

South Williamsport Senior High School  
Curriculum Booklet  
2023-2024

# Graduation Requirements

## 1). Local Requirements

- 4 credits – English
  - 4 credits – Math
  - 3 credits – Social Studies
  - 3 credits – Science
  - 0.5 credits – Physical Education
  - 0.5 credits – Health
  - 9 credits – Electives
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TOTAL: 24 credits

\*1-2 years CTE = 23 credits      \* 3 years CTE = 22 credits

## 2). Additional Requirements

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania mandates graduation requirements for all students in the Pennsylvania public school system. In addition to local requirements, all students must complete one of the five options below to satisfy the state graduation requirements.

1. Score proficient or advanced on each Keystone exam – Algebra I, Literature, and Biology.
2. Earn a composite score of 4452 on the Algebra I, Literature, and Biology Keystone exams. Students must have at least one proficient or advanced and no below basic scores.
3. Pass (70+) the courses associated with all three Keystone exams (Algebra 1, English 10, and Biology) and satisfactorily complete one of the following:
  - a. An established score on one of the following alternative assessments:
    - i. SAT - 1010
    - ii. ACT - 21
    - iii. PSAT/NMSQT - 970
    - iv. ASVAB - 31
  - b. Gold level on the ACT WorkKeys Assessment
  - c. Score 3 or better on an AP exam that is content-related to each Keystone exam
  - d. Successfully complete a concurrent enrollment course that is content-related to each Keystone exam
  - e. Acceptance to an accredited 4-year institution of higher education and evidence of the ability to enroll in college-level coursework
  - f. Successfully complete a pre-apprenticeship program
4. Pass (70+) the courses associated with all three Keystone exams (Algebra 1, English 10, and Biology), be a Career and Technical Education (CTE) concentrator, and satisfactorily complete one of the following:
  - a. **Attain an industry-recognized credential related to their program of study**
  - b. **Demonstrate a high likelihood of success on an approved industry-based competency assessment (NOCTI)**
5. Pass (70+) the courses associated with all three Keystone exams (Algebra 1, English 10, and Biology) and demonstrate three pieces of evidence including:

- a. One of the following:
  - i. SAT subject test – 630
  - ii. Silver level on ACT WorkKeys Assessment
  - iii. Score 3 or better on any AP exam
  - iv. Successfully complete any dual enrollment course or other approved post-secondary course
  - v. Receive an industry-recognized credential
  - vi. Acceptance to an accredited, other than 4-year institution of higher education and evidence of the ability to enroll in college-level coursework
- b. Two additional pieces of evidence, including one more of the options listed above, or:
  - i. Attainment of a score of proficient or advanced on any Keystone exam
  - ii. Successfully complete a service-learning project
  - iii. Successfully complete an internship, externship, or cooperative education program
  - iv. Compliance with NCAA Division II academic requirements
  - v. Letter guaranteeing full-time employment or military enlistment

## CURRICULUM BOOKLET

## DESCRIPTION OF COURSES BY DEPARTMENT

### ART DEPARTMENT

(2D) 2 DIMENSIONAL DESIGN I (Semester) Drawing from observation to develop strong drawing skills. Focus will be on identifying and recording value, proportion and spatial relationships.

(2D) 2 DIMENSIONAL DESIGN ADVANCED (Semester) This course is a continuation of 2D Design skills with the aim that you will become more comfortable recording and expressing information visually. This course offers more freedom of image choice and opportunity for self expression and critical thinking. A variety of materials will be utilized and color theory will be introduced.

(3D) 3 DIMENSIONAL DESIGN I (Semester) Learn to design and form ceramic works of art. Explore methods of fabrication. Topics covered will be brief history of clay in the art world, design for function and art, building and finishing techniques as well as firing.

(3D) 3 DIMENSIONAL DESIGN ADVANCED (Semester) This course is a continuation of tasks introduced in the level I course. Advanced technique and more complex design work will be encountered.

FIGURE DRAWING (Semester) The human figure is central to much of what an artist has to say; therefore, the focus of this course is the human figure. Drawing and sculpting from models teaches one to be spontaneous and forthright when recording the pose. Time is utilized to learn the human form. Time will also be spent completing works of art that include the human form. This advanced course is recommended for those students who have completed 2D Design I and in grade 10-12.

### BUSINESS & TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT

*The current business & technology curriculum has been updated to provide the life skills needed by every high school student to succeed in today's high-tech world. Courses are provided not only for individuals desiring to work in an office environment but also for students considering business management, administration, or business ownership as an ultimate career goal. Numerous courses may be selected as electives for those students not wishing to major in business.*

ACCOUNTING I – Small Business Accounting (Semester) Begin to make cents of financial accounting. With introduction to financial statements, cash control systems, and entries in a general ledger, this yellow brick road course will provide the building blocks for understanding the financial aspects of sole proprietorship. Throughout the semester long course, students will receive an overview of accounting concepts, the fundamentals of the accounting equation (assets, liabilities, & owner's equity) as well as analyze how transactions affect the accounting equation for a service business organized as a proprietorship. This course can be used to fulfill math core requirements toward graduation.

BUSINESS & TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT, cont.

ACCOUNTING II – Corporate Accounting (Semester) Take the next step in accounting! This course is for students who have successfully completed Accounting I- Small Business Accounting and would like to seek employment or major in a business-related field. The basics learned in Accounting I are expanded upon where students learn how to manage accounting for merchandising corporations. Throughout this semester long course, students will learn to keep accounting transactions organized using special journals (Purchases, Sales, Cash Payments, & Cash Receipts), manage payroll records, corporate tax, as well as prepare financial statements. This course can be used to fulfill math core requirements toward graduation.

ADVANCED BUSINESS LAW (Semester) Interested in learning more about the law and how it affects you specifically? Sign up for this semester course that will teach you even more about civil & criminal law, contracts, wills, trusts, estates, and much more! Uncover the facts of law through real case scenarios, mock trials, and exposure to law enforcement practices! Prerequisite - Business Law (11 and 12 grade)

ADVANCED PROGRAMMING (Semester) Did you enjoy Introduction to Programming? Are you ready to learn more? If so, sign up for this course. You will learn additional coding concepts to increase the complexity of your program designs. Successful completion of Intro to Programming is strongly recommended. Prerequisite – Introduction to Programming

AP COMPUTER SCIENCE PRINCIPLES (Full Year) This course consists of an object-oriented programming methodology with an emphasis on problem solving and algorithm development and is meant to be taken in preparation for the AP CSP exam. It also includes the study of data structures and abstraction. Students will learn to design and implement computer programs that solve problems relevant to today's society, including art, media, and engineering. Students will also learn to apply programming tools and solve complex problems through hands-on experiences and examples. In addition, students will explore various technological gadgets and apply coding concepts (i.e. Spheros, Ozobots, Mbots, Raspberry Pi, etc.) These students will prepare for the Computer Science Principles Advanced Placement examination given in May. This course is designed for grades 11 - 12.

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BUSINESS LAW (Semester) Interested in learning about the law and how it affects your daily life? Sign up for this semester course that will teach you about civil & criminal law, torts, contracts, and much more! Uncover the facts of law through real case scenarios, mock trials, and a visit to the court house just to name a few of the activities this course will entail!

BIM120: SOCIAL MEDIA IN BUSINESS AND SOCIETY (Full Year)

Examination of the strategic use of social media for personal, professional, and business communications, advertising, and marketing. Course work includes using various social media tools, creating and sharing content, and collaborating on group campaigns using social media for social change. This course also includes analysis of current and emerging social media tools from a personal and business prospective. 3 College Credits (3 Lecture – 0 Lab). Students can elect to audit this course, which means no college credit would be awarded. Grades 11 - 12

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#### **BUSINESS & TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT, cont.**

BWM150: Introduction to Web Page Development (Semester) Introductory coverage of the Internet and online Web technologies. Skills learned include how

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to plan, create, and maintain static web pages. 3 College Credits (3 Lecture – 0 Lab). Students can elect to audit this course, which means no college credit would be awarded. (11 and 12 grade)

(CADD) COMPUTER-AIDED DESIGN AND DRAFTING (Semester) This course will introduce students to 3-dimensional parametric modeling and 2-dimensional drafting using Autodesk Fusion 360 software. Emphasis will be placed on the line, circle, constraint, extrude, revolve and sweep commands used to create 3-dimensional models. Technical drawing concepts covered will be multi-view drawings, isometric drawings, orthographic projection, dimensioning, and section views. Students who desire to pursue careers in mechanical, construction, architecture, engineering or scientific fields will benefit from this class.

COMPUTER APPLICATIONS (Semester) Do you need to report on a topic, prepare a resume, build a graph, create a spreadsheet for easy calculating of information, give an interactive presentation, or utilize web based tools? You can use different applications to meet all your needs. This semester elective will focus on the practical parts of Microsoft Word (Word Processing), Microsoft Excel (Spreadsheets), Microsoft PowerPoint (presentations) and Microsoft Publisher (Desktop publishing). In addition, you will learn multiple web-based tools that allow you to format and manipulate data. See how this course can make your school and employment life easier by strengthening your computer application skills!

DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY (Semester) This course is designed to give the student an introductory through intermediate experience in the world of Digital Photography. Students will gain an exceptional understanding of digital photography cameras, manual settings, lighting, shadows, camera angles and techniques for capturing quality photographic images. Students will also work with Adobe Photoshop, the industry leading software choice for editing used by professionals around the world. At completion of this course, students will have produced a digital photography portfolio that will be used to highlight their work throughout this course.

ELECTRO MECHANICAL PROGRAMMING (Semester) In this course students will take an in depth look at basic electrical concepts and circuits. Students will use this knowledge to control (program) electric circuits using Arduino microprocessors. Snap Circuit and Snapino kits will be used to reinforce theoretical knowledge. Students will also use digital multimeters to measure voltage, resistance and amperage.

ENTREPRENEURSHIP (Semester) Do you like the idea of being your own boss? Do you want to own your own business some day? This semester course will take you on a step-by-step journey through the entire process of owning your own business. You will select a product or service to sell, determine your customers, market your business, manage your employees, and assemble a business plan.

#### **BUSINESS & TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT, cont.**

FUTURE LEADERS (Semester) Do you want to become more confident? Are you interested in gaining skills that transfer into every aspect of your life? Do you enjoy working collaboratively for a common good? Join this fall semester class to discover your strengths and weaknesses. You will learn to accentuate those strengths while improving your weaknesses to achieve your goals. Community service work is planned and executed in this course. Leadership skills are developed and strengthened through hands-on projects and activities. This course is entirely project-based, no notes or tests. Joining FBLA (Club I) is encouraged, but not required.

INTRODUCTION TO BUSINESS (Semester) Have you ever thought of owning your own business someday? Do you consider yourself a leader? Or do you just simply want to know more about the business world and how it works? Make it your business and enroll in this course that will uncover the exciting concepts of the real business world!

INTRODUCTION TO PROGRAMMING (Semester) Interested in understanding the process used to create game programs? Do you enjoy being challenged by complex technology issues? Are you creative? This semester course will provide you with skills necessary to design your own functional computer programs through hands-on practical projects. In addition, students will explore various technological gadgets and apply coding concepts (i.e. Spheros, Ozobots, Mbots, Raspberry Pi, etc.)

MULTIMEDIA (Semester) This course is designed to give the student an introductory experience in various multimedia applications. Students will learn to manipulate digital photographs, record audio tracks, edit digital video and create digital animations.

PERSONAL FINANCE (Semester) Looking to get the most “bang” for your buck? Take this semester course to develop a personal budget, compare cost of living, understand credit, investigate saving and investing options, explore borrowing money, and much more! This course can be used to fulfill math core requirements toward graduation. Grades 10 – 12

SPORTS MARKETING (Semester) Fascinated by the world of sports and entertainment? This semester course will cover the intriguing world of sports and entertainment from the marketing perspective. Topics covered will include such items as a brief history of sports marketing, the marketing mix, product life cycle, and pricing strategies. In addition, professional guest speakers from major sporting organizations and real world projects will provide students with a hands-on experience!

WOOD TECHNOLOGY I (Semester) This course is designed to allow the student to expand his or her individuality and creative expression through Intermediate level projects in Woodworking. Students are introduced to basic safety and operation of: the jointer, planer, table saw, miter saw, router table, drill press, band saw, oscillating spindle sander, wood lathes, cordless drill, various hand tools and basic computer aided design (CAD) software. Emphasis is placed on learning comprehension, mathematics, safe practices and problem solving. Students are expected to work both in groups and individually.

## CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

*All CTE programs are available to 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, and 12<sup>th</sup> grade students and held at Williamsport Area High School. Level 1 students interested will need to complete an application in the spring prior to the next school year.*

AUTOMOTIVE TECHNOLOGY This program prepares students to apply technical knowledge and skills in the servicing and maintenance of all types of automobiles and light trucks. A state-of-the-art laboratory is available that enables complete instruction in all aspects of vehicle maintenance.

BIOTECHNOLOGY This is an instructional program that focuses on the application of the biological sciences, biochemistry and genetics in preparation of new and enhanced agricultural, environmental, clinical and industrial products including the commercial exploitation of microbes, plants and animals. This program may include instruction in bioinformatics, gene identification, phylogenetics and comparative genomics, bioinorganic chemistry, immunoassaying, DNA sequencing, xenotransplantation, genetic engineering, industrial microbiology, drug and biologic development, enzyme based production process, patent law and biotechnology management and marketing, applicable regulations and biotechnology ethics.

COMMERCIAL ART This program prepares students to apply the elements and principles of design, basic drawing skills, color, typography and creativity. Students will learn intermediate components of Adobe's graphic design software. In addition, students will study advertising and design, illustration, page layout, computer graphics, digital photography, color separation, digital file preparation and output, and portfolio preparation.

COMPUTER INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY This program begins with the CompTIA A+ certification then works with Cisco Certified Entry Networking Technician (CCENT). The curriculum covers networking fundamentals, WAN technologies, basic security and wireless concepts, routing and switching fundamentals, and configuring simple networks. Installing Premises Cabling following the TIA/EIA-568B standards would be included in this class.

CONSTRUCTION TRADES This program prepares students to apply technical knowledge and skill in the erection and installation of buildings and other structures using assorted materials such as metal, wood, stone, brick, glass, concrete, and composition materials.

CULINARY ARTS This program provides instruction and experiences for students interested in careers in all areas of the food service industry. Students will receive direct experiences in the Millionaire Café, which is a student-operated restaurant in the WAHS.

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION This will prepare students for a variety of occupations in child care and guidance. Students will gain hands-on experience with small children in a school-operated child care center.

ENGINEERING & ROBOTICS This program introduces students to a broad range of engineering technology topics such as programming, robotics, magnetism, generator/motors, process control and AC & DC circuit analysis.

HEALTH OCCUPATIONS This is a cluster program designed to prepare a person for employment in health occupations such as a Certified Nurse's Assistant.

#### **CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, cont.**

HOMELAND SECURITY An instructional program that prepares individuals to apply technical knowledge and skills required to perform entry-level duties in law enforcement, firefighting, EMT and other safety services. This program stresses the techniques, methods and procedures specific to the areas of criminal justice and fire protection especially in emergency and disaster situations. Physical development and self-confidence skills are emphasized due to the nature of the specific occupation(s). In addition to the application of mathematics, communication, science and physics, students receive training in social and psychological skills, map reading, vehicle and equipment operations, the judicial system, pre-hospital emergency medical care and appropriate emergency assessment, treatment and communication.

PRECISION MACHINING This program introduces students to the design process to solve production problems by researching and designing a project or item, building the jigs and fixtures, and producing the finished projects.



Students will experience foundry work, welding, flame cutting and welding, basic CNC programming, mill, drill, saw, grinder and lathe operation, precise measurement, blueprint reading, etc.

WELDING This program provides students with the skills to use a variety of welding processes using standards established by the American Welding Society.

## ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

*All English courses will include career pathways-oriented writing instruction and assessment in these areas: reports and summaries, resumes and cover letters, research and analysis, and business/professional email, test, letter, and proposal formats.*

ADVANCED ENGLISH 9 Designed to challenge and motivate students who possess the potential to excel in language arts. Advanced English 9 has been designed for those committed to completing a four-year advanced program culminating in Advanced Placement English Literature and Composition. In addition to mastering an intensive vocabulary program, students will study literature including a Shakespearean play, several novels, short stories and poetry. Students will also develop their ability to write effectively different kinds of essays.

AP (ADVANCED PLACEMENT) ENGLISH LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION This course is designed to prepare students to take the AP exam in Literature and Composition. Students who take this examination and score proficiently may be able to use this score as a replacement for a freshman English course in college. This class includes major works by Shakespeare, Camus, Woolf, Dillard and many others. In addition to novels and plays, students will read a great deal of poetry, many short stories, and a few essays. Reading, analyzing, and responding in writing to the works of classic authors is the thrust of this course. Students taking this class will be challenged to improve on essay structure and content and to master upper-level vocabulary. They will have the opportunity to hone their critical thinking, reading, and writing skills, which should prepare them for the rigors and expectations of the college classroom. If the student does not complete required summer assignments, the student will be asked to leave the class. This is a content-driven course, therefore, students enrolled in this course are expected to keep pace.

## ENGLISH DEPARTMENT, cont.

AMERICAN PLAYS (Semester) A semester of famous works by American playwrights. Playwrights include Arthur Miller, Lorraine Hansberry, and Thornton Wilder. The course will focus on the thematic content and literary devices used by the authors.

BIOGRAPHIES (Semester) A course that focuses on the nonfiction genre. This includes biographies, profiles, diaries, letters, critiques, and reviews. Texts include, but are not limited to, *Tuesdays with Morrie* and *Narrative in the Life of Frederick Douglass*.

BUSINESS WRITING & COMMUNICATIONS (Semester) In today's personal and professional world, communication is one of the most vital skills to develop. Your effectiveness in communicating ideas, feelings, instructions, and thoughts are key to your success, especially in business. Business Communication is designed to introduce you to skills and practices that will help you communicate and develop communication strategy for yourself in business and/or for your business and your clients/stakeholders. In this class, students learn about

how to write more effectively and use a clear and direct voice in business communications. Documents covered include resumes, business memos, proposals, and brochures as well as the use of email. This course will include writing reports and summaries requiring research and analysis of texts, websites, and other materials deemed necessary.

\*This course is not NCAA approved as a core academic course.

COMPOSITION (Semester) This course is highly recommended not only as a college preparatory course, but as a course designed to sharpen writing skills for any future vocation. This course will consist of essays based on accompanying readings including Classification, Comparison and Contrast, Process Analysis, Induction and Deduction, and Patterns of Argument (Persuasive). Objectives include improving clarity in reading comprehension and writing precision; understanding a writer's specific audience and how to construct one's writing to that audience; and to explain and/or persuade an audience. Activities include outlining, rough drafts, peer editing, and final drafts.

DYSTOPIAN LITERATURE (Semester) This course in political and critical theory focuses around the diverse literature and thought identified broadly as dystopian. We will examine novels, short stories, and films as theoretical texts. The purpose of the course is to expose students to a variety of literary and critical works, and to examine dystopian thought from the perspective of political, social, and cultural perspectives. This course will include writing reports and summaries requiring research and analysis of texts, websites, and other materials deemed necessary.

ENGLISH 9 English 9 will consist of material based on the Common Core Standards for 9<sup>th</sup> grade students. Students will use evidence from texts to support analysis, reflection, and research. Students will organize writing into clear, coherent, well-developed paragraphs and essays while keeping in mind both audience and purpose. Students will read closely to determine not only what the text states explicitly, but also the themes and logical inferences within the works. Vocabulary will be studied, along with novels, short stories, poems, and plays.

#### ENGLISH DEPARTMENT, cont.

ENGLISH 10 English 10 will consist of material based on the Common Core Standards for 10<sup>th</sup> grade students. Students will use evidence from texts to support analysis, reflection, and research. Students will organize writing into clear, coherent, well-developed paragraphs and essays while keeping in mind both audience and purpose. Students will read closely to determine not only what the text states explicitly, but also the themes and logical inferences within the works. Vocabulary will be studied, along with novels, short stories, poems, and plays. This is the course aligned to the Literature Keystone Exam content.

FANTASY LITERATURE (Semester) Fantasy is one of the most popular genres across all types of media; from movies and video games to books and TV shows. This course aims to explore various fantasy worlds through contemporary and classic novels, short stories, films, and more. Topics include: motifs, archetypes, themes, and genre-specific elements. In addition to reading novels, short stories, and a variety of other written works, students will also write written reports, such as literary analysis and creative essays.

FROM LITERATURE TO FILM (Semester) This class will involve reading classic novels and scrutinizing their adaptation to the screen. While students read a novel, they imagine the characters, setting, and action taking place. This class allows students to use their imaginations in the form of a storyboard. Students first read a book that has a complementary film adaptation. They then learn about adaptation by writing short paragraphs and adapting them for film using storyboards. Once they have evaluated the adaptations, the students will create their visions of the books and compare them to the film. This course will include writing reports and summaries requiring research and analysis of texts, websites, and other materials deemed necessary.

INTERNATIONAL LITERATURE (Semester) This class will examine texts from various world cultures, from Africa, to Asia, to South America. These novels and short stories will expose students to genres and themes from foreign perspectives and distant lands. The goal of this course is to broaden students' perspectives and relate the American experience to those of cultures around the world. Class work will include projects and writings that explore the perceptions of a wide range of world-experiences. This course will include writing reports and summaries requiring research and analysis of texts, websites, and other materials deemed necessary.

LITERATURE OF WAR (Semester) Perhaps the oldest genre in literature, stories of war stretch back to ancient times. This course takes a more modern look at the words of war. Beginning with the Civil War and stretching to modern day non-fiction, this course examines how war, its combatants and its victims, its causes and its consequences, have been portrayed over the last 150 years. This course will include writing reports and summaries requiring research and analysis of texts, websites, and other materials deemed necessary. Assignments will include projects and essays related to the texts as well as up-to-date news and magazine articles.

SCIENCE FICTION (Semester) "Science fiction is a genre of fiction in which the stories often tell about science and technology of the future. It is important to note that science fiction has a relationship with the principles of science—these stories involve partially true- partially fictitious laws or theories of science" (www.readwritethink.org). This class blends science with literature in a curious combination. Along with reading classic sci-fi, the class also takes a cursory look at the social science, science, and technology behind the stories, from tyranny to astronomy to robotics. This course will include writing reports and summaries requiring research and analysis of texts, websites, and other materials deemed necessary.

#### ENGLISH DEPARTMENT, cont.

SHAKESPEAREAN COMEDIES AND TRAGEDIES (Semester) A semester of romantic comedies and famous tragedies including *Much Ado About Nothing*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Romeo and Juliet*, and *Hamlet*. Recommended for fans of Shakespeare and college bound students.

SOCIAL JUSTICE LITERATURE (Semester) A survey of historical novels and dramas that expose social injustice and inequity. Recommended for students intent on understanding and improving the human condition through the political process.

SPEECH COMMUNICATIONS (Semester) The communications course is an elective available to all students in grades 10-12 who want to improve upon formal speaking skills. Students present a wide variety of speeches ranging from informative and persuasive to impromptu and demonstration. All students find this an excellent introduction to the basics of public speaking and are able to develop a strong sense of confidence in speaking in and out of the classroom.

YEARBOOK (Full Year) Yearbook is journalistic in nature and allows students to participate in the production of the school yearbook. Students in this course are required to learn layout design; write and fit copy, captions, and headlines; sell advertisements; learn basic photography skills; and should be proficient on a computer. Individual responsibility is essential toward completion of assignments for deadlines. Students will also have the opportunity to accept leadership positions and develop new skills as they build the yearbook. \*This course does not count towards required English credits for graduation.

## FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

*Family and Consumer Science education's mission is to manage, with reason and creativity, the challenges across the lifespan of living and working in a global society.*

BAKING & PASTRIES (Semester) This course is a great option for anyone taking their first culinary (foods) course, or for anyone interested in learning more about the art and science of preparing baked goods. Students will gain a solid foundation in the fundamentals of food preparation such as kitchen safety and sanitation, reading and following recipes, proper equipment use, and measurement techniques. Units may include, but not be limited to, Quick Breads, Yeast Breads, Pies and Pastries, and Cookies. Each unit includes an exploration of a nutritional topic. The content is similar to the Fundamental of Foods course of 2022-2023.

CHILD DEVELOPMENT (Semester) Are you interested in working with children, have young children in your family, or are interested in being a parent one day? This may be the course for you! We will study the physical, social, emotional, and intellectual development of toddler and preschool children ages one through six years. This will include exploring major theories, research studies, and their applications. Various aspects of caring for and guiding children, such as nutrition, behavior, safety, health, and literacy, will be emphasized. Students will be introduced to career opportunities that involve working with children and related skills.

## FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCE DEPARTMENT, cont.

FOOD, NUTRITION, AND WELLNESS (Semester) In a world with so many food options, not to mention constraints on time and budget, this course focuses on making healthy and well-informed food choices as students study and practice nutritious meal planning and preparation. After a basic review, students will expand and apply their nutritional knowledge and food preparation skills as they prepare recipes in units based on the main food groups recommended by MyPlate: Grains, Proteins, Fruits, Vegetables, and Dairy. Related topics include the role of media in food choice, eating on the go, meals on a budget, and other aspects of eating that impact well-being. The course will culminate with a performance-based meal planning assessment. The content is similar to the Meal Planning & Prep course of 2022-2023.

GLOBAL CUISINES (Semester) In this course, students will use advanced culinary skills to prepare foods from various global regions. Participation in a previous foods course is recommended. After reviewing kitchen safety and sanitation, equipment, and techniques, students will prepare foods from countries such as Mexico, Italy, and China, with an emphasis on foods and techniques from each region. Students will analyze factors that influence cultural food choices and apply this as they study a region of their own choosing. Students will have the opportunity to prepare recipes from their chosen culture as time allows. The content is similar to the Regional Foods course of 2022-2023.

INFANT DEVELOPMENT (Semester) Are you interested in learning about pregnancy, childbirth, infant development, and related careers? In this course, students will investigate human development from conception through twelve months. Areas of study will include topics such as the stages of pregnancy and prenatal development, and related concerns such as nutrition, birth defects, high risk pregnancies, and birthing options. Students will also explore the social, emotional, physical, and intellectual development that occurs during an infant's first year. Students will analyze issues in health and safety at this stage of development.

TEXTILE ARTS (Semester) Textile Arts is a hands-on, project-based course, intended to teach students how to construct textile materials in a way which emphasizes problem solving, critical thinking, creativity, and collaboration. Units will include Machine and Hand-Stitching, Textile Science, an Elastic Waist Project (applying basic skills to construct shorts, pants, or a skirt, from a pattern, tailored to fit), an Upcycling Project which will focus on sustainability as students apply basic sewing skills to make a new product out of an old one, and a Project of Choice which will use more advanced skills to create an item like a tote bag, stuffed animal, clothing item, or small quilt of the student's own choosing. Students are responsible for the cost and purchasing of supplies.

#### FOREIGN LANGUAGE DEPARTMENT

FRENCH I Students are introduced to the four language proficiencies of listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Emphasis is placed on vocabulary acquisition and the formation of basic sentence patterns. Students are also introduced to French geography, customs, and culture.

FRENCH II The language skills of listening, speaking, reading, and writing from French I are reinforced and expanded appreciably. Emphasis is placed on expansion of verb and tense usage. Additional cultural activities that foster a familiarity with Paris are presented. Students are encouraged to express themselves through situational scenarios.

#### FOREIGN LANGUAGE DEPARTMENT, cont.

FRENCH III This course provides a thorough review of grammar from previous levels. Additional tenses and complex grammar structures are emphasized. Cultural activities center around the French influence in the United States and a comparative study of the major regions in France. Reading and writing in the target language are required. It is strongly advised that students enrolling in this course have an average of 85% or better in previous foreign language classes.

FRENCH IV Oral and written skills continue to be developed. Oral participation is encouraged by short class presentations on situational, cultural, or historical topics. Students read selections that pertain to French history and representational literature. Authentic documents such as newspaper articles and periodicals also comprise the reading material. Grammar principles and verb tenses are reviewed and expanded. Current social and political issues are discussed. It is strongly advised that students enrolling in this course have an average of 85% or better in previous foreign language classes.

SPANISH I This Spanish course is a Comprehensible Input Spanish class. In particular, we will use the TPRS (Teaching Proficiency through Reading and Storytelling) method of language instruction. Class time will be spent using Spanish--not using English to talk about Spanish--as much as possible. The primary focus will be on listening and reading, and the secondary focus will be on speaking and writing. Those skills will come naturally as

you consume more and more Spanish by listening and reading. We will focus our class time on the acquisition of high frequency structures (the most frequently used words in a language). We will use these structures in class discussions, stories, and cultural explorations. You will be expected to recognize them when you read or hear them and be able to produce them in speech and writing. Before the year ends, we will read a novel together as a class.

SPANISH II This Spanish course is a Comprehensible Input Spanish class. In particular, we will use the TPRS (Teaching Proficiency through Reading and Storytelling) method of language instruction. Class time will be spent using Spanish—not using English to talk about Spanish—as much as possible. The primary focus will be on listening and reading, and the secondary focus will be on speaking and writing. Those skills will come naturally as you consume more and more Spanish by listening and reading. We will focus our class time on the acquisition of high frequency structures (the most frequently used words in a language). We will use these structures in class discussions, stories, and cultural explorations. You will be expected to recognize them when you read or hear them and be able to produce them in speech and writing. We will read novels together as a class, as well as individually.

SPANISH III We continue improving our Spanish skills through Comprehensible Input, with an increased focus on class discussions, novels, cultural explorations and writing. It is strongly advised that students enrolling in this course have an average of 85% or better in previous foreign language classes.

SPANISH IV We continue improving our Spanish skills through Comprehensible Input, with an increased focus on class discussions, novels, cultural explorations and writing. It is strongly advised that students enrolling in this course have an average of 85% or better in previous foreign language classes.

## MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT

ALGEBRA I Algebra I is the fundamental course needed to advance into other branches of mathematics. The discovery of mathematical principles and the development of concepts are stressed as the fundamental operations of elementary Algebra are mastered. Students work with the real number system; operations in real numbers, including signed numbers; open sentences in one or two variables; graphing; equation solving; polynomials and factoring; operations with fractions. This is the course aligned to the Algebra I Keystone exam content.

ALGEBRA II This course will continue the study of algebra that was begun in Algebra I and will include such topics as higher-order equations and the complex number system.

ALGEBRA II ADVANCED This is the third course in the advanced math sequence. It will continue the study of algebra concepts and theory, and will include the study of non-linear equations and the complex number system. It is strongly advised that students enrolling in this course have an average of 85% or above in Algebra I and Geometry 9 Advanced.

AP (ADVANCED PLACEMENT) CALCULUS This course will consist of the three major concepts of calculus: limits, derivatives, and integrals. The course will provide an in-depth study of these concepts. Emphasis will be

placed on computation, mathematical theory, and applications. This course will follow the College Board guidelines for AP Calculus AB, and students will be prepared to take the AP Calculus Exam in May. This course is only offered through Mountie Academy. Prerequisite – Advanced Trigonometry

APPLIED ALGEBRA I This non-academic course will study topics relevant to everyday needs and will introduce elementary concepts of algebra and their practical applications. This course is recommended for students who scored Basic or Below Basic on the PSSA exam.

APPLIED ALGEBRA II This is the third non-academic course in the applied math sequence and will continue the study of algebra topics, their practical applications, and topics relevant to everyday needs. This course is recommended for students who scored Basic or Below Basic on the PSSA exam.

APPLIED GEOMETRY This is the second non-academic course in the applied math sequence and will stress the concepts of geometry as they apply to everyday life. This course is recommended for students who scored Basic or Below Basic on the PSSA exam.

CALCULUS This course will cover four main calculus topics to include: limits, derivatives, indefinite integrals, and definite integrals. By solving problems analytically, graphically and numerically it is the goal to have students actively involved in understanding these calculus concepts and using these techniques to solve and support solutions to many problems. Students will be exposed to many interesting applications in fields of biology, physics, finance, economics, engineering, statistics and others. It is the hope that students will be amazed and delighted to see what a profusion of problems calculus solves and the variety of fields that use calculus to bring an understanding of our world around us.

COLLEGE PLACEMENT EXAM PREPARATION (Semester) This course is for seniors that have struggled to achieve a high score on the SAT and will most likely will be required to take an early college placement exam. It will highlight major topics from Algebra I and II, Geometry, Trigonometry, and various other topics that many colleges test students on before scheduling classes.

#### MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT, cont.

GEOMETRY This course is the study of the properties of plane and solid figures that are important in the development of modern civilization. Emphasis is placed upon the development of a postulation system and the deductive method of proof of Euclidean postulates. Prerequisite - Algebra I

GEOMETRY 9 ADVANCED This is the second course in the honors math sequence. Geometry is the study of the properties of plane and solid figures that are important in the development of modern civilization. Emphasis is placed upon the development of a postulation system and the deductive method of proof of Euclidean postulates. It is strongly advised that students enrolling in this course have an average of 85% or above in all previous advanced courses.

MATH SAT PREPARATION (Semester) Do you want to improve your SAT score? If you are not sure of the correct answer, should you guess? In this class you will learn shortcuts, strategies, mathematical insights and critical-thinking skills to help you prepare for the test and improve your scores! Your strengths and weaknesses will be analyzed to focus on where you need remediation and you will monitor your progress! This class will provide a complete review of the material in the mathematics portion of the SAT focusing on reasoning and problem-solving skills in four categories: arithmetic, algebra, geometry, and other topics. We will focus on ways to increase your speed, accuracy and problem-solving skills! Let's raise those scores! Recommended for students

in grade 11.

PERSONAL MATHEMATICS (Semester) This course will deal with different topics which are useful in the lives of many each day, such as reconciling bank statements, filing taxes, loans, and credit. There will be sections on measurements and volumes. There will also be estimating and costing of paint, drywall, flooring, etc. as they deal with home improvements. Expenses in car and home ownership will also be covered. It is meant to show how math is used in many walks of life and by everyone to some extent. Suggested for grades 11 & 12.

PRE-CALCULUS (Semester) This course will pick up where Advanced Trigonometry left off and explore the topics of higher-order polynomials and equations, logarithms and exponential functions, sequences and series, and then continue into the study of Calculus. It is strongly advised that students enrolling in this course have an average of 85% or above in Advanced Trigonometry.

PROBABILITY AND STATISTICS (Semester) This course is designed to introduce students to the major concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing, and drawing conclusions from data. Students will analyze and present real-world business applications data using multiple representations and various technologies. Prerequisites - Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II. Recommended for students in 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade.

TRIGONOMETRY (Semester) This course is for those students who have completed two years of algebra and one year of geometry. Topics that will be covered include the basic trig functions, graphing, polar coordinates, vectors, triangle solution and the applications of these topics.

TRIGONOMETRY ADVANCED This is the fourth course in the honors math sequence. It will include traditional trigonometric topics such as the unit circle, trigonometric functions, circular functions, graphing, and sinusoidal equations, identities and proofs. Also included will be advanced topics such as exponential functions, graphing functions, logarithms, logic and higher-order polynomials and equations. It is strongly advised that students enrolling in this course have an average of 85% or above in all previous advanced courses.

## MUSIC DEPARTMENT

“88 KEYS – 2 HANDS – NO PROBLEM!” PIANO LAB (Semester) What has 88 keys? A piano, of course! Learn how to play the music of the masters and more. This semester course is designed to give you a basic understanding of how to play the piano. You will learn how to use your hands both independently and together to achieve a positive musical experience. Grades 10-12.

BAND I This class is available to instrumental students with previous instrumental experience. Students interested in beginning their instrumental career should contact the band director. Each student is required to participate in heterogeneous or homogeneous lesson groups offered on a rotation basis through the school district. Marching band is a requirement for students in grades 8-12 enrolled in the band program.

BAND II and CHORUS II Students have the option to participate in both band and chorus ensembles. In grades 9-12, band and chorus meet every day during first period. Students alternate their days between band and chorus so that equal time is shared between ensembles.

CHORUS I This is an elective course for students in grades 9-12. The class meets every day during the first period of the day. The course includes study of basic theory and music reading. There are two concerts a year, one for the holiday season and one in the spring. A variety of music is performed that is appropriate for the occasion. Along with the class, the students are asked to attend three vocal labs per marking period. These are small group sessions that will also occur during the school day. These sessions are set up for students to get extra



help on their music.

FROM BACH TO ROCK (Semester) This course will cover the lives and music of composers beginning with Bach through today's popular music. Students will critically listen to and reflect on music compositions from every era. Students will also learn beginning music theory (note reading, rhythm reading, chord construction, etc...)

SCHOOL OF ROCK (Semester) This course seeks to balance understanding the development and significance of Rock & Roll in its historical and social environment with maintaining a focus on listening to the music as the main mode of understanding. Through listening, analysis, discussion, music, and film students will explore the music, culture, and society of the day. Class assignments will be organized around song analysis, small group discussions, and in-class activities. The course begins with an overview of ancestors and influences: blues, boogie-woogie, jazz, swing, country & western, gospel and popular music, and the crossover success of rhythm & blues acts that marked the true birth of rock & roll. We will study the musical and social trends of the 1960's, including the influence of the British Invasion, which really signaled the arrival of rock's second generation, the rock explosion and social upheaval of the late 1960's, and the changes in Rock & Roll music during the seventies, eighties, and nineties. The course will culminate in an exploration of today's current musical trends and icons including rap/hip hop. There are no prerequisites for taking this course and you do not have to have musical training.

## PHYSICAL EDUCATION/HEALTH EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

*Students are required to complete one semester (0.5 credit) of Health and one semester (0.5 credit) of a Physical Education course in order to meet graduation requirements.*

CURRENT ISSUES IN HEALTH (Semester) This course is designed to teach current health issues with a basic knowledge of all aspects of health. Topics may include: nutrition, body systems, disease, first aid, health careers and personal care. This course is a graduation requirement.

**FIT FOR LIFE (Semester)** This course is designed for students who enjoy a variety of lifetime physical activities. Students will assess their personal fitness levels, set semester goals, and work toward those goals while participating in activities such as: yoga, aerobic activities, fitness walking, weight-training activities, Pickleball, KanJam, and personal fitness assessment. Students will learn about Nutrition and assess healthy food alternatives. Students will develop basic culinary skills.

FUNDAMENTALS OF TEAM SPORTS (Semester) This course is designed for 9th grade students who enjoy team sports in an intramural setting. Students will assess their sport-specific skills, set semester goals, and work toward those goals while participating in the following activities: volleyball, basketball, floor hockey, softball, football, lacrosse, dodge ball, and soccer. This course is limited to students in 9<sup>th</sup> or 10<sup>th</sup> grade.

NET SPORTS (Semester) This course is designed for students to learn the skills needed to play and engage in

tournament play in net sports. Net sports may include: volleyball, table tennis, badminton, pickle ball, paddle ball and eclipse ball.

STRATEGIES AND TOURNAMENT PLAY (Semester) This course is designed to develop advanced strategies during game play of team sports. Emphasis is on teamwork and cooperation among class members to achieve common team goals. Grades 11 - 12

WEIGHT TRAINING AND FITNESS (Semester) This course is designed for students who are interested in weight training and fitness activities with little or no experience.

FIRST AID AND CPR (Semester) This course is designed to meet state requirements for becoming certified in First Aid/CPR/AED. In this course, students will learn ways to treat minor injuries and learn different life-saving techniques. This course will include skill assessments along with written assessments. Throughout this course, students will apply critical thinking skills and analytical skills for ways to prevent risks and injuries. At the end of this course, students will become certified through the Red Cross in First Aid/CPR/AED and will also become a Pennsylvania State Mandated Reporter. Grades 11 and 12

## SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

ADVANCED BIOLOGY Recommended for students who obtained a 90% or higher in Grade 8 Science, this faster paced and more student-directed version of the regular ninth grade biology course will surely be a challenge. All grade nine students will take either biology or advanced biology and will be required to take the Keystone Exam at course end. The material is divided into two modules. Module A covers basic biological principles including cells, the chemistry of life, cellular energetics (respiration and photosynthesis) and homeostasis. Module B covers the continuity and unity of life including cell growth and reproduction, DNA, genetics, evolution, and ecology. The Keystone Exam for Biology will be the final exam for the course.

AP (ADVANCED PLACEMENT) CHEMISTRY The AP Chemistry course provides students with an opportunity to deepen their understanding of chemistry principles to support future advanced course work in chemistry. Students will continue to develop critical thinking and reasoning skills and expand on topics learned in their first year of chemistry, such as: atomic structure, intermolecular forces and bonding, chemical reactions, kinetics, thermodynamics, and equilibrium. This course is equivalent to that of a first-year college level chemistry course. The course will involve extensive laboratory work and students will develop an ability to describe systems in written, verbal, symbolic and mathematical ways. This course will meet two periods each day; every other day will be utilized to facilitate the required laboratory work; the opposite days students will have a study hall. In addition, these students will prepare for the Advanced Placement Chemistry examination given in May. Failure to complete the mandatory summer assignments will result in dismissal from the AP course.

ALTERNATE ENERGY (Semester) A project based course dealing with wind energy, fuel cells, solar power, geothermal, and similar technologies. Select topics in electricity and electronics may be included.

BIOETHICS (Semester) Building on many of the topics introduced in 9<sup>th</sup> grade biology, bioethics will investigate dilemmas that science and technology have created in modern society. Students will be expected to discuss and actively problem solve selected questions currently being debated by scientists, politicians, and philosophers. Students will differentiate opinions based on emotions from those supported by evidence. Focus will not be to provide sure and certain answers, but rather to examine these important questions from multiple viewpoints. In doing so, students will gain greater understanding and respect for other positions and approaches, even if they do not agree with them. Thoughtful participation, reflective writings, and projects will constitute the majority of graded work. Upon completion of this course, students will have a greater understanding of the impact that scientific discoveries have on individuals and society. Prerequisites are Biology or Advanced Biology.

BIOLOGY All grade nine students will take either biology or advanced biology. The material is divided into two modules. Module A covers basic biological principles including cells, the chemistry of life, cellular energetics (respiration and photosynthesis) and homeostasis. Module B covers the continuity and unity of life including cell growth and reproduction, DNA, genetics, evolution, and ecology. This is the course aligned to the Biology Keystone exam content.

CHEMISTRY Fundamental concepts and applications of chemistry are presented to students in order to foster a deeper understanding of the world around us. Topics to be studied include the structure of the atom, chemical reactions and equations, kinetic theory, gases, and others. Laboratory activities and small group inquiry-based activities enhance the information presented in class discussions. Algebra and basic math skills are used frequently in this course.

#### SCIENCE DEPARTMENT, cont.

ECOLOGY (Semester) This semester course will investigate the interaction between the biotic and abiotic aspects of our world. Some topics that will be covered are the Biosphere, Biomes, Ecosystems, Biotic relationships, Bioenergetics, Natural resources, and Environmental concerns (populations, pollution, climate, and disease). There will be labs, videos, projects and articles to enhance discussion and learning of these topics. Recommended pre-requisite for this class would be the successful completion of Biology.

FORENSICS (Semester) This semester long course is meant to be an introduction to the study of forensics. It applies concepts from biology, chemistry and physics to mysteries of crime solving in an integrated approach. Students perform labs, research, and simulated crime scene analysis. Topics such as fingerprints, ballistics, blood spatter, handwriting, and others are introduced.

(OSHA) OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH ADMINISTRATION (Semester) This course deals with occupational safety and health. Anyone should take this course, regardless of your future plans. It will cover hazard communications, bloodborne pathogens, ergonomics, noise exposure, radiation exposure, confined space entry, fall protection, asbestos, lead, mercury, and other related topics.

ORGANIC CHEMISTRY (Semester) This course involves the study of carbon compounds and an understanding of their properties and reactions. Careers that rely on a background in organic chemistry include biochemistry, biotechnology, environmental science, food science, materials science, medicine and pharmacology. Everyone encounters organic chemistry in their daily lives, from the molecules that make up all living things (like us), to the materials that we utilize as we go about our lives. The course builds on the basic chemical principles studied in earlier chemistry courses (Chemistry and/or AP Chemistry) and further develops the understanding of the fundamental relationship between chemical reactivity and structure. As a one semester introduction to organic chemistry, a review of fundamental chemical principles (orbitals, covalent bonding, polarity, intermolecular forces, VSEPR), essentials of organic nomenclature (naming), basic types of organic reactions, patterns of reaction

mechanisms, and analytical techniques (melting point determination, gas chromatography, infrared spectroscopy) will be discussed. Students completing this course should leave well-prepared to enter an organic chemistry course in a college setting. Prerequisites are Chemistry or AP Chemistry.

PHYSICS- Electricity & Magnetism (Semester) This course deals with electricity and magnetism and the relationship between the two. It will cover static charges, current, simple and complex circuits, magnets, and induction of a current. This fast-paced and rigorous semester course will prepare a person for further study in science, engineering or the medical field. There is some overlap with Alternate Energy. Grades 11 and 12.

PHYSICS- Motion (Full Year) This fast paced, math-intensive course deals with motion and the causes of motion. It will cover measurement speed, acceleration, projectile motion, Newton's Laws, Energy, Momentum and rotational motion. This year long course will prepare a person for further study in science, engineering, or the medical field. Grades 11 and 12. Prerequisite - Trigonometry

PHYSICS- Waves (Semester) This course deals with periodic motion, waves, light, and sound. It will cover various types of mechanical waves, light, color, lenses, mirrors, sound, noise, and music. This fast-paced semester course will prepare a person for further study in science, engineering, medical fields, music production, computer programming, etc.

#### SCIENCE DEPARTMENT, cont.

PHYSIOLOGY - BODY SYSTEMS (Semester) This semester course is designed to explore the detailed anatomy and physiology of the major systems of the human body. Topics of study will include Integumentary System, Skeletal System, Muscular System, Cardiovascular System, Lymphatic System, Nervous System, Urinary System, Respiratory System, and Endocrine System. There will be a detailed exploration of the anatomy and physiology that makes each system unique while keeping an emphasis of whole-body integration and homeostasis. Small lab exercises and dissections will be performed to enhance learning where applicable. Prerequisite – Physiology - Intro

PHYSIOLOGY - INTRO (Semester) This semester course is designed to help students explore and gain appreciation for the amazing Human body. There will be an emphasis of scientific/medical terminology integrated into each unit of the course. After a brief review of the Nature of Science, students will be exploring Gross Anatomy and Physiology, Medical terminologies, and body systems organization. Students will be asked to perform a detailed dissection applying previously learned concepts of body systems. Other topics of study will be Molecular Physiology, Cellular Physiology, and Histology. This course will serve as a prerequisite for either Body Systems or Neurology.

PHYSIOLOGY - NEUROLOGY (Semester) This semester course is designed to investigate the most fascinating and complicated system of our body, the Nervous system. After a review of the general anatomy and organization of the Nervous system, students will then explore the details of nerve cell types, communication, circuitry/signaling pathways, and human senses. Other topics of consideration will be brain chemistry/pharmacology interaction, neurological diseases, and the exploration of consciousness. Prerequisite – Physiology - Intro.

#### SOCIAL STUDIES DEPARTMENT

AP (ADVANCED PLACEMENT) US GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS Designed for 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> grade Social Science students committed to college-level rigor. The goal is that each student passes the AP exam in May. There is no guaranteed college credit for taking this course; however, passing the AP exam usually results in colleges granting equivalency credit towards a college degree. This swift paced full-year course examines the foundations of US democracy, government branch interaction, civil liberties and rights, political beliefs, and political participation. A summer assignment is required to be completed by the first day of class. Failure to complete the mandatory summer assignments may result in dismissal from the AP course. Please recognize this course is demanding for students.

AP WORLD HISTORY: MODERN This course is a collegiate level, year-long course. The AP World History: Modern course will begin in 1200 CE. Requirements currently identify that students will begin the course with a study of the civilizations in Africa, the Americas, and Asia that are foundational to the modern era. Students are expected to participate in class discussions, complete individual assignments, and will have one group project at the end of the year. AP World History will rely heavily on college level texts, primary source documents, and outside readings. Students will prepare for and take the AP World History Exam given in May. The student is financially responsible for the AP Exam. It is strongly recommended that students enrolling in this class have an average of 90% or better in previous history courses. There will be required summer assignments due throughout the summer and a chapter test on the first day of school. Failure to complete the summer assignments will result in dismissal from AP World History: Modern.

SOCIAL STUDIES DEPARTMENT, cont.

AMERICAN HISTORY This course focuses on the development of student knowledge pertaining to their country's history, along with the civic expectations of citizens in the United States of America. American history from Andrew Jackson's presidency until modern day events will be examined. Our focus will be to identify, understand, and describe how the cultural, economic, and governmental events of the past impact us today.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE (Semester) Students examine the criminal justice system to include the types of crimes, the role of the police, the courts and case process, corrections, juvenile justice and examining potential approaches and solutions to the issue of crime and law enforcement. Students will routinely examine current events related to the criminal justice system. Evaluations will consist of projects, written arguments, reflective writings, and traditional exams. Students will exit the course having a more thorough understanding of the US criminal justice system's role in maintaining a stable society.

CULTURAL STUDIES (Semester) This semester course focuses on self-contained units of study in which content information will be paired with a food experience. Students will be responsible for participation in food preparation at home and to bring it into class. Units of study will include but not limited to Columbian Exchange, Japan, India, China, and some holidays. Students who have taken WORLD CULTURES are NOT eligible for this course.

CURRENT EVENTS (Semester) Students examine major topics affecting the United States and the international community by examining the historical roots and news about recent events and trends. Students study contrasting views of contemporary events through news stories, present findings, discuss informed opinions, and express thoughts verbally and in written form. Sample topics include terrorism, immigration, international conflict, race, gender, politics, health care, the environment, and constitutional issues. Evaluations will consist of projects, written arguments, reflective writings, and traditional exams. Students will exit the course having a more thorough understanding of the challenges facing the USA and the international community in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

POLITICAL & PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY (Semester) This semester course will focus on maps. Students will locate and label political boundaries and physical features of the earth. Political and Physical Geography students will be expected to quiz on maps on a regular basis.

PSYCHOLOGY (Semester) This course introduces students to the foundations of psychology, focused on the study of the individual mind and behavior. The course begins with the history of the development of psychology as a science through modern approaches to addressing psychological disorders. Sample topics include methods and ethics of research, basic biological foundations, lifespan development, psychological disorders and treatments, cognition and memory, and sleep and dreams. Evaluations will consist of projects, written arguments, reflective writings, and traditional exams.

#### SOCIAL STUDIES DEPARTMENT, cont.

SOCIOLOGY (Semester) Sociology will familiarize students with group interaction within US society and the theories and challenges associated with these interactions. The course studies US culture & subcultures, social institutions, collective behavior, social change, social deviation, the family, religion, racial and ethnic minorities, poverty, and crime. Sample topic areas include the changing family in US society, deviant behavior, cults and religion, the death penalty, genocide, and the changing American family. This course presents basic concepts and theories to examine alternative perspectives and interpretations of group interaction. Students will routinely examine current events related to sociological topics. Evaluations will consist of projects, written arguments, reflective writings, and traditional exams.

WORLD RELIGIONS (Semester) This semester course focuses on the five recognized world religions of Judaism, Christianity, Islam, Hinduism, and Buddhism. The course will also look at some smaller recognized belief systems such as but not necessarily limited to Sikhism, Jainism, and Taoism, as time allows.



## Educational Opportunities

### Advanced Placement (AP)

These courses mimic the rigor of college coursework. They are taught by our teachers and students can pay to take the exam in May. If a student scores a 3 or higher on the exam, some colleges will take it as credit.

### Career and Technical Education (CTE)

The CTE curriculum is offered to students in grades 10-12. In order for a student to attend the career and technical program, the student must successfully complete a minimum of 6 credits at the end of their 9<sup>th</sup> grade year, as well as other requirements (see student handbook). CTE students spend four or five periods a day at South, taking required academic subjects, and two or three periods each day in the CTE program of their choice. CTE courses are located at Williamsport Area High School (transportation is provided).

### Mansfield Early Start Program

Our school district has an agreement with Mansfield University that allows students to take online college courses at no cost. Students earn high school credit as well as college credit. Counselor approval is needed for all courses. An online application can be found at <https://www.mansfield.edu/esp/index.cfm>. Please inform your school counselor if you decide to apply as course registration begins months before the semester starts.

### Penn College Dual Enrollment

Our business and technology teachers are currently teaching courses in which juniors and seniors can earn college credit from the Pennsylvania College of Technology. Courses are free to all students. Additional GPA requirements are necessary to earn credit as well as approval from your school counselor. Students may also audit Penn College dual enrollment courses, meaning no college credit will be awarded.