2018-2019 Course Guide

West Central Area Secondary School

TABLE OF CONTENTS

WCA Graduation Requirements	2
Language Arts	3
Math	6
Science	7
Social Studies	10
Health/Physical Education	14
Art	15
Music	18
Business Education	19
Family Consumer Science (FACS)	21
Industrial Technology (I.T.)	22
Agriculture	23
World Languages	26
Miscellaneous Course Offerings	27
College Credit Course	29

West Central Area Secondary School 2018 -2019 Graduation Requirements

100 Credits Required for Graduation

(72 required credits & 28 elective credits)

Language Arts Minimum of 16 credits = 4 years

English 9 (full year course) 4 credits
English 10 (full year course) 4 credits
English 11 (semester course) 2 credits
English 12 (semester course) 2 credits
English Electives (all semester courses – select two) 4 credits

Math Minimum of 12 credits = 3 years

Geometry 9 (full year course) 4 credits
Algebra II (full year course) 4 credits
Probability & Stats (full year course) 4 credits
Or
Business Math (semester course) & Personal Finance (semester course)

Science Minimum of 12 credits = 3 years

Physical Science 9 (full year course) 4 credits
Biology 10 (full year course) 4 credits
Science Electives (all semester courses –select two) 4 credits

Social Studies Minimum of 14 credits = 3.5 years

American History: The Young Republic (full year course – Grade 9) 4 credits
The Modern American Century (semester course – Grade 10) 2 credits
World History: Old World (semester course – Grade 10) 2 credits
World History: Colonialism to Today (semester course -Grade 11) 2 credits
Economics (semester course – grade 12) 2 credits
Government and Politics (semester course – grade 12 2 credits

PE/Health Minimum of 8 credits = 2 years

Physical Education 9 (full year course) 4 credits
Physical Education/Health 10 (full year course) 4 credits

Arts Minimum of 4 credits = 1 year

Music and/or art electives (all semester courses) 4 credits

Additional WCA High School Requirements 6 Credits required = 1.5 years

Careers 9 (2 credits), Agriculture 9 (2 credits) and Senior Seminar 12 (2 credits)

Preparing for a 4-year college: Take a minimum of 4 years English, 3 years math, 3 years of science including chemistry or physics, 3 ½ years social studies, 1 year art/music & 2 years foreign language (many universities require 2 years of high school foreign language course work)

4-year Colleges consider:

Class Rank ACT or SAT score Rigor of courses Senior Course

PREPARING FOR A 4-YEAR COLLEGE*

Take a minimum of:

- 4 years of English
- 3 years of Math
- 3 years of Science (including Chemistry or Physics)
- 3 ½ years of Social Studies
- 1 year of Art/Music
- 2 years of Foreign Language**

NOTES:

* 4 Year Colleges Consider:

- Class Rank
- ACT or SAT Score
- Rigor of Courses
- Senior Courses

** Many Universities require 2 years of high school Foreign Language coursework

Language Arts

ENGLISH 9 **Full Year**

Prerequisite: None
Credit: 4 credits
Class Size: 30 students
Grade Level: 9th Grade

Course Description: English 9 serves as a transition course between junior high English courses and upper-level senior high English courses. English 9 emphasizes the reading and writing skills students need to be successful as they transition into high school. Students will learn the writing process, the 6+1 Traits of Writing, how to format and organize an essay, and review the basic format of well-organized writing. Students will spend time completing a variety of writing assignments and tasks. Students will also read fiction and nonfiction literature, including articles, stories, novels, and poems, and review the elements of literature. Grammar and vocabulary skills are also an integral part of English 9. Students will be graded on quizzes, grammar and reading work, essays and writing assignments, and Accelerated Reader.

ENGLISH 10 **Full Year**

Prerequisite: English 9
Credit: 4 credits
Class Size: 30 students
Grade Level: 10th Grade

Course Description: This course focuses on writing and literature. Students will review and learn the writing process, the 6+1 Traits of Writing, correct essay format, research techniques, and source credibility. Students will also study grammar with an emphasis on mechanics. At least three papers will be written including a basic essay, a narrative essay, and a formal research paper. Time will also be spent reviewing reading skills, especially those skills that relate to the MCA test and the practice of writing. This course also examines a variety of literature. Students will demonstrate the ability to recognize literary techniques, to relate literature to themselves and the intended audience, to understand the context of literature, and to critically analyze literature. Students will be graded on quizzes, grammar and mechanics work, reading work, narrative essay, formal research paper, group work and presentations, and reading and writing daily

CREATIVE WRITING **Semester**

Prerequisite: English 10
Credit: 2 credits
Class Size: 20 students
Grade Level: 11th and 12th Graders

Course Description: This course will cover the basic elements of creative writing. Students will assess their creative process and what forms of creativity speak to them. The focus will be on creative versus strictly academic forms of writing. Students will write poetry, short stories, song lyrics, and more while reviewing writing techniques such as the traits of writing and the writing process. Students will also study story and poetry elements as a means to make their writing more effective. Students will keep a portfolio of their written work. Students will be graded on their class participation, written work, ability and willingness to contribute to writers' workshops, and their final quarter portfolios.

GLOBAL LITERATURE **Semester**

Prerequisite: English 10
Credit: 2 credits
Class Size: 30 students
Grade Level: 11th and 12th Graders

Course Description: This course will study cultures from around the world by reading contemporary novels and stories written in multiple perspectives. Students will read literature aimed at teaching a variety of cultures and insights. Text selections for World Literature may include novels such as *I Am Malala*, *The Life of Pi*, and *Of Beetles and Angels*. Students will be graded on their class participation, their ability to discuss and respond to the reading, written work, quizzes, projects, and various other assignments.

"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world." ~ Nelson Mandela

ENGLISH 11 **Full Year**

Prerequisite: English 10
Credit: 4 credits
Class Size: 25
Grade Level: 11th

Course Description: A year-long course that is preparation for higher-order critical-thinking skills and literary analysis. Additionally, grammar and public speaking and debate will focused on at times. Units will focus on seminal works of American Literature, and focus on concepts such as immigration, society vs individualism, defining "freedom" and the modern world. Class assignments and assessment will be a combination of whole-class discussion, small group work, and independent reading and responding.

POPULAR LITERATURE **Semester**

Prerequisite: English 10
Credit: 2 credits
Class Size: 30 students
Grade Level: 11th and 12th Graders

Course Description: This course allows students to explore several genres, or types of novels, and what qualities make a "popular" novel. The course will be varied each time it is offered, but will feature genres including romance, science-fiction, adventure, mystery, horror, and fantasy as well as video versions of books. Students will explore elements of this genres and why they are popular. In this class students will be assessed using; discussions, reflection responses, major

LAW AND JUSTICE/MOCK TRIAL **Semester**

Prerequisite: Teacher/Administrative Approval
Credit: 2 English AND 2 Social Studies credits
Class Size: 8-12 students
Grade Level: 10th – 12th Grade

ENGLISH 12 **Semester**

Prerequisite: English 11
Credit: 2 credits
Class Size: 25 students
Grade Level: 12th Graders

Course Description: This course is an English Literature class with an academic writing component added. This class will study the development of the English language and will cover Anglo-Saxon–18th Century English literature along with five major writing assignments. Some time will be dedicated to ACT preparation as well as discussing real-life applications to literary skills. In this class students will be assessed using; discussions, reflection responses, major essays, group work, and unit tests.

SCIENCE FICTION LITERATURE **Semester**

Prerequisite: English 9
Credit: 2 credits
Class Size: 20 students
Grade Level: 12th Graders

Course Description: In this course students better understand complex and controversial issues that influence their lives today and will shape their futures tomorrow. Science Fiction helps us envision what the world could be, rather than what it is. When students study science and technology alongside narratives, they can look critically at their world and bridge the gap between what is and what could be. By working through texts, students will step outside the world they know to examine and address challenges like climate change, racism, gender identity, and a growing dependence on technology and consumerism through the lens of Science Fiction.

Course Description: This year-long course will use a co-teaching model to inform and explore how the legal systems in the United States operate and how they impact our culture. Students will spend 50% of their class time with the Social Studies teacher. These periods will focus on the history and development of our legal system, as well as its social impact. Students will spend the remainder of time with the English teacher. These periods will be spent looking at works of literature through the theme of justice, as well as non-fiction essays and articles dealing with it as well.

During the 2nd and 3rd quarter of the year the class will focus on teaching, developing, and competing in the MN Bar Association's High School Mock Trial Competition. Students will learn courtroom procedure, create arguments, write opening and closing remarks, work with witnesses to develop direct and cross-examinations, and eventually compete against other teams.

"Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere."

~ Martin Luther King Jr.

ACADEMIC WRITING **Semester**

Prerequisite: English 10
Credit: 2 credits
Class Size: 15 students
Grade Level: 11th and 12th Graders

Course Description: This course is an introduction to writing theory—students will learn and apply strategies for generating, organizing, revising, and editing their writing. Emphasis also will be on students developing information literacy skills: identifying, locating, evaluating, citing, and using electronic and print resources. This course will prepare students for writing after high school, both in post-secondary and the business world. In this class students will be assessed using; discussions, reflection responses, major essays, group work, and formal public forum debate.

SCHOOL PUBLISHING **Semester**

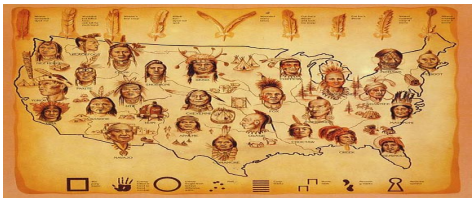
Prerequisite: English 10
Credit: 2 credits
Class Size: 10 students
Grade Level: 11th and 12th Graders

Course Description: This course gives students real-world experience in journalism and advertising writing. Students will write for a variety of purposes and audiences, and their writing will be published publicly. Students will be expected to meet set deadlines, collaborate, perform interviews, and fact-check information while following best practices in journalism. In this class students will be assessed using; discussions, reflection responses, major essays, weekly publishable articles, group work, and chapter and unit tests.

NATIVE AMERICAN LITERATURE **Semester**

Prerequisite: English 10
Credit: 2 credits
Class Size: 25 students
Grade Level: 11th and 12th Graders

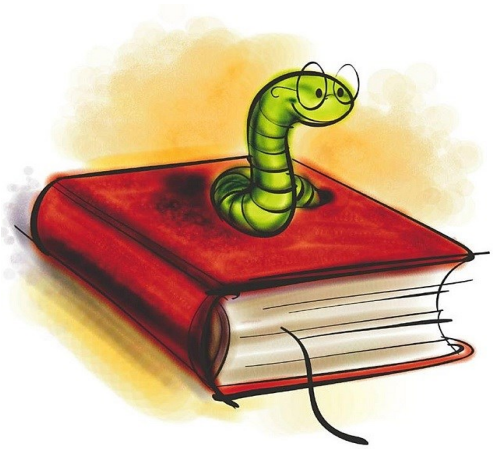
Course Description: This course will examine past, present, and future Native American culture through film and literature. Emphasis will be on Native American creation and trickster stories as well as contemporary poems, short stories, essays, and films. There will be an opportunity to earn extra credit by attending the CNIA Powwow at the University of Minnesota, Morris. In this class students will be assessed using; discussions, reflection responses, major essays, group work, and unit tests.



YEARBOOK **Full Year**

Prerequisite: Teacher Approval
Credit: 4 English credits 1st Year/4 elective credits 2nd Year
Class Size: 12
Grade Level: 11th and 12th Graders

Course Description: In this year long course students will plan, develop, and produce WCA's yearbook. Students are responsible for data gathering, photography, page layout and design. Students will organize content to produce a creative and visually appealing yearbook. Course grading is based on participation, teamwork, and the quality of the final project. Students must contact teacher in advance of registration.



"The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more you learn, the more places you'll go!"

~ Dr. Seuss

Math

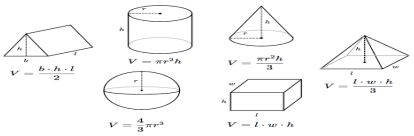
GEOMETRY 9 **Full Year**

Prerequisite: Algebra I (completed in 8th Grade)
Credit: 4 credits
Class Size: 30 students
Grade Level: 9th Grade

Course Description: Students will use the tools of geometry (compass, protractor, straight edge, and graphing calculator) to model and solve real world problems. Students will gain practice in reasoning and proof, working with parallel and perpendicular lines, studying various properties of shapes especially triangles, exploring transformations, calculating area and volume of solids, introductory practice with trigonometry, and much more!

Units covered include:

- Unit 1 – Essentials of Geometry
- Unit 2 – Reasoning and Proof
- Unit 3 – Parallel and Perpendicular Lines
- Unit 4 – Congruent Triangles
- Unit 5 – Similarity
- Unit 6 – Right Triangles and Trigonometry
- Unit 7 – Quadrilaterals
- Unit 8 – Properties of Transformations
- Unit 9 – Properties of Circles
- Unit 10 – Measuring Length and Area
- Unit 11 – Surface Area and Volume of Solids



ALGEBRA II **Full Year**

Prerequisite: Algebra I (completed in 8th Grade) and Geometry (completed in 9th Grade)
Credit: 4 credits
Class Size: 30 students
Grade Level: 10th Grade

Course Description: Algebra ll is a required 10th grade course. Students will gain practice in writing and solving various algebraic inequalities and equations, using linear systems and matrices to solve problems, factoring quadratic functions, operating on polynomials and polynomial functions, working with exponents, exponential functions, and radical functions, and much more!

Units covered include:

- Unit 1 – Equations and Inequalities
- Unit 2 – Linear Equations and Functions
- Unit 3 – Linear Systems and Matrices
- Unit 4 – Quadratic Functions and Factors
- Unit 5 – Polynomials and Polynomial Functions
- Unit 6 – Rational Exponents and Radical Functions
- Unit 7 – Exponential and Logarithmic Functions

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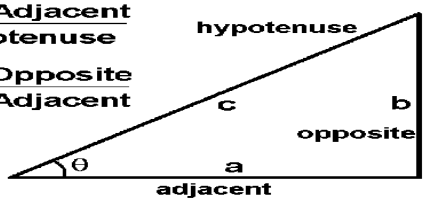


PROBABILITY/STATISTICS/TRIGONOMETRY **Full Year**

Prerequisite: Algebra II
Credit: 4 credits
Class Size: 30 students
Grade Level: 11th Grade

Course Description: Probability, Statistics, and Trigonometry is a high school mathematics course. Students will gain practice in trigonometry and exploring the relationships of the side lengths and angles of triangles, especially right triangles. They will also use these relationships and trigonometric functions to help in exploring new ways to solve algebraic and geometric problems. As well, students will gain practice in calculating permutations and combinations, evaluating various problem/scenarios using probability, analyzing various data sets, calculating various statistical measures, central tendency, and dispersion, using probability and statistics to help in deciding better/worse odds in the real world, calculating various statistical distributions, and much more!

Units covered include:

- Unit 1 – Rational Functions
- Unit 2 – Quadratic Relations and Conic Sections
- Unit 3 – Counting Methods and Probability
- Unit 4 – Data Analysis and Statistics
- Unit 5 – Sequences and Series
- Unit 6 – Trigonometric Ratios and Functions
- Unit 7 – Trigonometric Graphs, Identities, and Equations

Science

PHYSICAL SCIENCE 9 **Full Year**

Prerequisite: NONE
Credit: 4 credits
Class Size: 28 students
Grade Level: 9th Grade

Course Description: Physical Science is a 9th grade required course. The course encompasses concepts in chemistry and physics. There are many hands on activities and projects for students to participate in. We learn about measurement and how to do proper lab procedures. Topics covered include, Structure of the Atom, Elements and the Periodic Table, Chemical Reactions, Forces, including gravitational, motion, acceleration, and mass, Energy, including light, heat, and electricity, and sound and electromagnetic waves.

BIOLOGY 10 **Full Year**

Prerequisite: NONE
Credit: 4 credits
Class Size: 28 students
Grade Level: 10th Grade

Course Description: Biology is a science course designed to introduce students to the basic fundamentals of biology-the study of life. Students will learn biological concepts, proper lab techniques and science procedures through a variety of inquiry labs, hands-on activities, PowerPoint discussions, videos, group work, quizzes, tests, and other instructional activities. Students will know and understand the characteristics and structure of living things, the process of life, and how living things interact with each other and their environment.

Units covered include:

Unit 1—Chemistry in Biology
Unit 2—Cellular Structures and Function
Unit 3—Cellular Energy
Unit 4—Cellular Reproduction
Unit 5—Genetics
Unit 6—Human Heredity
Unit 7—Biotechnology
Unit 8—Bacteria and Viruses
Unit 9—Fetal Pig Dissection
Unit 10—Communities, Biomes, and Ecosystems
Unit 11—Population Ecology
Unit 12—History of Biological Diversity

ADVENTURE ECOLOGY **Semester**

Prerequisite: Biology
Credit: 2 credits
Class Size: 24 students
Grade Level: 11th and 12th Grade

Course Description: Through this course students will gain an appreciation for the environment and their role in preserving the environment. Student in this course will participate in many activities related to the outdoors and prepare for a week-long camping trip to the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness in Northern Minnesota, which will take place in June. The trip is physically challenging and students will have to work as a team to make the course successful.

Units covered include:

Unit 1 – BWCAW History.
Unit 2 – BWCAW Rules and Regulations.
Unit 3 – Geology and Weather
Unit 4 – Trip Planning
Unit 5 – Food and Menu Planning
Unit 6 – Gear and Equipment
Unit 7 – Orienteering

Additional Information: Estimated cost of the BWCAW trip is **$250** ($225 + $25 deposit) to be **paid by the student**. The fee will be due at the end of the third quarter. In order for students to take part in the summer trip, they must pass the classroom portion of the class.

Sport Science **Semester**

Prerequisite: NONE
Credit: 2 credits
Class Size: 28 students
Grade Level: 10-12

Course Description: Sport Science

Sport Science is a class looking at many aspects of sports. It is a semester long course. Some of the units are:

Exercise Physiology
Biomechanics
Sports Psychology
Sports Sociology – the role athletics play in society
Motor Learning and Development

Students will be expected to participate in projects, presentations and also some physical activities involved in athletics. There will be a quarter long project in which students work to master a skill such as juggling or cup stacking.

ANATOMOY AND PHYSIOLOGY **Semester**

Prerequisite: Biology
Credit: 2 credits
Class Size: 24 students
Grade Level: 11th and 12th Grade

Course Description: This course involves studying the anatomy (structure) and physiology (functions) of the human body. Labs in this class will help students gain a better understanding of how the human body functions. Each system of the human body will be covered as unit. Some of the systems studied are the skeletal, circulatory, respiratory, digestive, muscular, and nervous systems.

Units covered include:

Unit 1 – Integumentary System
Unit 2 – Skeletal System
Unit 3 – Circulatory System
Unit 4 – Endocrine System
Unit 5 – Reproductive System
Unit 6 – Muscular System

FOOD SCIENCE **Semester**

Prerequisite: Biology
Credit: 2 credits
Class Size: 24 students
Grade Level: 11th and 12th Grade

Course Description: In the class we will experiment with foods to learn about how it affects your body and how science has affected the food industry. Students will take part in many experiments; some fit to eat, some not fit to eat. This course can fulfill a WCA Science credit.

Units covered include:

Unit 1 – What is Food Science?
Unit 2 – The Meaning of "Food"
Unit 3 – The Chemistry of Food
Unit 4 – Chemical Food Additives
Unit 5 – Food Sanitation
Unit 6 – The Meat Industry
Unit 7 – The Cereal Industry
Unit 8 – Food Science and World Hunger
Unit 9 – Food Preservation Techniques
Unit 10 – Food Marketing

HEALTH FIELD SCIENCE **Semester**

Prerequisite: Biology
Credit: 2 credits
Class Size: 12 students
Grade Level: 11th and 12th Grade

Course Descriptions: This class is designed to expose seniors to the many career opportunities in the healthcare field. The course is a partnership with Prairie Ridge Hospital and Health Services, Elbow Lake campus. Individually, seniors will spend one week of engaged instruction in different departments of the hospital/clinic. Students will follow a fourteen week rotation schedule that allows them to experience the many career options in the healthcare field. All seniors are encouraged to apply. There is a selection process for the limited spaces in this class. This class meets 1st and 2nd periods then students will return to WCASS to report for period three.

Additional Information: The students will be responsible for their own transportation to the PRHHS in Elbow Lake. Students are required to wear scrubs, do journal entering, and complete competencies developed by the department managers.

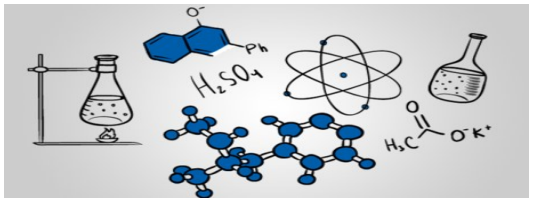
ASTRONOMY **Semester**

Prerequisite: NONE
Credit: 2 credits
Class Size: 24 students
Grade Level: 10th – 12th Grade

Course Description: Welcome to the study of the skies. There will many videos on information we are studying. We look at what is beyond our Earth, the history of astronomy and how we have gained information. The focus is on the big picture and not being bogged down with facts and details. There are also more misconceptions in astronomy than any other science field so we straighten some of those out with data we have available. We occasionally, weather permitting, meet at night to use telescopes to view the moon, stars and constellations. These night viewings are not mandatory and have no effect on the student's grade.

Units covered include:

Unit 1 - Our Place in the Universe
Unit 2 - The Science of Astronomy
Unit 3 - Light and Telescopes
Unit 4 - The Solar System
Unit 5 - Our Star – The Sun
Unit 6 - Properties of Stars
Unit 7 - Life Cycle of Stars
Weird Astro Stuff



CHEMISTRY **Full Year**

Prerequisite: NONE
Credit: 4 credits
Class Size: 24 students
Grade Level: 11th and 12th Grade

Course Description: The course begins with reviewing some of the mathematical calculations that are useful in chemistry, particularly measurement and the handling of both very small and large numbers. Next, we follow the progression of knowledge that has been gained about atoms over the years. Bonding, writing equations and stoichiometry are then covered with many lab activities used in order to apply the knowledge and gain better understanding. Occasionally, labs are graded according to accuracy and precision to stress the importance of being meticulous when measuring and following procedures. Next we cover the gas laws and gas stoichiometry. Acids and bases are then covered with several labs to determine strength of solutions and if time permits, we have a unit covering organic chemistry.

Units covered include:

- Unit 1 - Lap Equipment and Lab Safety
- Unit 2 - Matter and Change
- Unit 3 - Measurement and Calculations
- Unit 4 - Atoms and Electron Arrangement
- Unit 5 - The Periodic Law
- Unit 6 - Chemical Bonding
- Unit 7 - Chemical Formulas
- Unit 8 - Chemical Equations
- Unit 9 - Stoichiometry
- Unit 10 - States of Matter
- Unit 11 - Gases and Gas Laws
- Unit 12 - Gas Stoichiometry
- Unit 13 - Solutions
- Unit 14 - Nuclear Chemistry
- Unit 15 - Organic Chemistry

COMSUMER CHEMISTRY **Semester**

Prerequisite: NONE
Credit: 4 credits
Class Size: 24 students
Grade Level: 11th and 12th Grade

Course Description: Consumer chemistry is a course that explores applications of chemistry to the general consumer. Students will explore topics related to the application of chemical principles to society. Possible topics include but are not limited to: nutrition, food chemistry, pesticides, atmospheric pollutants, soil chemistry, GMOs, vitamins, medicine, health and beauty products, environmental science, climate change, and alternative energy. There are several group projects in which the students will be given the chance to demonstrate their knowledge instead of the traditional paper/pencil tests.

INTRODUCTION TO PHYSICS **Semester**

Prerequisite: Algebra
Credit: 2 credits
Class Size: 24 students
Grade Level: 11th and 12th Grade

Course Description: This course is a study of the laws of nature concerning motion, gravity and forces. Emphasis is put on understanding concepts as well as application using mathematical formulas. Trigonometry is helpful in the study and math applications we use in physics. Along with the book units, there are several hands on projects we do in which the students need to produce a product that can form a certain function. The class will attend Physics Day at Valley Fair in Shakopee to apply the concepts to the rides.

Units covered include:

- Unit 1 - Science of Physics
- Unit 2 - Motion in one Direction
- Unit 3 - Two Dimensional Motion
- Unit 4 - Forces and the Laws of Motion
- Unit 5 - Work and Energy
- Unit 6 - Momentum and Collisions
- Unit 7 - Circular Motion
- Unit 8 - Vibrations and Waves
- Unit 9 - Sound
- Unit 10 - Light and It's Properties
- Unit 11 - Electricity

Social Studies

The Old World **Semester**

Prerequisite: NONE
Credit: 2 credits
Class Size: 30 students
Grade Level: 11th and 12th Grade

Course Description: In this course students will learn about the history of the world. Starting in prehistory (c. 10,000 BCE) up through 1500 CE. We will cover the early stone age, the rise of ancient empires, conflicts throughout the old world, along with cultural and technological advancements. Included in this yearlong course will be lessons that help students practice historical and critical thinking, strategic use of resources, group discussions, and analysis skills. Activities include analyzing primary sources and maps, creating timelines, group projects, written assignments, small and large-group presentations, and conducting research projects.

Units covered include:

Unit 1 – Beginnings of Civilization
Unit 2 – New Directions in Government and Society
Unit 3 – An Age of Exchange and Encounter

Colonialism to the Present **Semester**

Prerequisite: NONE
Credit: 2 credits
Class Size: 30 students
Grade Level: 11th and 12th Grade

Course Description: In this course students will learn about the history of the world. Starting in 1500 CE up through the present day. We will cover colonialism, the trans-Atlantic trade, cultural and technological advancements, increasingly devastating wars, and an ever growing global network of trade and information. Included in this yearlong course will be lessons that help students practice historical and critical thinking, strategic use of resources, group discussions, and analysis skills. Activities include analyzing primary sources and maps, creating timelines, group projects, written assignments, small and large-group presentations, and conducting research projects.

Units covered include

Unit 1 – Connecting Hemispheres
Unit 2 – Absolutism to Revolution
Unit 3 – Industrialism and the Race for Empire
Unit 4 - The World at War
Unit 5 - Perspectives on the Present

"Those who don't know history are destined to repeat it."

~ Edmund Burke

Geography **Full Year**

Prerequisite: None
Credit: 4 credits
Class Size: 30 students
Grade Level: 8th grade

Course Description: In this course students will learn about the human and physical properties of our planet. Included in this yearlong course will be lessons that help students practice cartography, critical thinking, discussion, and analysis skills. Activities include analyzing primary sources and maps, creating timelines, completing projects and written assignments, small and large-group presentations, and conducting research projects.

Units covered include:
Unit 1 – Beginnings through Revolution
Unit 2 – A New Nation
Unit 3 – The New Republic
Unit 4 – The Nation Expands
Unit 5 – The Nation Breaks Apart
Unit 6 – Reconstruction and a Gilded America

The Modern American Century **Semester**

Prerequisite: The Young Republic
Credit: 2 credits
Class Size: 30 students
Grade Level: 10th grade

Course Description: In this course students will learn about the history of the United States. Starting in the progressive era (c. 1900 CE) up through the present. Included in this single semester course will be lessons that help students practice historical and critical thinking, group discussion, and analysis skills. Activities include analyzing primary sources and maps, creating timelines, completing projects and written assignments, small and large-group presentations, and conducting research projects.

Units covered include:
Unit 1 – The Progressive Era
Unit 2 – World War I
Unit 3 – The Roaring 20s
Unit 4 – The Great Depression
Unit 5 – World War II
Unit 6 – The Civil Rights Era

The Young Republic **Full Year**
Prerequisite: None
Credit: 4 credits
Class Size: 30 students
Grade Level: 9th grade

Course Description: In this course students will learn about the history of the United States. Starting in prehistory (c. 10,000 BCE) up through the Gilded Age (c. 1900 CE). Included in this yearlong course will be lessons that help students practice historical thinking and analysis skills. Activities include analyzing primary sources and maps, creating timelines, completing projects and written assignments, small and large-group presentations, and conducting independent research.

Units covered include:
Unit 1 – Beginnings through Revolution
Unit 2 – A New Nation
Unit 3 – The New Republic
Unit 4 – The Nation Expands
Unit 5 – The Nation Breaks Apart
Unit 6 – Reconstruction and a Gilded America

"The more you know about the past, the better prepared you are for the future

~ Theodore Roosevelt

Government and Politics **Semester**

Prerequisite: Civics
Credit: 2 credits
Class Size: 30 students
Grade Level: 12th grade

Course Description: Welcome to the study of government and your rights, responsibilities, and duties as a citizen in our representative democracy! In this class, you will learn about various aspects of the United States government at the federal, state, and local level. A special focus will be paid to Minnesota's government. You will learn how politics and current events interact with your government and how they affect your daily life. Lastly, we will look at the United States' role in the world and how we interact with other nations.

Units covered include:

- Unit 1 – Foundations of Representative Democracy
- Unit 2 – Constitution
- Unit 3 – Criminal Rights
- Unit 4 – Parties and Elections
- Unit 5 – Legislative Branch
- Unit 6 – Executive Branch
- Unit 7 – Judicial Branch

World History **Full Year**

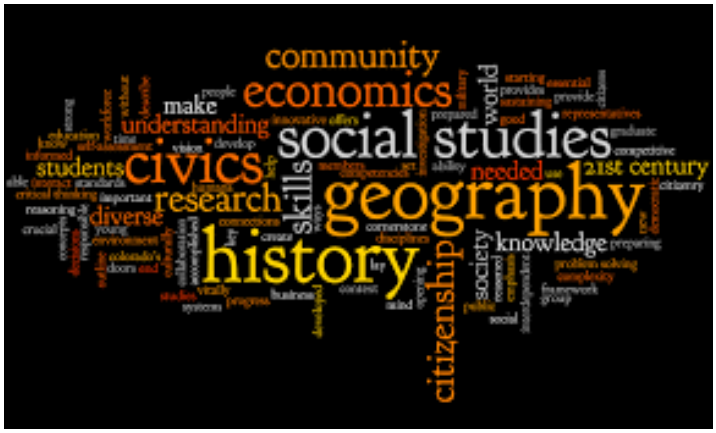
Prerequisite: None
Credit: 4 credits
Class Size: 30 students
Grade Level: 9th grade

Course Description: In this course students will learn about the history of the world. Starting in prehistory (c. 10,000 BCE) up through the present day. Included in this yearlong course will be lessons that help students practice historical and critical thinking, strategic use of resources, group discussions, and analysis skills. Activities include analyzing primary sources and maps, creating timelines, group projects, written assignments, small and large-group presentations, and conducting research projects.

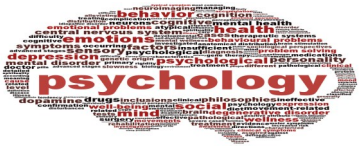
Units covered include:

Unit 1 – Beginnings of Civilization

- Unit 2 – New Directions in Government and Society
- Unit 3 – An Age of Exchange and Encounter
- Unit 4 – Connecting Hemispheres
- Unit 5 – Absolutism to Revolution
- Unit 6 – Industrialism and the Race for Empire
- Unit 7 - The World at War
- Unit 8 - Perspectives on the Present



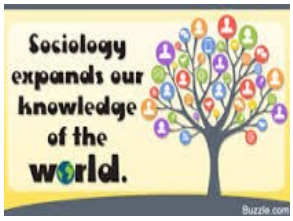
PSYCHOLOGY **Semester**



Prerequisite: None
Credit: 2 credits
Class Size: 30 students
Grade Level: 10th – 12th Grade

Course Description: Psychology is a one semester, intellectual, survey course designed for students who would like to explore human nature from a combined cultural-biological viewpoint. Basic terms, concepts, and principles of psychology are introduced as well as contradicting viewpoints as to how these basic factors can be interpreted. Topics such as emotion, experience, meaning, perception, learning, behavior, personality, and self-concept are reviewed through discussion, lecture, introspection, journal writing, observation, case studies, handouts, a basic text, movies, and field projects. It is expected that students electing this course would be willing to make a strong individual preparation in order to share their ideas and, on occasion, engage in group learning tasks. A major goal of the course is to expand our basic curiosity to a point where we can make legitimate evaluative statements about socially significant behavior and the psychological implications for issues now confronting society.

SOCIOLOGY **Semester**



Prerequisite: None
Credit: 2 credits
Class Size: 30 students
Grade Level: 10th – 12th Grade

Course Description: This course is an examination of current social problems that confront the individual, the United States, and the International Community. Concepts of behavior sciences are introduced. The course presents a broad range of social problems, with a particular focus on the complex relationships between contemporary issues. Students are presented the current research data that explains both of the causes and possible resolutions to important social issues.

Units covered include:

- Unit 1: Social Problems- Personal Troubles or Public Issues
- Unit 2: The Bases of Inequality
- Unit 3: Our Social Institutions (Chapters 7-8)
- Unit 4: Our Social and Physical Worlds
- Unit 5: Individual Action and Social Change

LAW AND JUSTICE/MOCK TRIAL **Full Year**

Prerequisite: Teacher/Administrative Approval
Credit: 2 English AND 2 Social Studies credits
Class Size: 8-12 students
Grade Level: 10th – 12th Grade

Course Description: This year-long course will use a co-teaching model to inform and explore how the legal systems in the United States operate and how they impact our culture. Students will spend 50% of their class time with the Social Studies teacher. These periods will focus on the history and development of our legal system, as well as its social impact. Students will spend the remainder of time with the English teacher. These periods will be spent looking at works of literature through the theme of justice, as well as non-fiction essays and articles dealing with it as well.

During the 2nd and 3rd quarter of the year the class will focus on teaching, developing, and competing in the MN Bar Association's High School Mock Trial Competition. Students will learn courtroom procedure, create arguments, write opening and closing remarks, work with witnesses to develop direct and cross-examinations, and eventually compete against other teams.

"Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere."

~ Martin Luther King

HEALTH/PHYSICAL EDUCATION

HEALTH AND PE 10 **Full Year**

Prerequisite: None
Credit: 4 credits
Class Size: 32 students
Grade Level: 10th Graders

Course Description: As teachers of Physical Education for West Central Area Schools, it is our goal to teach our students the benefits of physical activity and making healthy decisions for a lifetime. We believe that the quality of one's life is greatly enhanced when physical activity and healthy decision making is incorporated into everyday life. The main purpose of our classes is to teach the students how to develop and maintain an optimum level of lifetime fitness and health. In the Health portion of this course students will be introduced to a variety of health content information to allow students to make healthy decisions for life. Areas of study will include; personal health, your mental and emotional health, managing stress in your life, mental and emotional problems, peer relationships, resolving conflict and preventing violence, the life cycle continues, understanding medicines, recovering from addiction and codependency, infectious diseases, sexually transmitted diseases, HIV and AIDS, noninfectious diseases and disabilities, consumer choices and public health, the health of the environment, your safety and well-being, providing first aid, and handling emergencies.

In the PE portion of this course students will spend 1 day a week on Conditioning and Weightlifting. Weekly units will include; team building activities, soccer, ultimate frisbee, football, volleyball, handball, gator-ball games, fitness testing, floor hockey, cardio mat kickball, whiffle ball, badminton, archery, softball, and tennis.

LIFETIME FITNESS **Semester**

Prerequisite: None
Credit: 2 credits
Class Size: 20 students
Grade Level: 11th and 12th Graders

Course Description: As teachers of Physical Education for West Central Area Schools, it is our goal to teach our students the benefits of physical activity and making healthy decisions for a lifetime. We believe that the quality of one's life is greatly enhanced when physical activity and healthy decision making is incorporated into everyday life. The main purpose of our classes is to teach the students how to develop and maintain an optimum level of lifetime fitness and health.

PHYSICIAL EDUCATION 9 **Full Year**

Prerequisite: None
Credit: 4 credits
Class Size: 30 students
Grade Level: 9th Graders

Course Description: In this year long course students learn about and participate in different athletic type activities such as, basketball, football, volleyball, badminton, etc. Roughly 2-3 weeks are spent learning about and participating in the various activities. A focus is put on the history of each particular activity, the rules of the activity, and learning the basics of the activity being studied. Students are quizzed on different aspects of the activity being studied such as the rules and fundamentals of the activity.

WEIGHTLIFTING **Semester**

Prerequisite: Teacher Approval
Credit: 2 credits
Class Size: 15
Grade Level: 10th and 12th Graders

Course Description: In this semester long, co-ed class students will be given the opportunity to learn weight training concepts and techniques used for obtaining optimal physical fitness. Students will benefit from comprehensive weight training and cardiorespiratory endurance activities. Students will learn the fundamentals of weight training, strength training, aerobic training, and overall fitness training and conditioning. Course includes both lecture and activity sessions. Students will be empowered to make wise choices, meet challenges, and develop positive behaviors in fitness, wellness, and movement activity for a lifetime.

Art

CERAMICS **Semester**

Prerequisite: None
Credit: 2 credits
Class Size: 20 students
Grade Level: 9th – 12th Grade

Course Description: This course is an introduction to working with various clay mediums. Students will establish a foundation of understanding the basic clay building methods, which include: pinch, coil, slab and throwing on the potter's wheel. In addition, students will become aware of materials and tools related to ceramics. Students will produce a body of work based on building and decoration techniques and study the history and influences of pottery. Students will also be creating multiple part projects using the wheel along with studying tile making methods and history of tiles. Major projects include a tea pot, platter and cups, tile trivet and tile table/ wall hanging. Major projects include a slab box, coil vase, molded dish, and place setting.

"Art is as natural as sunshine and as vital as nourishment."

~ Mary Ann F. Kohl

PHOTOGRAPHY **Semester**

Prerequisite: NONE
Credit: 2 credits
Class Size: 14 students
Grade Level: 9th – 12th Grade

Course Description: Students will gain a basic understanding of the visual and technical aspects of photography. Students will also learn the process involved in creating a quality photographic image. This course includes processing black and white film and photos, as well as use of a digital camera. Students will also explore the history of photography and various photography artist. In addition, students will develop their understanding of composition and communication through their choices in what to photograph. Major projects include a portfolio from the semester's work that includes photograms, negatives, contact sheet, test strips, enlargements, digital camera prints, and various other class assignments.

ACRYLIC PAINTING **Semester**

Prerequisite: Preference given to student who have taken 2-Dimensional Art
Credit: 2 credits
Class Size: 20 students
Grade Level: 9th – 12th Grade

Course Description: Students will gain a better understanding of composition while using various painting mediums, including acrylic, oil pastel, and watercolor. Students will apply the elements and principles of design in their paintings while having the opportunity to express their ideas and feelings. Various painting techniques and skills will be covered along with the study of different cultures and time periods. Major projects include 16 techniques painting, large stretcher build canvas, Impressionist inspired piece, Pop art inspired piece and possible mural or community project.

2-DIMENSIONAL ART **Semester**

Prerequisite: NONE
Credit: 2 credits
Class Size: 22 students
Grade Level: 9th – 12th Grade

Course Description: Students will learn about the elements and principles of design and how they work together to make a complete and interesting 2-D composition. Students will learn various drawing and painting techniques and use a variety of 2-D media, which may include: pencil, charcoal, chalk pastel, oil pastel, pen and ink, colored pencil, marker, watercolor and tempera. In addition, students will participate in teacher, peer, and self-evaluations of artwork. Finally students will gain an increased awareness of historical, social, and various cultural influences that have affected various 2-D art. Major projects include many drawings and painting involving the use of various media Art or artist appreciation paper/evaluation.

3-DIMENSIONAL ART **Semester**

Prerequisite: NONE
Credit: 2 credits
Class Size: 22 students
Grade Level: 9th – 12th Grade

Course Description: Students will learn about the elements and principles of design and how they work together to make a complete and interesting 3-D composition. Students will also experiment with various types of 3-D media which may include modeling clay, paper-mache, wire, plaster, found objects, etc. In addition, we will research various sculpture artists, their art and history. Finally, students will participate in teacher, peer, and self-evaluations of artwork. Major projects include scaled paper-mache animal, tape human form, recycled project, wood carved, soapstone carving and artist appreciation power point.

TEXTILES/QUILTING **Semester**

Prerequisite: NONE
Credit: 2 credits
Class Size: 15 students
Grade Level: 9th – 12th Grade

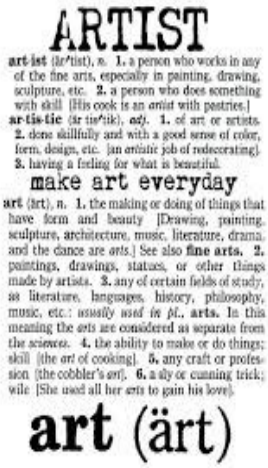
Course Description: Students will learn the techniques of sewing by machine and hand. Students will then apply these techniques to create various fabric inspired projects. Learn to knit, crochet, embroider (by hand or machine), serge, sew, or any textile related skill. Students will select and plan their individual projects. Projects may include a full size quilt, wall hanging, applique, pillow, scarves, mittens, etc.

Additional Information: Students must purchase supplies for one large project or more than one small project to be completed.

ARTS EVERYDAY **Semester**

Prerequisite: NONE
Credit: 2 credits
Class Size: 22 students
Grade Level: 9th – 12th Grade

Course Description: This class focuses on the everyday inspiration to create. Students will have the opportunity to focus on popular ideas of the times in hopes to inspire students to create art that is attainable and uses in our everyday lives. We invite local artist to share their craft, learn about materials that are used in everyday life and find inspiration from forums like Pinterest and class interests. Projects include spray paint, altered book, wood burning, watercolor, and stained glass.



WATERCOLOR **Semester**

Prerequisite: Preference will be given to students who have taken 2-Dimensional Art
Credit: 2 credits
Class Size: 20 students
Grade Level: 10th – 12th Grade
Textbook: NONE

Course Description: Students will gain a better understanding of composition while using watercolor. Students will apply the elements and principles of design in their paintings while having the opportunity to express their ideas and feelings. Various watercolor painting techniques and skills will be covered along with the study of different artist and applications. Major Projects include Large Scale Watercolor, and Yupo paper ink painting.

FIBER ARTS **Semester**

Prerequisite: NONE
Credit: 2 credits
Class Size: 20 students
Grade Level: 9th – 12th Grade

Course Description: Have you always wanted to learn how to use different fiber materials to create works of art? Well, if so, this class is for you. In this class, you will be using materials like string, yarn, fabric, cloth, and create to create works of art. We will be learning basic sewing techniques, applique, fabric dying, rug making, weaving, and yarn art. Major projects include a wall hanging, rug, and pillow.

Additional Information: For this class students will be required to purchase some materials based on projects chosen.

FOLK ART **Semester**

Prerequisite: NONE
Credit: 2 credits
Class Size: 22 students
Grade Level: 9th – 12th Grade

Course Description: Students will create wonderful folk art and crafts while applying the elements and principles of design. Students will be introduced to folk arts and craft materials, techniques and functions from cultures around the world. Some of the mediums and techniques to be explored may include batik, bead-working, candle-making, mask making, painting, wood burning, tie-dye, yarn painting and weaving. Mediums and techniques will vary depending on opportunities and available materials. Finally, students will participate in teacher, peer, and self-evaluations of artwork. Major projects include a yarn painting, batik pillow and tie-dye.

Additional Information: There is a **$10 fee** to help cover the cost of supplies. Students are provide a T-shirt for tie-dye and glass.

GRAPHIC DESIGN **Semester**

Prerequisite: NONE
Credit: 2 credits
Class Size: 15 students
Grade Level: 10th – 12th Grade

Course Description: Students learn and apply fundamentals of various software applications (such as Illustrator and Photoshop), image editing, drawing and graphic animation. Advertising and marketing projects will be incorporated throughout the semester to coordinate technical skills with organization and communication.

Music

CONCERT BAND **Full Year**
Prerequisite: Junior High Band or Instructor Permission
Credit: 4 credits
Class Size: 100 students
Grade Level: 9th – 12th Graders

Course Description: Concert Band is a performance class. The group will study and perform a variety of band literature, which will include traditional and contemporary band music. Students are encouraged to participate in a solo or ensemble. This participation will improve students' individual and group musicianship skills. Grading will be a reflection of the student's effort, participation, attitude, improvement and lesson attendance. over the course of the year. Three lessons per quarter are required for all high school band members. Students need to be in concert band all year in order to receive credit for the class.

Requirements: Pep band is required, must attend all concerts, and must be in band full year of trip year

CONCERT CHOIR **Full Year**
Prerequisite: Middle School Choir or Instructor Permission
Credit: 4 credits
Class Size: 80 students
Grade Level: 9th – 12th Graders

Course Description: Concert Choir meets on a daily basis and is open to all students grades 9-12. The choir continues to sing all varieties of music in all languages and strives to sing category 2 music. Students participate in a public performance at the end of each quarter and their final grade is based on attendance, participation, and their public performance each quarter. Choir is a yearlong class and students must participate in all 4 quarters to receive credit. Public performances each quarter are considered "Final Tests" and are required. The performances are required by the state to meet the academic standards in the arts.

Additional Information: Students are not eligible for any choir trip unless they have 1 full year of choir prior to the "trip year" and participate in choir the entire year of the scheduled trip.

A'CAPELLA CHOIR **Full Year**
Prerequisite: Must Audition/Instructor Permission
Credit: 4 credits
Class Size: Varies
Grade Level: 10th – 12th Graders

Course Description: Students strive to sing "category 1" (college level) music and accept many invitations to perform at choral festivals throughout the area. Students are also required to perform at many out-of-school events. The final grade is based on participation, voice lessons, attendance, and knowledge of subject area. The choir performs at all 4 choral concerts and high school graduation. A'cappella choir is selected by audition only. Choir is a yearlong class and students must participate in all 4 quarters to receive credit. Public performances each quarter are considered "Final Tests" and are required.

Addition Information: Students are not eligible for any choir trip unless they have 1 full year of choir prior to the "trip year" and participate in choir the entire year of the scheduled trip.

Guitar **Semester**
Prerequisite: None
Credit: 2 credits
Class Size: Varies
Grade Level: 10th – 12th Graders

Course Description: Students will learn basic guitar skills throughout the semester.

"If everyone started off the day singing, just think how happy they'd be." ~ Lauren Myracle

Career and Technical Education

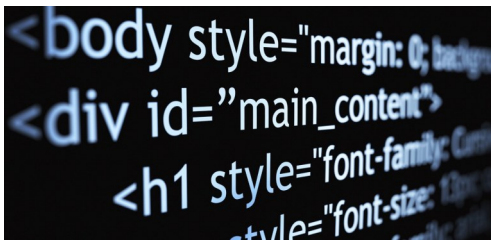
Business Education

CAREERS 9 **Semester**
Prerequisite: None
Credit: 2 credits
Class Size: 30 students
Grade Level: 9th Grade

Course Description:

Careers: The Career portion of this class will introduce students to various career paths available to them with a focus on fitting student's strengths to available career paths and the job application process. This class will be broken into six units.

1) Skills and Interest Surveys – finding out about you and your strengths
2) Exploring Careers – "MN Careers Book"
3) Career Research
4) College/Education Unit
5) Resume/Interview Job Skills Unit
6) Job Savvy Unit



SCHOOL WEB PAGE **Semester**
Prerequisite: None
Credit: 2 credits
Class Size: 30 students
Grade Level: 10th – 12th Grade

Course Description: NEW CLASS. This class will be responsible for running and maintaining the School Web Page similar to the Annual Staff Class. We will be responsible for the site slideshows, photos, uploading documents, designing pages for all school athletics and school activities as well as school news. We will also be updating daily bulletins, school lunch menus, and any other things the administration or WCA teachers want publicized.

PERSONAL FINANCE **Semester**
Prerequisite: None
Credit: 2 credits
Class Size: 30 students
Grade Level: 10th – 12th Grade

Course Description: This class gives students the opportunity to learn life skills that will help them in all areas of their lives. Specific topics include savings, investment options, wealth building and college savings, the dangers of debt, consumer awareness, credit bureaus and collection practices, budgeting, bargain shopping, money and relationships, career choices, taxes, insurance, real estate, and mortgages.

Units covered include:

Unit 1 – Saving & Investing
Unit 2 – Credit & Debt
Unit 3 – Financial Responsibility & Money Management
Unit 4 – Insurance/Risk Management & Income/Careers

BUSINESS MATH **Semester**

Prerequisite: None
Credit: 2 credits
Class Size: 30 students
Grade Level: 10th – 12th Grade

Course Description: Topics covered in this class include gross pay, net pay, banking, credit cards, loans, owning a home or a car, insurance and investments, budgets, business costs, business profit and loss. Students will integrate technology by creating spreadsheets to solve problems and communicate information.

Units covered include:

- Chapter 1: Gross Pay
- Chapter 2: Net Pay
- Chapter 3: Banking
- Chapter 4: Credit Cards
- Chapter 5: Loans
- Chapter 6: Owning a Home or car
- Chapter 7: Insurance and Investments
- Chapter 8: Budgets
- Chapter 9: Business Costs
- Chapter 10: Sales and Marketing
- Chapter 11: Manage People & Inventory
- Chapter 12: Business Profit and Loss

SENIOR SEMINAR 12 **Semester**

Prerequisite: None
Credit: 2 credits
Class Size: 30 students
Grade Level: 12th Grade

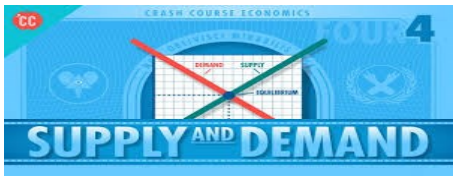
Course Description: This class is designed to help transition from high school to adult life whether it is college, work, or the military. Topics covered will include: researching colleges that match their career choice, how to fill out a college application, searching for scholarships, working on Dollars-for-Scholars profiles, the financial aid process, resumes, cover letters, and job interviewing skills, college prep 101, a real world university unit, paperwork for starting a job (w-4), how to do a 1040 EZ tax form, and what the different tax forms are (w-2, 1099, etc.). Students will also do a day of Job Shadowing with an area employer. The employers will go over their resume with them and do an actual mock job interview with them while giving the students feedback when they are done.

Units Covered include:

- Unit 1 – Self Evaluation
- Unit 2 – College Exploration Unit
- Unit 3 – Job Skills Unit
- Unit 4 – Job Shadowing Unit
- Unit 5 – Real World University/College 101
- Unit 6 – Financial Success

ECONOMICS **Semester**

Prerequisite: None
Credit: 2 credits
Class Size: 30 students
Grade Level: 12th Grade



Course Description: Students will study different world economies and how they affect one another as well as supply and demand, investing, and how the consumers and producers are affected. Students will learn about personal finance and budgeting by using a checkbook and balancing it. Also, a lot of discussion is held in class that deals with teenagers and the consumer decisions that they make. Students will be expected to do the required readings as assigned and are graded on homework, quizzes, research, tests and a final project on managing money for a family.

ACCOUNTING **Semester**

Prerequisite: None
Credit: 2 credits
Class Size: 30 students
Grade Level: 10th – 12th Grade

Course Description: This course is an introduction to accounting. Accounting knowledge and terminology is used extensively in the business world. This class will be beneficial to students majoring in anything business related and will also be very helpful in your personal life. Students will learn how to do the record keeping for a sole proprietorship/ service business and how to see if your business is making a profit or loss. How to manage a checking and savings account is also covered in this class.

Units covered include:

- Unit 1 – Proprietorship Business - Journalizing, Posting, Cash Control
- Unit 2 – Proprietorship Business – Financial Statements
- Unit 3 – Merchandising Business as a Corporation
- Unit 4 – Payroll
- Unit 5 – Uncollectible Accounts, Accrued Interest, Corporation Financial Statement

Family Consumer Science (FACS)

INTERIOR SPACE AND DESIGN **Semester**

Prerequisite: None
Credit: 2 credits
Class Size: 24 students
Grade Level: 10th – 12th Grade

Course Description: Students will learn elements of design, learn how to read and draw a floor plan, create room arrangements, coordinate color and design of furniture, window, wall, and floor treatments, and plan an individualized living space while utilizing the principles of design. The final project brings all the learning together when students design their own apartment.

CHILD DEVELOPMENT **Semester**

Prerequisite: NONE
Credit: 2 credits
Class Size: 24 students
Grade Level: 10th – 12th Grade

Course Description: Course Description: Learn what it is to be effective with children. This course is for anyone who is considering going into a child-related field such as teaching, early childhood, social work, any medical profession, childcare, nanny, etc.; OR plans to be a parent someday. We will study child development, discipline techniques, having fun with kids, careers working with children. This course includes an experience with electronic babies, empathy bell, and a case study actually working with children in a setting of your choice such as day care, elementary classroom, or someplace where many children interact. There will be a hands-on experience with electronic babies and an empathy belly case study as well.

CULINARY ARTS/HOSPITALITY **Semester**

Prerequisite: Consumer Foods
Credit: 2 credits
Class Size: 24 students
Grade Level: 10th – 12th Grade
Textbook: NONE

Course Description: This class expands knowledge learned in consumer foods. Students will be checking food and ingredients for freshness; planning and supervising cooking activities to be used in an efficient lab. Students will develop a few of their OWN recipes and work on presentation of dishes. Students will plan and design a menu, inspect supplies, check equipment and work areas for cleanliness and functionality. Students will learn to inventory and complete an order for needed food and supplies. The final involves preparing a 7-course dinner to be served and eaten with proper place settings and etiquette. Possibility of field trip to an upscale restaurant or culinary school upon approval from administration and restaurant/culinary school.

CREATIVE FOODS **Semester**

Prerequisite: Consumer Food for 10th and 11th Graders. No prerequisite for 12th Graders
Credit: 2 credits
Class Size: 24 students
Grade Level: 10th – 12th Grade

Course Description: Expand your knowledge of food preparation techniques to add a creative element to food products and to meals. A focus will be on garnishes and students will be required to use those skills in serving their foods throughout the quarter.

CONSUMER FOODS **Semester**

Prerequisite: NONE
Credit: 2 credits
Class Size: 24 students
Grade Level: 10th – 12th Grade

Course Description: Learn to plan and prepare nutritious foods and meals. There will be at least one lab for each topic covered. Class participants complete a survey the first day of class to determine topics of interest for the quarter. There will be a test for each topic covered and much direct application of learning in the kitchen. Students are expected to eat the food they prepare.

Additional Information: Some projects require students to bring supplies from home.

FAMILY/RELATIONSHIPS **Semester**

Prerequisite: None
Credit: 2 credits
Class Size: 24 students
Grade Level: 10th – 12th Grade

Course Description: This is an introductory course that is especially relevant for students interested in careers that involve interacting with people. It is also valuable for all students as a life foundation and academic enrichment. This course addresses knowledge and skills needed for positive and productive relationships in career, community, and family settings. Major course topics include communication skills; leadership, teamwork, and collaboration; conflict prevention, resolution, and management; building and maintaining relationships; and individual needs and characteristics and their impacts on relationships. A project-based approach that utilizes higher order thinking, communication, leadership, and management processes, and fundamentals to college and career success will integrate these topics.

Industrial Technology (I.T.)

FINE WOODWORKING **Semester**

Prerequisite: NONE
Credit: 2 credits
Class Size: 18 students
Grade Level: 10th – 12th Grade

Course Description: Students choose woodworking projects dealing in cabinetry, wood lathe techniques, and meticulous and intricate joints. Projects are of the student's design, unless prior arrangements are made. Students will be evaluated weekly on work, being on task, working cooperatively and on the quality of their finished projects. Safety tests and attendance are also a considerable portion of the class grade.

ENGINEERING DESIGN **Semester**

Prerequisite: NONE
Credit: 2 credits
Class Size: 18 students
Grade Level: 10th – 12th Grade

Course Description: In this class students learn the fundamentals of drafting in many different ways. The class designs and paints the football field for Homecoming. Students are required to make several manual and computer drawings. Three dimensional modeling is done using building blocks and Lego bricks. Student models are 3D printed. The final project for the class allows members to design, draft, and construct an animated toy of their own design. Course grading is based on daily drawings, written and hands-on tests, group cooperation, group projects, and task management.

ARCHITECTURAL CAD **Semester**

Prerequisite: NONE
Credit: 2 credits
Class Size: 18 students
Grade Level: 10th – 12th Grade

Course Description: In this course students learn the fundamentals of architectural drafting. Students will learn the basics of architectural planning, layout, drafting, and design. 3D walk-through and rendering is integrated into residence planning. Students are required to draft a residential house plan of their own design to include floor plans and elevation drawings. The class involves a variety of hands-on activities. Course grading is based on drawing assignments, written tests, and design and layout of each student's house plan.

CARPENTRY/COMMUNITY PROJECTS **Semester**

Prerequisite: NONE
Credit: 2 credits
Class Size: 18 students
Grade Level: 10th – 12th Grade

Course Description: Students are introduced to the principles of carpentry through projects for the school, WCA communities, and non-profit organizations. The class often meets off campus at the job site. Students are responsible for their own transportation. Students will be evaluated weekly on work, being on task, working cooperatively as well as the quality of the finished project. Safety and attendance are also a considerable portion of the class grade.

COMPUTER PROGRAMING AND MANUFACTURING
Semester

Prerequisite: NONE
Credit: 2 credits
Class Size: 18 students
Grade Level: 10th – 12th Grade

Course Description: Explore the basics of computer programming. Students use Scratch, a visual programming software, to learn coding. Students also program a 3D printer, LEGO Mindstorm robotics, and computerized mills and lathes to produce projects. Course grading is based on daily work, written and hands-on tests, group cooperation, group projects, and task management.

DESKTOP PUBLISHING AND COMPUTER IMAGING **Semester**

Prerequisite: NONE
Credit: 2 credits
Class Size: 18 students
Grade Level: 10th – 12th Grade

Course Description: In this course, students will learn the basics of desktop publishing. Students are introduced to concepts of page layout, digital photography, and scanning. Each student is required to create documents relating to an organization of their choice. Students have unlimited access to laser engraving from images of their own design. Course evaluation is based on group cooperation, computer assignments, written tests and final project evaluation.

AGRICULTURE

AGRICULTURE 9 **Semester**

Prerequisite: None
Credit: 2 credits
Class Size: 30 students
Grade Level: 9th Graders

Course Description: Ag 9 is an exploratory ag class designed to show 9th grade students the world of agriculture. Units covered include companion animals, farm animals, the basics of soil, welding, small engine and agricultural products. The class is a mix of lecture and hands-on in the ag shop. Students will also learn about the FFA program.

SMALL ENGINES **Semester**

Prerequisite: None
Credit: 2 credits
Class Size: 20 students
Grade Level: 10th – 12th Graders

Course Description: Like mechanical things? Like to take things apart and remake them? Ever wonder how an engine works? All these questions and more will be answered in Engines class. Students will start out in the classroom by learning basic engine theory, what parts are, and where they go. Once completed, students will learn some basic shop safety and then be on their way to dismantling a small engine and rebuilding it! Students will disassemble and reassemble a single cylinder and V-Twin engine. Students will perform small gas engine troubleshooting, maintenance and repair and will be able to explain the operation of the internal combustion engine. After that, students will work on their own projects - maybe dad's mower or that dirt bike in the corner of the garage.

PLANT/SOIL SCIENCE **Semester**

Prerequisite: None
Credit: 2 credits
Class Size: 22 students
Grade Level: 10th – 12th Graders

Course Description: This class explores the world of plants. Students will be introduced to the basic parts of a plant and its flower, learn about the importance of agricultural crops on world population, and explore the composition of soil. Throughout the entire class, students can explore career areas that involve plants, soils, horticulture, Agronomy and floriculture.

ANIMAL/VET. SCIENCE **Semester**

Prerequisite: None
Credit: 2 credits
Class Size: 24 students
Grade Level: 10th – 12th Graders

Course Description: This class explores career areas surrounding animals and their care. Students will learn about large agricultural production animals as well as small companion animals. Find out what it takes to work in the fields of animal health and production. Students will gain a new understanding of animals and their genetics, heritage, uses, and what the future may hold. This is a good course to help you get started on your way to working with animals.

WILDLIFE NATURAL RESOURCES MGMT. **Semester**

Prerequisite: None
Credit: 2 credits
Class Size: 24 students
Grade Level: 10th – 12th Graders

Course Description: Natural Resources focuses on, environmental issues, fish and wildlife management and outdoor recreation. Large Game Animals, Small Game, Upland Game Birds, Waterfowl, Insect, and Fish Identification will all be covered. Guest speakers, field trips, and projects from all areas of natural resources and resource management will add interest to active learning. This course would prepare students for careers in the DNR, forestry, wildlife management, and fisheries areas and interested in becoming ecologists, biologists and pollution control specialists, or conservation officers.

WELDING **Semester**

Prerequisite: None
Credit: 2 credits
Class Size: 15 students
Grade Level: 10th – 12th Graders

Course Description: Learn properties of metal and effective welding. In a classroom setting, students will learn about the different types of welding such as Arc welding, Oxy-Acetylene welding, MIG (wire feed) welding, and others. Working in the Ag. shop, students will learn basic shop safety and have a chance to actually do the types of welding learned about in the classroom. Students will be required to work with hot metal and fire. Students will also have time to work on their own projects.

AG. MECHANICAL SYSTEMS **Semester**

Prerequisite: Small Engines and Welding are helpful but not required
Credit: 2 credits
Class Size: 20 students
Grade Level: 10th – 12th Graders

Course Description: Explore the world of mechanical engineering through the study of agricultural systems. Students will look ag based skills to help maintain a farm operation. Units include carpentry, electrical, plumbing, concrete, rope tying, land measuring and metal working. Shop work will include building models and practicing new techniques from the unit.

BASIC AUTOMOTIVE CARE **Semester**

Prerequisite: Small Engines class is helpful, but not required
Credit: 2 credits
Class Size: 20 students
Grade Level: 10th – 12th Graders

Course Description: This course is designed to learn correct methods of maintaining automobiles for better and longer service. Students will learn how to change light bulbs, oil, wiper blades and brake pads. Students will learn about safely removing tires and properly reinstalling them after inspections and tire rotations. Students will gain a better understanding of automotive insuring, buying, and financing. Many related careers will be explored.

AGRIBUSINESS MANAGEMENT **Semester**

Prerequisite: None
Credit: 2 credits
Class Size: 20 students
Grade Level: 10th – 12th Graders

Course Description: Agriculture is a cornerstone of business in western Minnesota and much of the nation. Individuals involved in agriculture run highly complex businesses which require thoughtful planning and analysis. Students will learn how to run their own business, keep records on it, develop budgets, and make management decisions. The Adult Ag. Ed. department will assist at times in giving students "real" world type situations to look at in the business world.

COMMERCIAL DRIVER LICENSE /COMMERCIAL PESTICIDE APPLICATOR LICENSE

Prerequisite: None
Credit: 2 credits
Class Size: 20 students
Grade Level: 11th – 12th Grade (Must be 17 to obtain class B CDL or 18 to obtain class A CDL and Commercial Pesticide Applicator License)

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Students will gain the information needed to obtain a Commercial Drivers License. The students will study the testing manual, as well as perform pre and post trip inspections. (Students will also have the opportunity to practice driving trucks to prepare for the state driving test) Various endorsements may be covered in the class as well. The student will also learn about the world of fertilizer and pesticide application. We will cover the information needed to obtain a commercial pesticide applicator license as well as what it takes to be successful in an ever evolving career.

COLLEGE IN THE SCHOOLS (CIS)
INTRODUCTION TO AMINAL SCIENCE

Prerequisite: Top 50% of graduating class; Earned a C or higher in Animal Science.
Credit: 2 high school credits; 4 University of Minnesota credits
Class Size: 20 students
Grade Level: 11th – 12th Grade

Course Description: Are you interested in a career that involves animals? Or do you have plans to raise some hobby animals in the future? Introduction to animal science puts an emphasis on fundamental concepts of physiology, nutrition, animal breeding and management as they apply to production systems of livestock, poultry and companion animals. Anyone planning to raise animals or work in the animal agriculture industry are highly encouraged to enroll in the course.

AG WORK PROGRAM / OJT

Prerequisite: None
Credit: 2 credits/course
2 course maximum/semester
Grade Level: 11th – 12th Grade

Course Description: Students can earn credit while working in the community! Students enrolled in the Work Program will complete a fall semester OJT course held at the school. The course will prepare students for the workforce by working on skill development such as teamwork, communication, and interviewing. Students enrolled in OJT are eligible to earn credit at their worksite. Each 2 semester credits can be earned by working a minimum of 15 hours/week. Please visit with the Ag Department instructors before enrolling!

ADVANCED AG SHOP

Prerequisite: Passing grade in at least one Ag Shop class: Welding, Small Engines, Ag Mechanics, Basic Automotive Care *Instructor approval required.
Credit: 2
Class Size: 20 students
Grade Level: 11th – 12th Grade

Students enrolled in Advanced Ag Placement will have the opportunity to further develop their knowledge in a shop course that they have enrolled in earlier in their high school career. Students will work with the instructor to pick shop projects that will challenge them in areas of welding, mechanics, or other agriculturally related topics of interest. This will be an individually based class in which students plan and complete their own projects. Students may take Advanced Ag Shop multiple times if approved by the Ag Instructors.

World Languages

SPANISH I **Full Year**

Prerequisite: NONE
Credit: 4 credits
Class Size: 25 students
Grade Level: 9th – 12th Grade

Course Description: This course will introduce the student to the Spanish language. Emphasis will be placed on the basic fundamentals of listening, speaking, reading, and writing in Spanish. There will be daily practice in pronunciation of the vocabulary and grammatical concepts. Spanish culture will be presented through readings, discussions, and movies.

Units covered include:

Unit 1 – México - Family and describing people
Unit 2 – Puerto Rico - House and leisure activities
Unit 3 – Guatemala - Shopping and clothing
Unit 4 – Perú - Food
Unit 5 – España - Parts of the body and hygiene
Unit 6 – Estados Unidos - Sports and work
Unit 7 – Argentina - Travel and transportation
Unit 8 – Chile - Nature and environment

SPANISH II **Full Year**

Prerequisite: Spanish I (Must pass with a grade of C- higher)
Credit: 4 credits
Class Size: 25 students
Grade Level: 10th – 12th Grade

Course Description: This course will course will give the student the opportunity to build on their knowledge from Spanish I. There will be daily activities to expand their listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills. Emphasis will be on perfecting pronunciation, advanced grammatical structures, learning additional verb tenses, and improving reading comprehension. Spanish culture will continue to be studied through readings, discussions, and movies.

Units covered include:

Unit 1 – Centroamérica - Family and characteristics
Unit 2 – Las Antillas- House and neighborhood
Unit 3 – Andes Centrales - Clothing and shopping
Unit 4 – Norteamérica - Food
Unit 5 – España - Parts of the body
Unit 6 – Caribe Continental - Trips and excursions
Unit 7 – Río de la Plata - School and activities

SPANISH III **Full Year**

Prerequisite: Spanish I and Spanish II (Must pass both with a grade of C- higher)
Credit: 4 credits
Class Size: 25 students
Grade Level: 11th – 12th Grade

Course Description: This course builds upon knowledge gained in Spanish 1 & 2. There will be a continuation and recycling of knowledge acquired in previous Spanish courses, as well as an introduction to new vocabulary, structures, and expressions. The student will use advanced language expressions, grammatical concepts, and verbs in the past tenses, future, conditional, and subjunctive. Spanish culture, literature, art, and music will be studied.

Units covered include:

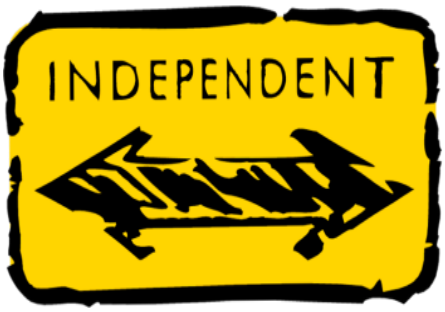
Unit 1 – Family Relationships and the Past
Unit 2 – Future and Traditional Festivities
Unit 3 – Clothing and Traditional Costumes
Unit 4 – Food, Landmarks, and Tourist
Unit 5 – Professions and Historical and Figures
Unit 6 – Sports and Pastimes
Unit 7 – Cultural and Environmental Celebrations
Unit 8 – History of Hispanic Countries

MISCELLANEOUS COURSE OFFERINGS

REACH 7-12 **Full Year**

Prerequisite: None
Credit: 4 credits
Class Size: 10 students/class offering
Grade Level: 9th – 12th Graders

Course Description: REACH provides a safe place for students to belong, connect, and support each other. It also ensures positive learning opportunities through academic support and individual assignment modification as needed. REACH is a staff support network committed to helping students succeed. In this course, students will be guided to work on Relationships, Education, Accountability, Character, and Hard Work. This program has been set up to enhance the quality of education for students by encouraging positive personal and academic growth through a variety of skill building activities and goal setting. In this class, students will be assessed using, weekly academic assessments, weekly behavior assessments, and Pay-It-Forward Projects.

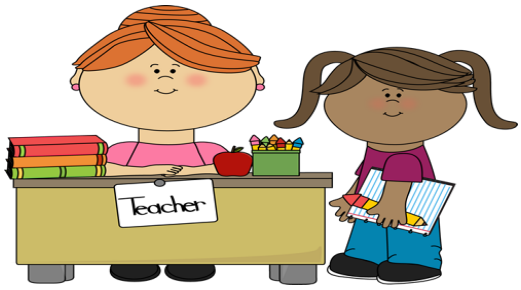


INDEPENDENT STUDY **Semester**

Prerequisite: Administration and Parent Approval
Credit: 2 credits
Class Size: 10 students/class offering
Grade Level: 11th and 12th Graders

Course Description: Many semester courses are available and purchased from a distance learning provider like the ND Center for Distance Education or Brigham Young University Independent Study. Students work on their assignments in the scheduled IS time during the school day; they may also work on their own. All tests must be proctored by the assigned WCA Independent Study supervisor. Assignments and tests are mailed or sent online to the NDCDE or BYU instructor who is responsible for all grading.

Additional Information: Upon completion of course work student will earn 2 credits, which does affect GPA. The course materials and registration fees are paid by WCA. If not completed by the **end of the semester** or if the student has earned an F: no credit. Students will work on coursework daily during scheduled IS time. All coursework must be completed in semester timeframe.



EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANT (EA) **Semester**

Prerequisite: Administration, Parent, and Teacher Approval
Credit: 2 credits
Class Size: None
Grade Level: 12th Graders

Course Description: Seniors who are EAs assist the teacher(s) doing things like copying, running errands, keyboarding, filing, bulletin boards, flashcards or whatever the teacher needs help with. An EA is expected to be trustworthy, ambitious, competent, dependable, productive, punctual, resourceful, neat and accurate, and have good attendance and conduct. Students must do quality work for the teacher and demonstrate the above qualities. Stay in the teacher's room when not in the copy room or doing an errand for the teacher. This opportunity is available pass/fail only.

YEARBOOK **Full Year**

Prerequisite: Teacher Approval
Credit: 4 English credits 1st Year/4 elective credits 2nd Year
Class Size: 12
Grade Level: 11th and 12th Graders

Course Description: In this year long course students will plan, develop, and produce WCA's yearbook. Students are responsible for data gathering, photography, page layout and design. Students will organize content to produce a creative and visually appealing yearbook. Course grading is based on participation, teamwork, and the quality of the final project. Students must contact teacher in advance of registration.

ON-THE-JOB TRAINING (OJT) **Semester**

Prerequisite: Teacher Approval
Credit: 2 credits
Class Size: 20
Grade Level: 11th and 12th Graders

Course Description: On-the-Job Training (OJT), provides an opportunity for students to gain meaningful paid or unpaid supervised work-based learning experiences in a business or industry setting. The OJT program/course supplements classroom instruction in a specific Career and Technical Education program, in order to give students a chance to apply the knowledge and skills acquired in school in a job that correlates to their instructional program. Classroom course work addresses essential employment skills such as writing a resume, applying for a job and customer service. Students can find their own jobs or be placed by the teacher.

FIRST RESPONDERS CLASS **Semester**

Prerequisite: Anatomy and Physiology is helpful but not required
Credit: 2 credits
Class Size: 10 students
Grade Level: 10th – 12th Graders

Course Description: Do you like helping people in need? Planning on entering the medical field after high school? Do you want to learn a skill that could provide you with a job during college? Then the emergency medical class is for you! Learn what it takes to provide prehospital care to patients in need of medical attention. EMR is an introduction into a world of emergency medical services. Students will become certified in CPR as well as state and nationally certified as an EMR. Students will learn about the human body, interaction with patients and how to care for medical and traumatic emergencies.

EMT CLASS **Full Year**

Prerequisite: First Responder Trained; Must be 18 to take EMT test at end of class
Credit: 8 credits
Class Size: 10
Grade Level: 12th Graders

Course Description: Students will enter the world of pre-hospital care in a year-long course to become an emergency medical technician (EMT). Students will learn about the human body and how medical emergencies can affect the human mind and body. Students will be able to practice new skills with hands on activities. Students will become nationally certified as an EMT, as well as AHA certified in CPR.

CNA TRAINING **Semester**

Prerequisite: None
Credit: 2 credits AND 3 ACTC College credits
Class Size: 20
Grade Level: 10th – 12th Graders

Course Description: Students will learn how to perform the tasks necessary to care for people who are in long-term care facilities. Students will learn how to care for a patient and the area that the patient lives in. This class is given in cooperation with Alexandria Technical College and will enable the student to begin a career in the healthcare fields.

College Credit Courses

COLLEGE ALGEBRA **Full Year**

Prerequisite: Pass Accuplacer Exam
Credit: 4 math credits AND 4 MSCTC college credits
Class Size: 30 students
Grade Level: 10th – 12th Graders

Course Description: This course investigates the fundamental concepts of algebra, including functional analysis and their applications at a college level. It covers polynomial, rational, radical, exponential, and logarithmic functions utilizing equations, inequalities, complex numbers, and systems of equations. This course is offered as an off-campus opportunity through Minnesota State Community and Technical College.

PRECALCULUS **Full Year**

Prerequisite: College Algebra or Pass Accuplacer Exam
Credit: 5 math credits AND 5 MSCTC college credits
Class Size: 30 students
Grade Level: 10th – 12th Graders

Course Description: This course investigates functional analysis of single variable functions and their applications at a college level. It covers polynomial, rational, radical, exponential, logarithmic, and trigonometric functions. This course is offered as an off-campus opportunity through Minnesota State Community and Technical College.

CALCULUS I **Full Year**

Prerequisite: Precalculus or Pass Accuplacer Exam
Credit: 5 math credits AND 5 MSCTC college credits
Class Size: 30 students
Grade Level: 11th and 12th Graders

Course Description: This course investigates the fundamental concepts of calculus, including differential and integral calculus. It covers limits, continuity, derivatives, definite and indefinite integrals utilizing algebraic, exponential, logarithmic, and trigonometric functions. This course is offered as an off-campus opportunity through Minnesota State Community and Technical College.

CALCULUS II **Full Year**

Prerequisite: Precalculus or Pass Accuplacer Exam
Credit: 5 math credits AND 5 MSCTC college credits
Class Size: 30 students
Grade Level: 11th and 12th Graders

Course Description: This course investigates calculus of single variable functions and their applications. It covers improper integrals, integration techniques, polar coordinates, and infinite series utilizing algebraic, exponential, logarithmic, trigonometric, and hyperbolic functions. This course is offered as an off-campus opportunity through Minnesota State Community and Technical College.

CNA TRAINING **Semester**

Prerequisite: None
Credit: 2 credits AND 3 ACTC College credits
Class Size: 20
Grade Level: 10th – 12th Graders

Course Description: Students will learn how to perform the tasks necessary to care for people who are in long-term care facilities. Students will learn how to care for a patient and the area that the patient lives in. This class is given in cooperation with Alexandria Technical College and will enable the student to begin a career in the healthcare fields.

COLLEGE PHYSICS **Full Year**
Prerequisite: Precalculus AND Pass Accuplacer Exam
Credit: 4 Science credits AND 4 MSCTC college credits
Class Size: 30 students
Grade Level: 1th and 12th Graders

Course Description: This course investigates the fundamental concepts of physics, including Newtonian and Hamiltonian mechanics. It covers statics and dynamics in linear and rotational motion, as well as fluids, waves, and sound utilizing theoretical and experimental methods. Students will also study thermodynamics, electromagnetism, and modern physics. It covers fluids, solids, electricity, magnetism, circuits, optics, and atomic physics utilizing theoretical and experimental methods. This course is offered as an off-campus opportunity through Minnesota State Community and Technical College.

COLLEGE WRITING **Semester**
Prerequisite: Passing Score on Accuplacer Test
Credit: 2 English credits AND 3 MSCTC college credits
Class Size: 25
Grade Level: 11th and 12th Graders

Course Description: College Writing 1101 is an introductory course designed to prepare students for later college writing. The course focuses on developing fluency by reading good writing and then using the process approach with particular emphasis on revision. Students will learn to consider purpose and audience, read and discuss writing, and further develop their own writing processes through successive revisions to produce highly polished drafts. Requirements: An entering student should be able to read and comprehend introductory college level texts and/or essays and compose sentences and paragraphs that represent coherent thinking using "standard" English. Students will complete multiple drafts of multiple essays, an MLA-style research paper and an APA-style revision of it.

POETICS OF ROCK **Semester**
Prerequisite: Pass Accuplacer Test AND admitted to MSCTC
Credit: 2 English credits OR 2 MSCTC college credits
Class Size: 25
Grade Level: 11th and 12th Graders

Course Description: This course focuses on the study of poetry and poetic techniques through the lyrics of modern music, with an emphasis on Minnesota songwriters and performers. Students will need to possess and develop skills in literary interpretation and be able to produce written and verbal responses to pieces addressed in class. A final project will constitute 10% of the Semester Grade.

ONLINE COLLEGE IN H.S. **Semester**
Prerequisite: G.P.A. AND Pass Accuplacer Exam; Parent/Guardian AND Administrative Approval
Credit: 3-4 College AND High School credits
Class Size: N/A
Grade Level: 11th and 12th Graders

Course Description: This program offers courses from the Minnesota State Colleges and University institutions to high school students in a distance learning format. A variety of courses are offered each semester and all grading is done by the college instructor.

Additional Information: Must meet GPA (2.8 seniors, 3.2 juniors) and placement testing requirements set by the colleges.

INTRODUCTION TO LITERATURE **Semester**
Prerequisite: Qualify as a College NOW student
Credit: 2 English credits OR 2 SMUM college credits*
Class Size: 25
Grade Level: 11th and 12th Graders

Course Description: Introduction to Literature will focus on literary analysis of a variety of texts, focusing on writers with Minnesota roots. Students wishing to take this class for college credit will need to qualify as College Now students, according to SMSU policy (3.0 or better GPA & top half of class). Because of the rigorous schedule, it is highly recommended that students read the required texts during the summer. A complete list of works is available from the instructor, with all of them available through the Viking Library System or from the instructor.

*Note: Introduction to Literature. has not yet been approved as a college-credit concurrent course through Southwest MN State University. Students enrolled in the class will be notified when the class is approved or if approval is denied. This class may also be taken for high school credit.