (CCV), and Vermont State University (VTSU). The

credits are transferable and will meet the general education requirements at most colleges and universities. Additionally, Vermont offers juniors and seniors the opportunity to gain additional college credits by taking up to two courses (tuition free) from a Vermont College/University. Refer to https://education.vermont.gov/student-learning/flexible-pathways/dual-enrollment for more information.

SNHU, CCV & VTSU in the High School

BMU offers courses in collaboration with ***Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU), Community College of Vermont (CCV), and Vermont State University (VTSU) through the high school's*** dual enrollment program. This allows academically prepared BMU students the opportunity to earn early college credits while still in high school. At Blue Mountain Union, designated courses have been aligned to meet the same content, rigor and learning outcomes as that of SNHU, CCV, and VTSU. The high school teachers instructing these courses meet the University's/College's adjunct faculty requirements and have been approved by the University/College. Students have the opportunity to take advantage of the dual credit courses by completing an application. Students who participate in dual enrollment courses with the Community College of Vermont will have to take the Accuplacer assessment. Once the registration period closes, students will not be allowed to register for college credit. Since these are college courses, grades earned while enrolled in the course are recorded on an SNHU/CCV/VTSU transcript. Portability and transferability of credits rests solely with individual colleges and universities as they have varying policies on accepting transfer credits; thus, it is the student's responsibility to consult with higher educational institutions to determine whether the SNHU/CCV/VTSU course(s) can be transferred. Additional inquiries regarding the program can be directed to the MS/HS School Counselor.

The courses offered for BMU/SNHU/CCV/VTSU dual credit include: *English Literature, Anatomy and Physiology w/Lab, College Composition, Biology w/Lab, Environmental Science, United States History 1865 to the Present, Introduction to Sociology, Pre-Calculus and Calculus, Probability & Statistics, Introduction to Oceanography.*

Students must earn an overall grade of a B- or higher in order to receive college credits for SNHU dual enrollment courses. Students must earn an overall grade of a C- or higher in order to receive college credits for CCV/VTSU dual enrollment courses.

Flexible Pathways to Secondary School Completion

BMU provides students, beginning at the start of the seventh grade, with career development and post-secondary planning resources. This ensures that students are able to take full advantage of the opportunities within flexible pathways to graduation and achieve their career goals. Flexible pathways include the following: work based learning opportunities, including career and technical education and internships; virtual and blended learning; dual enrollment; concurrent enrollment; early college; independent study coursework, etc. This list is not meant to exclude any prospects but to highlight the current opportunities being utilized.

Academic Grading

Grading: Blue Mountain Union School uses the following marking system.

Letter Grade	GPA	Percentage Grade
A+	4.3	100% - 98%
A	4.0	97% - 93%
A-	3.66	92% - 90%
B+	3.33	89% - 87%
B	3.0	86% - 83%
B-	2.66	82% - 80%
C+	2.33	79% - 77%
C	2.0	76% - 73%
C-	1.66	72% - 70%
D+	1.33	69% - 67%
D	1.0	66% - 63%
D-	.66	62% - 60%
F	0	59% - 0%
P		Passing

2026-2027 Advanced Courses

The following courses will be given an additional five points toward the student's GPA:

Biology (Hon)
Chemistry (Hon)
Psychology (Hon)
World Language III
World Language IV
VTVLC Honors Courses

2026-2027 SNHU/CCV Credits

Southern New Hampshire University, Community College of Vermont Courses: upon successful completion the student will receive 1.5 high school and 3 undergraduate college credits.

CCV Pre-Calculus
SNHU College Composition

Additional college level credits are earned through Career & Technical Education programs.

(H) - Honors Level Coursework, this can include high school level, concurrent courses (instructor is a BMU Faculty member) or Dual Enrollment coursework

Grade/Credit Alignment

BMU has aligned the following credits to grade level:

Number of Credits	Grade Level
0 – 6	9th; Freshman
6.5 – 12.5	10th; Sophomore
13 – 19	11th; Junior
19.5 – 26	12th; Senior

BMU does not believe in retention at the high school level, however it is important to note the alignment with credits for consideration of grade level.

Blue Mountain High School Graduation Requirements

Students will be creating an E-Portfolio under the direction of their Advisor, the Administration, and the School Counselor. The course requirements may be modified to meet specific individual needs and plans. It should be noted that colleges often require additional specific credits in Mathematics and Science (such as Physics and Algebra II), so working with a plan from Freshmen year on will help ensure that future plans can be met.

In addition to earning the required credits, listed below by subject distribution, students in their senior year must also demonstrate a minimum of proficiency for each of the BMU Graduation Proficiencies/Transferable Skills and the corresponding results indicators.

BMU Credit Breakdown

*Summary considers the current recommendations from the Vermont Agency of Education.

English **4 Credits** 1 credit English 9 1 credit English 10 1 credit English Elective 1 credit English Elective	**Mathematics** **4 Credits** 1 credit Algebra I 1 credit Geometry 1 credit Statistic/Data 1 credit Mathematics Elective
Social Sciences **3 Credits** 1 credit World History 1 credit U.S. History 1 credit Civics/American Government	**Sciences** **3 Credits** 1 credit Earth/Space Science 1 credit Life Science – Biology 1 credit Physical Science – Chemistry/Astronomy/Physics
Physical Education **1.5 Credits**	**Health** **1 Credit**
Financial Literacy **1 Credit**	**Electives** **5 Credits** 1 credit Enrichment/Game Time/J-Term 1 credit Bucks Block – Advisory 0.5 credit Online Course ~ *Recommendation* 0.5 credit Driver's Education 2 credits Electives 1 credit World Language
Fine Arts **1.5 Credits** 0.5 credit Digital Literacy – starting with the Class of 2029	
Capstone **1 Credit** Senior year	

Total needed to graduate with a BMU Diploma **26 Credits**

Each student will maintain a minimum of 5 credits each year to be full time enrolled.

BMU Graduation Proficiencies & Transferable Skills

"Proficiencies include explicit, measurable, learning objectives based on standards and measure a student's knowledge and skills demonstrated in a consistent manner, in various settings over time. Proficiencies are also referred to as competencies. Proficiency-Based Learning (PBL) is any system of academic instruction, assessment, and reporting that is based on learners demonstrating proficiency in knowledge, skills, and abilities they are expected to learn before progressing to the next level or challenge. Proficiency-based learning may also be referred to as mastery or Competency-based learning." (Why is Proficiency-Based Learning Important? Vermont Agency of Education, May 9, 2017).

Each course contains identified proficiencies to be used as the overarching big ideas/themes/learning objectives for the duration of the course. In addition to the specific course proficiencies, each student will address (either in part or in whole) the following Transferable Skills:

Clear and Effective Communication

a. Demonstrate organized and purposeful communication.
b. Use evidence and logic appropriately in communication.
c. Integrate information gathered from active speaking and listening.
d. Adjust communication based on the audience, context, and purpose.
e. Demonstrate effective, expressive, and receptive communication, including oral, written, multi-media and performance.
f. Use technology to further enhance and disseminate communication.
g. Collaborate effectively and respectfully.

Self-Direction

a. Identify, manage, and assess new opportunities related to learning goals.
b. Integrate knowledge from a variety of sources to set goals and make informed decisions.
c. Apply knowledge in familiar and new contexts.
d. Demonstrate initiative and responsibility for learning.
e. Demonstrate flexibility, including the ability to learn, unlearn, and relearn.
f. Analyze the accuracy, bias, and usefulness of information.
g. Collaborate as needed to advance learning.
h. Persevere in challenging situations.
i. Use technology and digital media strategically and capably.

Creative and Practical Problem Solving

a. Observe and evaluate situations in order to define problems.
b. Frame questions, make predictions, and design data collection and analysis strategies.
c. Identify patterns, trends, and relationships that apply to solutions.
d. Analyze, evaluate, and synthesize evidence, arguments, claims, and beliefs.
e. Generalize a variety of solutions, use evidence to build a case for best responses, critically evaluate the effectiveness of responses, and repeat the process to generate alternative solutions.
f. Identify opportunities for innovation and collaboration.
g. Use a range of tools, including technology, to solve problems.
h. Persist in solving challenging problems and learn from failure.

Responsible and Involved Citizenship

a. Participate in and contribute to the enhancement of community life.
b. Take responsibility for personal decisions and actions.
c. Demonstrate ethical behaviors and the moral courage to sustain it.
d. Respect diversity and different points of view.
e. Demonstrate a commitment to personal and community health and wellness.
f. Practice responsible digital citizenship.

Informed and Integrative Thinking

a. Apply knowledge from various disciplines and contexts to real life situations.
b. Analyze, evaluate, and synthesize information from multiple sources to build on knowledge.
c. Apply systems thinking to understand the interactions and influences of related parts on each other, and on outcomes.
d. Use evidence and reasoning to justify claims.
e. Develop and use models to explain phenomena.
f. Use technology to support and enhance the critical thinking process.

Determining GPA

Weighted System

Only the core subjects English, Mathematics, Science, Social Sciences, and World Language are used in this system. The GPA's in these courses are averaged. This is used for class ranking and for college applications.

Middle School Students Taking High School Courses

Middle school students may enroll in high school courses at BMU on a case-by-case basis. This will be determined by the school counselor, teachers, and administration and will be based on specific academic needs. Classes taken in 7th or 8th grade will not count towards BMU high school graduation requirements, or GPA. These classes will count as elective credits and will be recorded on the transcript as elective courses.

Valedictorian/Salutatorian

The highest ranked student in the core English, Mathematics, Science, Social Science & History, and World Language, based on a 4.33 grading scale, is to be designated as the valedictorian and the second highest ranked student, based upon a 4.33 grade scale, is to be named the salutatorian.

- Candidates must have been enrolled as a full-time student at BMU for their junior and senior years, unless attending an approved Early College or study abroad program in their junior and/or senior year.
- Candidates must have completed a minimum of four weighted courses.
- GPA will be carried out two place values (3.97, for example).
- If two students tie at the valedictorian or salutatorian level, both will be recognized.
- Valedictorian and salutatorian will be finalized and awarded at the conclusion of the third quarter of senior year.

Green and Gold Scholarship

Blue Mountain may nominate only one student annually based upon the criteria established by UVM.

Per UVM, the nominee will be the most academically talented student at the end of their junior year. Achievement in course work relative to rigor of study completed in three years of high school should guide the selection. GPA will be considered, but other factors such as strong performance in college-level courses, involvement in extracurricular activities, commitment to community service and school leadership roles may also be considered. The nominee should have enrolled in the school's most rigorous college-preparatory course work, preferably studying all four years in core academic areas: English, mathematics, natural and physical sciences, foreign language, and humanities/social sciences. Nominees must meet or exceed UVM's minimum entrance requirements. UVM Admissions may choose not to accept a high school's nomination if the student has not pursued a rigorous high school schedule of courses or is not competitive within the nomination pool. These standards are subject to change as UVM's standards for the award shift.

This is not a Valedictorian Scholarship, as the Green and Gold nomination is due at the end of Junior Year; Valedictorian and Salutatorian are not awarded until the end of the third quarter of Senior Year.

Academic Transcripts

Requests for official transcripts need to be made in writing to the School Counseling Office, whenever possible. Transcripts uploaded to Common App now include a profile of Blue Mountain Union School, as well as personalized extracurricular information about the student when completed during their high school career, upon completion of their junior year.

Electives

Driver's Education: 10, 11, 12
0.5 Credit (08152)

Prerequisite: *Students absolutely **MUST** have **a valid Vermont Learners Permit** before the first day of class and have **a minimum of 10 documented hours behind the wheel when the course begins**.*

- *You must give the school counseling department a copy of your actual permit as soon as you receive it in the mail.*
- *Enrollment is determined by the date the permit has been received.*
- *If a new student at BMU, the student must be enrolled at BMU for **one semester prior** to enrolling in the Driver's Education course.*

Driver's Education Classroom and Laboratory course provide students with the knowledge and experience to become safe drivers on America's roadways. Topics in these courses cover legal obligations and responsibility, rules of the road and traffic procedures, safe driving strategies and practices, and the physical and mental factors affecting the driver's capability (including alcohol and other drugs). Experience in driving a vehicle is an essential component of this course.

Bucks Block - Advisory
0.25 Credit (25001)

Bucks Block - Advisory is a dedicated, small-group period designed to support students' social-emotional growth**,** academic progress**,** and post-secondary planning**.** Acting as a "home base," it fosters meaningful connections with peers and a trusted faculty advisor throughout the high school experience.

Enrichment/Game Time/J-Term
0.25 Credit (22250)

Enrichment/Game Time/J-Term courses offer students with hands-on, project-based learning to explore new interests, build college portfolios, and develop real-world skills outside standard graduation requirements.

English

Early American Literature: 10, 11
1 Credit (01054)

Students will explore the texts of the Early American writers that span the nineteenth century: Transcendentalism, Gothic, Realism, and Regionalism. The readings will include narratives, poetry, short stories, a play, and a novella. Discussions will include expansion and migration, race, gender, class, war, and the forming of modern American literature, allowing study to emphasize writing and grammar skills. Writing skills will focus on organizing cohesive paragraph structure, and an extensive written analysis of one of the works that we study. The course will strive to draw connections to other disciplines as well as to authenticate to current day.

Electronic Journalism
1 Credit (11106)

Learn the art of storytelling through news video broadcasting. Students will be expected to create stories in a variety of formats for social media, print and video. Students will be writing and reporting on well balanced, comprehensive and visually compelling stories. Students will research, report, write, shoot and edit stories while meeting the same deadlines as professional reporters handle.

English 9
1 Credit (01001)

Students will learn to further intensify basic language skills. The focus will be on reinforcing recognition of parts of speech,

mechanics, reading comprehension, and language usage. Practice in note-taking and study strategies in tandem with writing skills will allow students to be successful in other disciplines. Textual studies will include fiction with a focus on non-fiction, particularly informational texts.

English 10

1 Credit (01002)

Prerequisite: English 9

Through the examination of diverse literature, students will analyze what it means to be American in different times and spaces. Novels written by American authors representing varying groups will help students understand how our country has become the "land of the free, home of the brave." Through writing, students will express what America means to them from their own unique voices. Further, students will deepen their understanding of annotation, scholarly discourse, literary analysis, and academic writing. All coursework is evaluated using a proficiency-based learning model to help students succeed in their Transferable Skills Graduation Requirements

Rebel With/Without A Cause: 11, 12

1 Credit (01009)

Students will build on intensifying language skills through immersion in different genres, fiction (*The Outsiders* and short stories), non-fiction, prose, and poetry. The focus will be on the conveyance of practical thinking via speaking and the intensifying skills associated with basic usage and mechanics. This course will be co-taught so that students receive the highest level of support.

Inquiry and Investigation: 9, 10, 11, 12

1 Credit (01105)

Inquiry and Investigation is a required English class for freshman/sophomore students before enrolling in 11th and 12th grade level English courses; however, all BMU students are encouraged to take this course. Inquiry and Investigation allows students to explore a topic, problem, issue, or idea of individual interest. Students design, plan, and implement a sustained investigation to address a research question. Students will learn how to develop strong research questions, locate and evaluate credible sources, analyze informational texts, and synthesize evidence to form well-supported conclusions through structured writing and constructive dialogue. Throughout the course, they will practice both academic and real-world research methods. Be it in the classroom, in the trades, in business, or in life, this course gives students the tools to think critically, solve problems, and back up their ideas with confidence.

SNHU College Composition: Grades 11, 12

1.5 High School (01102)

3 College Credits

Students will learn college level writing expectations for: narrative, analytical, persuasive, and research papers while focusing on non-fiction readings: memoirs, personal narratives, newspaper articles and blog posts. Students will also write their Common Application essay(s) as well as scholarship essays. This rigorous writing course helps to build the academic skills necessary for college bound students.

Fine Arts

Art

Creative Art: Drawing & Painting

0.5 Credit (05155)

Creative Art: Drawing/Painting courses cover the same topics as creative art courses, but focus on drawing and painting. In keeping with this attention on two-dimensional work, students typically work with several media (such as pen-and-ink, pencil, chalk, watercolor, tempera, oils, acrylics, and so on), but some courses may focus on only one medium.

Visual Arts - Sculpture

0.5 Credit (05151)

Visual Arts-Sculpture courses promote creative expression through three-dimensional works. These courses explore representational and abstract sculpture through subtractive (carving), additive (modeling), and assemblage techniques in one or more media. Visual Arts—Sculpture course typically include the production of representation and abstract

sculptures while incorporating elements of art and principles of design, along with a study of historical and contemporary sculpture and sculptors from a worldwide perspective. These courses also provide instruction in the process of responding to art through analysis, critique, and interpretation for the purpose of reflecting on and refining work.

Technology

Digital Literacy

0.5 Credit (10010)

Graduation Requirement Starting with Class of 2029

Students will learn everything they need to know to get familiarized with the operation of a computer. Now that computers are a fundamental part of so many jobs and personal hobbies, it's increasingly important that you know how to use them. The course will include, but is not limited to: basic knowledge of computer hardware, proficiency in operating systems, familiarity with productivity software such as Microsoft Office or Google Suite, internet and email proficiency, and understanding of computer security and privacy.

Electronic Journalism

1 Credit (11106)

Learn the art of storytelling through news video broadcasting. Students will be expected to create stories in a variety of formats for social media, print and video. Students will be writing and reporting on well balanced, comprehensive and visually compelling stories. Students will research, report, write, shoot and edit stories while meeting the same deadlines as professional reporters handle.

Graphic Design

0.5 Credit (10202)

Combines Web Page Design and Computer Graphics into one course. In this course students will learn the tools and techniques of computer graphic art, communication design as well as visual design. It is a very exciting time in technology whereas the creation of high-resolution digital artwork is accessible to any computer user. Digital art has many special qualities and is only confined by the limits on one's imagination and technical abilities. The focus is on the "how"; it is equally engaging to be creative in the process. This is a demanding course for both sides of the brain. Students will learn the fundamentals of design and will work hands-on with the computer with powerful software programs developing their skills and talent. Students will learn the fuller capability of the popular web-browsers and utilize various multimedia tools to enhance web-pages. A student website will be the final product from this class.

Digital Video/Audio Visual Production

1 Credit (11051)

The specific thrust of this course is the exploration of digital video editing and production. As a course requirement each student will create a high quality five-minute digital movie. In order to successfully create this movie, students will study both technical and creative aspects of film-making. Students will attain a comprehensive grounding in film appreciation in the process. Students will become proficient in using cameras, setting up shots and editing video clips. The software programs WeVideo will be used. This is both a fun and challenging course.

Robotics Through STEM

1 Credit (21053)

In this course, high school students will be introduced to Robotics. This will be a 'hands on' course where students will build robots in teams. They will apply principals of mechanical engineering and learn how to control the robots through programming. An exploration of the many ways robotics shapes our society will be examined in the course. Students will also develop skills in programming (coding), which is the way in which robots, and all our digital devices, are controlled and made to provide the services for which we depend on in this age.

Music

Band

0.25 Credit (05101)

Semester Course

Band is designed to develop instrumental technique and a comprehensive understanding of music concepts through group study and performance. The BMU School band is comprised of students from grades 7-12 with at least one year of previous instrumental music experience. Classical and Contemporary styles of music will be performed throughout the year.

Chorus

0.25 Credit (05110)

Semester Course

Chorus is offered for students to develop a full appreciation of music through active participation. Music will be chosen from Baroque, Classical, Romantic and contemporary periods.

Health

Child Development

1 Credit (19052)

Prerequisite: Health

Child Development classes provide students with knowledge about the physical, mental, emotional, and social growth and development of children from conception to pre-school age, emphasizing the application of this knowledge in child care settings. These courses typically include related topics such as the appropriate care of infants, toddlers, and young children.

Health

0.5 Credit (08051)

Required to Graduate – Semester Course

Topics covered within Health Education courses may vary widely, but typically include personal health (nutrition, mental health and stress management, drug/alcohol abuse prevention, disease prevention, and first aid) and consumer health issues. The courses may also include brief studies of environmental health, personal development, and/or community resources.

Mathematics

Algebra I

1 Credit (02052)

Algebra I course include the study of properties and operations of the real number system; evaluating rational algebraic expressions; solving and graphing first degree equations and inequalities; translating word problems into equations; operations with and factoring of polynomials; and solving simple quadratic equations.

Algebra II

1 Credit (02056)

Prerequisites: Algebra I & Geometry

Algebra II Common Core course topics typically include linear functions, quadratic functions, quadratic equations and complex numbers, polynomial functions, rational exponents and radical functions, exponential and logarithmic functions, rational functions, trigonometric ratios and functions.

Geometry

1 Credit (02072)

Prerequisite: Algebra I

This Geometry course emphasizes an abstract, formal approach to the study of geometry, typically including topics such as properties of plane and solid figures; deductive methods of reasoning and use of logic. Geometry students begin to delve into the study of postulates, theorems, and formal proofs; using these concepts to build mathematical arguments to apply to concepts such as congruence, similarity, parallelism, perpendicularity, and proportion; and rules of angle measurement in triangles; including right triangle trigonometry. Emphasis will be placed on mastering these concepts on a conceptual level.

Financial Literacy: 10, 11, 12

1 Credit (02157)

Prerequisite: Algebra I

This course covers all of the essential personal finance topics necessary to become a financially capable student. Topics include banking, credit, budgeting, investing, career planning, taxes, fraud and more. By the end of this course, students will have a thorough understanding of personal finance topics and be prepared to handle the financial responsibilities that exist after graduation.

Pre-Algebra

1 Credit (02051)

This course is designed to prepare students for the rigor of Algebra 1. Upon successful completion, students will be able to think about patterns and connections in Math and apply 8th Grade skills to real world applications. They will also begin to delve into the foundation skills needed for Algebra 1. Topics in Pre-Algebra include work on foundation skills (such as operations with fractions, multiplication and division of decimals and large numbers), introduction to functions, introduction to inequalities, introduction to linear functions, proportions and ratios, percentages, and solving multi step equations.

Everyday Math and Applications (Occupationally Applied Math)

1 Credit (02152)

Prerequisite: Algebra and Geometry

Occupationally Applied Math Courses reinforce general mathematics skills, extend these skills to include some pre-algebra and Algebra topics, and use these skills primarily in occupational applications. While these courses prepare students for a variety of occupational applications, they are not intended to serve as a remedial mathematics course. Course topics typically include rational numbers, measurement, basic statistics, ratio and proportion, basic geometry, formulas, and simple equations.

CCV Pre-Calculus: 11, 12

1.5 High School Credits (02110)

4 College Credit

Prerequisite: Algebra II

This course emphasizes the algebra and concepts of functions. Students will learn the properties and graphing techniques for different types of functions including: linear, polynomial, rational, trigonometric, exponential, and logarithmic functions. Students will also learn to solve a variety of real-world problems that rely on a number of different problem-solving strategies and an understanding of these different types of functions. This course is intended for those students who wish to prepare for Calculus.

Multi Pathway Studies

Applied English & Communications

1 Credit (01156)

By Permission Only/Year Long

Applied English & Communications courses teach students communication skills – reading, writing, listening, speaking-concentrating on "real-world" applications. These courses usually emphasize the practical application of communication as a business tool-using technical reports and manuals, business letters, resumes, and applications as examples-rather than emphasize language arts skills as applied to scholarly and literary materials.

General Applied Math

1 Credit (02151)

By Permission Only/Year Long

General Applied Mathematics courses reinforce general mathematics skills; extend these skills to include some pre-algebra and algebra topics; and use these skills in a variety of practical, consumer, business, and occupations applications. While these courses prepare students for a variety of practical applications, they are not intended to serve as a remedial mathematics course. Course topics typically include rational numbers, measurement, basic statistics, ratio and proportion, basic geometry, formulas, and simple equations.

Life Foundations

1 Credit (19258)

By Permission Only/Year Long

This course will focus on the skills needed to be a contributing member of society. Topics covered will include: independent living, time management, telling time, food storage, banking, budgeting, money management, ordering at a restaurant, cooking, table manners, personal boundaries, social skills, personal maintenance, keeping the home clean, laundry, fitness and exercise, phone skills, problem solving, communication with others, safe strangers and others as needed. Students will gain awareness on how to function in society as a whole, as well as how to maintain

a clean-living area, and how to follow through with responsibilities.

Directed Study Skills
0.5 Credit (22003)
By Permission Only/Semester Course
Directed Study Skills courses prepare students for success in high school and/or for postsecondary education. Course topics may vary according to the students involved, but typically include reading improvement skills, such as scanning, note-taking, and outlining; library and research skills; listening and note-taking; vocabulary skills; and test-taking skills. The course may also include exercises designed to generate organized, logical thinking and writing.

Physical Education

Physical Education: 9, 10, 11, 12
0.5 Credit (08001)
Semester Course
Physical Education provides students with knowledge, experience, and an opportunity to develop skills in more than one of the following sports or activities: team sports, individual/dual sports, recreational sports, and fitness/conditioning activities. This course has a daily warm-up, activity and quizzes/tests within each unit of study. This course is targeted to freshman but open to all high school grades. State Physical Fitness Testing is required in this course.

Science

Applied Forensic Science: 10, 11, 12
0.5 Credit (03214)
Prerequisites: Biology
This STEM course is designed to offer a learning experience to strengthen individual skills in scientific reasoning and observation. Students will learn basic forensic science terms, techniques, and skills that are necessary in gathering, processing and analyzing crime scene evidence. Students will communicate their evidence of learning through project-based presentations, reports, and assessments.

Astronomy: 10, 11, 12
1 Credit (03004)
Prerequisites: Algebra I & Biology
This course is designed as a science course for students who want to learn more about Earth and its place in the universe. The course will also cover our solar system, stars, the universe, and space travel. Students will also learn about rocketry, aeronautics, aerospace, remote sensing, night-time navigation, orbital motions and the latest material dealing with new astronomical findings.

Biology: 9, 10, 11, 12
1 Credit (03051)
This course is an introduction to the science of Biology. Study will include learning about the scientific process and living organisms-including cell structure and function; ecology and geology; selected topics in human anatomy and genetics; energy transformation; and an introduction to evolution and adaptations. Students will explore the living world around them through a scientific lens.

Biology Honors: 9, 10
1 Credit (03052)
Prerequisite: Teacher Permission
This course is an introduction to the science of Biology. Study will include learning about the scientific process and living organisms-including cell structure and function; ecology and botany; energy transformation; and an introduction to evolution and adaptations. The honors class will move at a fast pace and students will be expected to cover more material and engage with material at a deeper level.

Chemistry: 10, 11, 12
1 Credit (03101)
Prerequisite: Algebra I & Biology
Chemistry courses involve studying the composition, properties, and reactions of substances. These courses typically explore such concepts as the behaviors of solids, liquids, and gases; acid/base and oxidation/reduction reactions; and atomic

structure. Basic chemical formulas and equations and nuclear reactions are also studied.

Chemistry Honors: 10, 11, 12
1 Credit (03101)

Prerequisites: Completion or current enrollment in Algebra II and Biology Honors or Teacher Permission

Chemistry courses involve studying the composition, properties, and reactions of substances. These courses typically explore such concepts as the behaviors of solids, liquids, and gases; acid/base and oxidation/reduction reactions; and atomic structure. Chemical formulas and equations and nuclear reactions are also studied.

Integrated Physics: 10, 11, 12
1 Credit (03161)

Prerequisite: Biology

Integrated physics explores major topics in physics, organized into thematic units. Common themes covered include systems, models, energy, patterns, and change. This course uses aspects from each specialty to investigate applications of the theme. This course is based heavily on hands-on laboratory exploration and real-world application.

Physics: 11, 12
1 Credit (03152)

Prerequisites: Geometry

This course is designed as an introduction to physics topics and concepts. Students will engage with geometry-based math formulas as well as conceptual science ideas to make sense of the world around them. Major topics of study include kinematics; motion and forces; mechanical energy and waves; and electromagnetism. Students will use lectures, laboratory experiments, data analysis, class discussions, and projects to engage with course material.

Integrated Earth/Space Science: 11, 12
1 Credit (03159)

Integrated earth/space science is a laboratory course focusing on the study of space, geologic structures and forces, the waters on our planet, and the atmospheric forces that shape our world. Through experimentation and investigation, students explore Earth systems including the geosphere, hydrosphere, cryosphere, atmosphere, and the carbon cycle. Students learn about scientific inquiry, geologic time, space exploration, the solar system, and the universe.

Capstone: Research & Inquiry

Capstone: 12
1 Credit (22106)

Required to Graduate

Capstone is designed to provide students with an overview of topics needed to be functioning members of society. Students taking Capstone will improve upon their research and investigatory skills, presentation skills, interpersonal skills, group process skills, and problem-solving and critical thinking skills. In addition, students will use this class to prepare the requirement to present their BMU Graduation Proficiencies/Transferable Skills.

Capstone (Alt. Pathways): 12
1 Credit (22106)

Required to Graduate

Senior Capstone is designed to provide students with an overview of topics needed to be functioning members of society. Students taking Senior Seminar will improve upon their research and investigatory skills, presentation skills, interpersonal skills, group process skills, and problem-solving and critical thinking skills. In addition, students will use this class to prepare the requirement to present their BMU Graduation Proficiencies/Transferable Skills.

Social Sciences

Civics
1 Credit (04161)

This course combines the study of the structure of national, state, and local U.S. government with an overview of the principals of market economics. Students will examine the general structure and functions of the U.S. systems of

government, the roles and responsibilities of citizens to participate in the political process, and the relationship of the individual to the law and legal system. Students will become informed citizens after taking this course.

Everyday Law

1 Credit (04199)

This course aims to familiarize students with our nation's legal system. Students will acquire practical information and problem-solving skills that are necessary for a full and productive roll in our Democracy. Topics will include: An introduction to our Legal System, Criminal Law, Torts, Law and Politics, Family Law and Individual Rights and Liberties (Constitutional Law).

Sociology: 11, 12

1 Credit (04258)

Sociology is the social science that studies human society and social behavior. This course will teach a theoretical paradigm approach to analyze society in a way that allows the development of the sociological imagination. This is a tool that will promote understanding in both self and societal applications. Knowledge and awareness are powerful indicators of success. The topics we will cover and analyze include Culture Diversity, Conformity and Adaptation, Social Structure, Socialization and Social Stratification.

U.S. History: 10

1 Credit (04103)

Required to Graduate

Modern U.S. History courses examine the history of the United States from the Civil War or Reconstruction era (some courses begin at a later period) through the present time. These courses typically include a historical review of political, military, scientific, and social developments.

World History I: Grade 9

1 Credit (04051)

In this course, we will align with the freshmen English course in a collaborative effort to explore the emergence of Western Civilization from the early Greek Civilization through the Enlightenment. We will improve our global awareness through map activities, utilize primary sources, strengthen vocabulary and overall reading comprehension. We will continue to build on the skills of identifying bias and determining its intention as well as argumentative writing.

Introduction to Psychology (Honors)

1 Credit (04254)

In this course, students will explore the complexities of the human mind by examining the science behind why we think, feel, and do. Students will experience the evolution of psychology through the early schools of thought, major branches, and core theories that guide contemporary perspectives. As students consider the broad influence of psychology on their perceptions, emotions, and everyday choices, they will acknowledge the idea that, in the human experience, "psychology is everywhere."

World Language

French I

1 Credit (24101)

French 1 is a foundational, full-year high school course that introduces students to the French language and Francophone cultures. It develops basic proficiency in listening, speaking, reading, and writing through real-life contexts. Students learn essential vocabulary, foundational grammar (like present tense verbs), and cultural traditions from around the world.

French II

1 Credit (24102)

Prerequisite: French I

French II focuses on three core modes of communication: interpersonal, interpretive, and presentational**.** Students transition from basic, memorized phrases to forming more complex, spontaneous sentences.

French Culture & Conversation

1 Credit (24109)

French Conversation and Culture courses provide students with an introduction to the French language and the culture(s) of French-

speaking people, placing greater emphasis on speaking and listening skills while deemphasizing writing and reading the language.

Spanish II

1 Credit (24053)

Prerequisite: Spanish I

Spanish II courses build upon skills developed in Spanish I, extending students' ability to understand and express themselves in Spanish and increasing their vocabulary. Typically, students learn how to engage in discourse for informative or social purposes, write expressions or passages that show understanding of sentence construction and the rules of grammar, and comprehend the language when spoken slowly. Students usually explore the customs, history, and art forms of Spanish-speaking people to deepen their understanding of the culture(s).

Vermont Virtual Learning Cooperative (VTVLC)

VTVLC was founded in 2010 as Vermont's first state-wide online program offering programs and courses to K-12 students by partnering with public and independent schools. Today, VTVLC serves hundreds of middle and high school students with more than 70 online courses. Enrollment is open to public, private and home school students. Students from non-partner schools and from outside Vermont enroll on a tuition basis.

Blue Mountain Union has partnered with VTVLC. Students will be able to access courses not offered at Blue Mountain in areas such as math, English, science, social studies as well as elective courses on a space available basis. These courses will appear on the student's Blue Mountain transcript. To be enrolled in a VTVLC course, students must work with their school counselor as well as the site administrator to complete the registration process. For more information and a list of courses offered visit: www.VTVLC.org, or visit the school counselor/site administrator.

Students taking VTVLC courses must be willing and able to work independently as this is a prerequisite to all VTVLC offerings. It is also important that students realize that they need to devote as much time to their VTVLC course as they do to their live instructor/BMU course. Students and their parent/guardians are asked to review and sign a document outlining the basic elements and format of a VTVLC course before their student starts the course. Please see the school counseling staff for the form.

River Bend Career & Technical Center

River Bend Career & Technical Center partners with Blue Mountain Union School to provide a technical education along with a full range of services which include assistance with academic and skill development, career planning, and in decision making.

Blue Mountain Union students must be sixteen years old at the beginning of their 11th grade (junior) year in order to attend River Bend Career & Technical Center. Refer to the River Bend Career and Technical Center Program of Studies Admission Procedures and Requirements for any questions in regard to placement or intake criteria considerations.

Saint Johnsbury Academy Career & Technical Education and Lyndon Institute Career & Technical Education

As of the 2023-2024 school year, BMU is partnering and sending students to the SJACTE for programs not offered at the RBCTC. As of 2025-2026 school year, BMU will be sending students to the LICTE Welding program that is not offered at RBCTC.

Blue Mountain Union students must be sixteen years old at the beginning of their 11th grade (junior) year in order to attend the Saint Johnsbury Career & Technical Education or Lyndon Institute Career & Technical Education. Refer to the Saint Johnsbury Academy Career and Technical Center or Lyndon Institute Career & Technical Education website for any questions in regard to placement or intake criteria consideration

Program Name	Credits	Credits
Automotive Technology (RBCTC)	**AM Level Two:** 1 English 1 Math 1 Science	**PM Level One:** 1 English 1 Math 1 Science
Construction Technology Residential Energy (RBCTC)	**PM Level Two:** 1 English 1 Math 1 Science	**PM Level One:** 1 English 1.5 Math 0.5 Physical Education
Cosmetology (RBCTC)	**AM/PM Level Two:** 2 Fine Arts 1 Math 1 Health 1 Science 1 English	**PM Level One:** 1 English 1 Math 1 Science
Culinary Arts (RBCTC)	**PM Level Two:** 1 Fine Art 1 English 1 Math	**PM Level One:** 1 Health 1 Math 1 Science
Cybersecurity (RBCTC)	**PM Level Two:** 1 English 1 Math 1 Science	**PM Level One:** 1 English 1 Science 1 History
Diversified Agriculture & Natural Resources (RBCTC)	**PM Level Two:** 1 English 1 Physical Education 1 Science	**PM Level One:** 1 Math 1 Science 1 History
Electrical Technology (SJACTE)	**PM Level Two:** 1 Physical Education 1 Math 1 Science	**AM Level One:** 1 Math 1 Science 1 English
Emergency Medical Services (RBCTC)	**AM Level Two:** 1 English 1 Physical Education 1 History	**PM Level One:** 1 English 1 Math 1 Science
Health Sciences Technology (RBCTC)	**AM Level Two:** 1 English 1 Science 1 History	**PM Level One:** 1 Health 1 Math 1 Science
Heavy Equipment & Operations Management (RBCTC)	**AM Level Two:** 1 Math 1 Science 1 History	**PM Level One:** 1 English 1 Math 1 Science
Plumbing (SJACTE)	**PM Level Two:** 1 English 1 Math 1 Science	**AM Level One:** 0.5 Physical Education 1 English 1.5 Math
Teacher Education (RBCTC)	**AM Level Two:** 1 Health 0.5 Math 0.5 English 1 History	**AM Level One:** 1 Health 1 English 1 History
21st Century Media & Design (RBCTC)	**AM Level Two:** 1 English 1 Math 1 Science	**AM Level One:** 1 English 1 Fine Art 1 Technology
Welding (LICTE)	**AM Level Two:** 1 Physical Education 1 Math 1 Science	**PM Level One:** 1 Math 1 Science 1 English

RBCTC: River Bend Career & Technical Center; SJACTE: Saint Johnsbury Academy Career & Technical Education; LICTE: Lyndon Institute Career & Technical Education