

BRANSON HIGH SCHOOL

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

2018-2019



"Empowering students to achieve their maximum potential."

Dual Credit College Classes

Students have the opportunity to enroll for dual high school and college credit in several classes at Branson High School. The dual credit classes will be offered through Missouri State University. Students will register for these classes through the Counseling Department at the beginning of each semester. The cost for each class is generally half the tuition for a regular class offered on the college campus. Juniors or seniors must have a 3.00 GPA and an ACT score of at least 21. The following classes are offered for Dual Credit: College Prep English, Computer Information Systems, College Algebra, Trigonometry, Human Physiology, Physics, Chemistry II and Personal Finance.

Advanced Placement (AP) Testing

Advanced Placement (AP) courses offer students of high motivation and achievement the opportunity to receive either advanced placement, credit, or both upon entering college. Advanced Placement examinations are administered at the end of the school year. Each college decides what AP examination grades it will accept for credit and/or advanced placement. A fee is associated with each test taken and students will be expected to sign up and pay for the examination in March. For more information, contact the Counseling Department.

Missouri State High School Athletic Association Eligibility (MSHSAA)

Knowing and following the MSHSAA standards will enable you to protect your athletic eligibility. Also, it is important to know that you must meet all the standards in order to be eligible. A schedule change could affect your eligibility. Consult with your counselor, school principal, or activities director to insure you do not jeopardize your eligibility. Grades received the preceding semester will determine eligibility for each semester. To be eligible, you must be currently enrolled in school and have passing grades in a minimum of SIX one-credit courses or the equivalent in the immediately preceding semester. Summer school courses may count toward maintaining academic eligibility provided the credit earned for each course is placed on the school transcript. Such course(s) must count toward meeting graduation/promotion requirements, and no more than one credit earned in summer school shall count toward maintaining academic eligibility.

NCAA College Eligibility Requirements

Students interested in participating in Division I, II & III athletics at the college/university level, must be certified by the NCAA Initial-Eligibility Clearinghouse. You should start the certification process at the end of your junior year. For more detailed information and the application materials, contact the Counseling Department. The college code number for ACT/SAT purposes is 9999. When students register for the ACT/SAT, this number (9999) must be entered into the section marked "College and Scholarship Code Choices." Information is also available on the web at www.ncaaclearinghouse.net.

Branson High School Graduation Requirements

In order to graduate from Branson High School, students are required to complete the following subject & credit requirements set by the Branson Board of Education:

Branson Required Subjects	New requirements effective for the 2010 graduating class	University of Missouri Schools (Columbia, Rolla, KC & St. Louis)*
Communication Arts	4	4*
Mathematics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3 credits must be taken at the high school level 	3	4*
Science <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students may receive 1 science credit by completing 3 units of credit from the following agriculture classes: Agriculture I, Agriculture II, Animal Science, Green House Operation & Management, Nursery Management, Landscaping, Floriculture, Natural Resources 	3	3*
Social Studies American History & American Government Required	3	3*
Fine Arts	1	1*
Practical Arts	1	1
Physical Education Students may receive ½ PE credit for completing one full year of AFJROTC and one full PE credit for completing two full years of AFJROTC.	1	1
Health	½	½
Personal Finance	½	½
Electives	9	9
Foreign Language	n/a	2
Total	26	

***Check with the admissions office of the college you wish to attend for more information.**

COMMUNICATION ARTS

ENGLISH I

Grade Level: 9

Number of Semesters: 2

Credit: 1-English

Description of course:

English I focuses on developing the skills necessary to understand and interpret works of literature from multiple genres. Literature study with basic technology and study methods is introduced through the examination of short stories, plays, novels, essays, and non-fiction. Students will explore the methods of effective writing and explore individual skills in creative writing. Students will receive instruction in conducting research and will write a research paper using appropriate documentation. In addition, this course reviews the parts of speech in grammar and progressively builds on this foundation.

HONORS ENGLISH I

Grade Level: 9

Number of Semesters: 2

Credit: 1-English

Weighted Course

Prerequisite: Completion of summer reading assignment, a grade of B or higher in previous English course, teacher recommendation and placement test.

Description of course:

Honors English I builds on grammatical and focuses intently on developing a more complex, mature writing style. The course also further develops the skills necessary to understand and discuss works of literature. Literary study is introduced through in depth examination of short stories, plays, novels, poetry, essays, and non-fiction. As a composition component, students will receive instruction in research methods and analyze and apply the process of effective writing towards a research paper using appropriate documentation. Students are required to read during the summer before school starts and complete written work; they will choose two to three books from a pre-selected list to read and write an analysis paper which will be due at the start of the school year. Students wishing to be enrolled must complete a placement test prior to registering. Students who are newly enrolled in Branson schools must have earned at least a B in their 8th grade year of English, will be asked to provide a writing sample, and may be required to take the placement test prior to registration.

ENGLISH II

Grade Level: 10

Number of Semesters: 2

Credit: 1-English

Description of course:

English II focuses on the further development of communication skills, including the study of grammar and rhetoric. The study of literature will include short stories, novels, poetry, drama, and nonfiction. Writing activities will include responses to literature, informal and formal essays, creative writing, and research projects using MLA documentation. Students are also expected to actively participate in classroom discussions, individual and group projects, and oral presentations.

HONORS ENGLISH II

Grade Level: 10

Number of Semesters: 2

Credit: 1-English

Weighted Course

Prerequisite: Completion of summer reading assignment & teacher recommendation

Description of course:

Honors English II will build upon the skills learned in English I, specifically in the areas of literary analysis and writing. Writing activities will include in-depth rhetorical analysis of discussion of fiction and non-fiction, creative writing, and research that employs MLA documentation. Students will be expected to actively participate in and lead class discussion concerning the literature addressed and its relevance to contemporary issues. Students are required to read during the summer before school starts and complete written work; they will choose two books from a pre-selected list to read and write analysis papers. One paper will be due mid-summer and the other at the start of the school year. Students who are newly enrolled in Branson schools must have earned at least a B in their 9th grade year of English, and they will be asked to provide a writing sample

COMMUNICATION ARTS

ENGLISH III

Grade Level: 11

Number of Semesters: 2

Credit: 1-English

Description of course:

English III will develop a correlation between reading and composition skills through the study of American literature. Students will discover from literature selected themes that reveal the intellectual and emotional life of the United States from its infancy to the present, explore the relationship of the ideas in the selections to the theme as a whole, and compare it to their own lives. Students will read four novels outside of class and write a book review each semester.

AP ENGLISH LANGUAGE COMPOSITION

Grade Level: 11

Number of Semesters: 2

Credit: 1-English

Weighted Course

Prerequisite:

- English II or Honors English II
- Teacher Recommendation
- PLAN score of 18 OR ACT score of 21
- GPA 3.0
- AP contract signed by student and parent
- Completion of summer work

Description of course:

AP English Language-Composition is a writing-intensive course **that assumes students already understand and use Standard English grammar**. Although the focus of AP English Language is on reading, analyzing, synthesizing and writing non-fiction, students will also have the opportunity to explore American literature through the works of Hawthorne, Twain, and Steinbeck as well as other American authors. All students entering AP English Language are required to complete the summer reading assignment of reading two novels and completing one written assignment due mid-summer. All students will be expected to write at least three book reviews from a specified reading list and complete one research project during the school year. All students will have the opportunity to take the National Advanced Placement test offered by the College Board in May in place of a spring final or will be required to take an equivalent test as a final exam. Students who are newly enrolled in Branson schools must have earned at least a B in their 10th grade year of English, and they will be asked to provide a writing sample.

ENGLISH IV-LITERATURE

Grade Level: 12

Number of Semesters: 2

Credit: 1-English

Description of course:

English IV-Literature is a senior level, year-long class in which students will read, study, analyze, and interpret famous literature covering a variety of genres. Genres will include novels, short stories, drama, and poetry. The first semester will cover early works, while second semester focus on contemporary and emerging classics, all the while considering the historical and cultural context of the literature. Possible texts include *Beowulf*, *Macbeth*, *Frankenstein*, *Catcher in the Rye*, *Speaker for the Dead*, *Kite Runner*, *Flowers for Algernon*, *Death of a Salesman*, *Their Eyes Were Watching God*, *The Joy Luck Club*, the short stories of Flannery O'Connor, Edgar Allen Poe, Nathaniel Hawthorne. Poets may include but are not limited to Shakespeare, Coleridge, Dickenson, Whitman, Frost, TS Eliot, Billy Collins, Maya Angelou, and Mary Oliver. The course will culminate in an MLA or APA research project/paper demonstrating the student's ability to critically read, think, and write.

ENGLISH IV-COMPOSITION

Grade Level: 12

Number of Semesters: 2

Credit: 1 –English

Description of course:

An intensive, practical examination of ways to write powerful, audience-driven documents in a variety of real-world business, professional and personal context. Students will analyze current events and learn how to pose an effective stance on an issue. Students will participate in a project which will concentrate on an area of interest and will explore career opportunities and identify methods to reach their goals and become successful citizens in society.

COMMUNICATION ARTS

COLLEGE COMPOSITION I

Grade Level: 12
Weighted Course
Number of Semesters: 1
Credit: ½ -English

Prerequisite: English teacher recommendation or B average in English I-III. ACT score of 21 required for dual enrollment with MSU

Description of course:

This course emphasizes critical reading and writing skills applicable to writing within and beyond the college community. Lessons will focus on composition processes, research methods, argumentation of diverse issues, and collaborative learning, such as peer review and collaborative writing. This class will be taught for the college-bound student in preparation for reading and writing at the college level in most fields of study. Fall only. 3 college credit hours available.

COLLEGE COMPOSITION II

Grade Level: 12
Weighted Course
Number of Semesters: 1
Credit: ½ -English

Prerequisite: English teacher recommendation or B average in English I-III. ACT score of 21 required for dual enrollment with MSU

Description of course:

This course will provide study and practice in the communication principles of academic writing and writing about public affairs from the perspective of an educated person. Students will critically read and write about their chosen field of study or academic discipline. It is designed to follow CCI and build on the skills and processes learned in the fall. Spring only. 3 college credit hours available.

AP ENGLISH LITERATURE/ COMPOSITION

Grade Level: 12
Number of Semesters: 2
Credit: 1-English
Weighted Course

Prerequisites:

- English III or AP English Language
- Teacher Recommendation
- PLAN score of 18 OR ACT score of 21
- GPA 3.0
- AP contract signed by student and parent
- Completion of summer work

Description of course:

AP English Literature and Composition assumes that students are already proficient in Standard English usage and grammar. AP English Literature is a writing intensive course; however, the focus is on literature rather than nonfiction. Students will engage in critical analysis of literature in preparation for the AP exam. Literature will include longer works by William Shakespeare, Franz Kafka, Voltaire, and Mary Shelley as well as works by contemporary authors, short stories, and poetry. Students will complete four book reviews from a specified list of works recommended for college-bound students as well as one literary research project. Any student entering APE IV must complete the required summer reading assignment of two novels and one written assignment to be turned in mid-summer. Students are strongly encouraged to take the AP exam offered by the College Board in May; however, an equivalent final will be an option

COMMUNICATION ARTS

ESL (English Second Language)

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11 & 12

Number of Semesters: 2

Credit: 1-English (Maximum 2 ENG credits earned through ESL)

Description of course:

This course is designed to develop English communication skills (listening, speaking, reading, and writing) in students whose first language is not English. Conversational fluency and academic language proficiency are emphasized. It includes a content area language assistance component.

MATHEMATICS

ELEMENTS OF ALGEBRA A

Grade Level: 9

Number of Semesters: 2

Credit: 1-Math

Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation

Description of course:

Elements of Algebra A is the first year of a two-year Algebra I course. This course is designed for students who need to cover material at a slower pace than the typical Algebra I course. Topics studied include: operations with integers, rational and irrational numbers, solving equations, inequalities and absolute value equations, properties of exponents, data and probability, and using algebra to represent and solve problems.

ALGEBRA I

Grade Level: 9 & 10

Number of Semesters: 2

Credit: 1-Math

Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation

Description of course:

Algebra I expands concepts previously learned. The real number system is developed and used throughout the course. Topics covered include: solving linear equations, operations with polynomials, factoring polynomials, algebraic fractions, functions, systems of simultaneous equations, rational and irrational numbers, and solving quadratic equations. Problem solving is emphasized throughout the course.

INFORMAL GEOMETRY

Grade Level: 10, 11, & 12

Number of Semesters: 2

Credit: 1-Math

Prerequisite Algebra I & Teacher recommendation

Description of course:

This course will stress the traditional geometric topics such as area, volume, similarity, congruence and right triangle trigonometry. It will not include formal proofs. Students will study geometric concepts through their applications in various types of problems.

GEOMETRY

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, & 12

Number of Semesters: 2

Credit: 1-Math

Prerequisite: Algebra I & Teacher recommendation

Description of course:

Geometry has a balance of theory and application. Formal proofs and deductive/inductive reasoning are introduced. Concepts of spatial geometry are combined with plane geometry. Algebra skills are reviewed and strengthened through application to solving problems. The course also includes coordinate geometry and an introduction to trigonometry.

INTERMEDIATE ALGEBRA II

Grade Level: 10, 11, & 12

Number of Semesters: 2

Credit: 1-Math

Prerequisite: Informal Geometry or Geometry and Teacher recommendation

Description of course:

Intermediate Algebra II is designed for the student who is planning on attending college or a technical school but doesn't have the skills for the rigor and pace of Algebra II. This course will prepare students to take Algebra II or Statistics. Topics studied include: solving equations and inequalities, graphing linear and non-linear functions, factoring polynomials, rational expressions and logarithms.

MATHEMATICS

ALGEBRA II

Grade Level: 10, 11 & 12

Number of Semesters: 2

Credit: 1-Math

Prerequisite: Geometry & Algebra I

Teacher recommendation

Description of the course:

Algebra II emphasizes accuracy as well as correct application of theory. The topics covered include: the study of the real number system, graphs, functions, polynomials, factoring, rational expressions, quadratic functions, logarithmic functions, and analytical geometry.

PRECALCULUS I

Grade Level: 11 & 12

Number of Semesters: 1

Credit: $\frac{1}{2}$ -Math

Weighted Course-Dual credit option available

Prerequisite: Algebra II

Teacher recommendation

Description of the course:

This course is designed as a broad comprehensive overview of College Algebra. It extends topics from Algebra II and includes the study of linear and quadratic equations, inequalities and their applications, polynomial, rational, exponential and logarithmic functions. Emphasis is placed on practical applications and abstract reasoning. Students must pass a placement exam administered by MSU in order to exercise the dual credit option.

PRECALCULUS II

Grade Level: 11 & 12

Number of Semesters: 1

Credit: $\frac{1}{2}$ -Math

Weighted Course-Dual credit option available

Prerequisite: Pre-Calculus I

Teacher recommendation

Description of the course:

Pre-Calculus II reviews real numbers, coordinate systems and graphs in two dimensions. Trigonometric functions are defined. Trigonometric identities, trigonometric equations and applications of circular functions are stressed. Topics included will challenge the student to use an analytical approach to problem solving.

COLLEGE PREP ALGEBRA

Grade Level: 11 & 12

Number of Semesters: 2

Credit: 1-Math

Prerequisite: Algebra II

Teacher recommendation

Description of the course:

College Prep Algebra is designed to be a preparatory course for those students who plan to take College Algebra either at the high school or college level but feel they might struggle with the pace of a traditional semester-length College Algebra course. Algebra III is not meant to be a substitute for College Algebra but instead a foundation for it. Algebra III extends topics from Algebra II and includes the study of linear and quadratic equations, inequalities, and their applications, polynomial, rational, exponential and logarithmic functions. Emphasis is placed on practical applications and abstract reasoning.

FINITE MATH

Grade Level: 11 & 12

Number of Semesters: 1

Credit: $\frac{1}{2}$ -Math

Prerequisite: College Algebra

Teacher recommendation

Description of the course:

Finite math extends topics previously learned such as linear equations and inequalities, compound interest and solving systems of equations. It introduces topics such as matrices, sets and probability and logic theory. Emphasis is placed on solving problems with a variety of applications. The course will provide meaningful and accessible contemporary mathematics to students who will major in business, management, economics or the life or social sciences.

MATHEMATICS

STATISTICS

Grade Level: 12

Number of Semesters: 2

Credit: 1-Math

Prerequisite: Algebra II or Int. Algebra II

Description of course:

Statistics illustrates relevant situations across a broad range of subject areas while explaining the theoretical principles of statistical methods and clarifying the processes involved. The topics covered include: ways to organize data, averages and variation, probability distributions, normal distributions, sampling distributions, and hypothesis testing.

AP CALCULUS AB

Grade Level: 12

Number of Semesters: 2

Credit: 1-Math

Weighted course

AP contract signed by student and parent

Prerequisite: College Algebra & Trigonometry

Teacher recommendation

Description of the course:

Calculus AB is a course designed to help students gain an understanding of the major concepts of calculus and their real-world applications. Topics covered include: limits, continuity, derivatives, integrals and the Fundamental Theorem of Calculus. Calculus AB will provide students with a valuable foundation in college-level calculus. The course also seeks to prepare students for the College Board Advanced Placement Exam offered in May

SCIENCE

PHYSICAL SCIENCE

Grade Level: 9

Number of Semesters: 2

Credit: 1-Science

Description of course:

The student acquires knowledge of safety, metric measurement, density, physical and chemical changes, phase changes of state, pH/acids/bases, atomic theory, patterns of the periodic table, compound formation, bonding, speed & velocity, graphing & interpreting motion, acceleration, Newton's laws of motion, work, power, energy, nuclear energy, heat energy and waves.

HONORS PHYSICAL SCIENCE

Grade Level: 9

Number of Semesters: 2

Credit: 1-Science

Weighted Course

Permission based on placement exam

Prerequisite: Concurrent enrollment in Geometry

Description of course:

The student will acquire knowledge of the atom, energy, sound, machines, light, mechanical advantage and energy relationships. The student will also develop research and laboratory skills. The student will perform complex quantitative calculations that prepare the student for later science classes.

BIOLOGY I

Grade Level: 10

Number of Semesters: 2

Credit: 1 Science

Prerequisite: Physical Science

Description of Course:

This course explores the following topics: Characteristics of Life; the Chemistry of Life; Cell Structure and Function; Particle Transport Involving Cells; Cell Processes (Photosynthesis, Cellular Respiration, and Protein Synthesis); Structure and Function of DNA; Cell Division; Genetics and Biotechnology; Ecology; Taxonomy; and Natural Selection. Other topics (like botany and zoology) may follow if time allows. This class has hands on activities/investigations, oral and written reports, and research.

HONORS BIOLOGY I

Grade Level 10

Number of semesters: 2 Weighted Course

Credit: 1 science credit

Prerequisites: B or better in Physical Science & instructor permission

Description of course:

This course is designed to prepare the student to take AP Biology in the future. This course explores the following topics: Characteristics of Life; the Chemistry of Life [more in depth than Biology I]; Cell Processes such as Photosynthesis, Cellular Respiration, and Proteins Synthesis [more in depth than Biology I]; Structure and Function of DNA; Cell Division; Genetics and biotechnology; Ecology; Taxonomy; and Natural Selection. Other topics (like Botany and Zoology) may follow if time allows. This class has hands on activities and/or investigations, oral and written reports, and research.

CHEMISTRY I

Grade Level: 10, 11 & 12

Number of Semesters: 2

Credit: 1-Science

Prerequisite: B or better in Algebra I.

If in 10th grade concurrent enrollment of Biology I: A or B in both Physical Science and Algebra I.

Description of course:

Through laboratory experiments, various activities, lectures and personal research, the students will study the nature of matter, its properties and transformation. The course will investigate basic chemical reactions and phenomena.

SCIENCE

CHEMISTRY II

Grade Level: 11 & 12

Number of Semesters: 2

Credit: 1 Science

Prerequisite: A or B in Chemistry I (or instructor permission) ACT: 21 GPA: 3.0

Weighted Course

Dual Credit Option available

Description of course:

Chemistry II will familiarize students with inorganic, organic, physical and biochemistry. This course will promote scientific literacy and provide a wide range of laboratory experiences to enhance and reinforce chemical topics.

PHYSICS I

Grade Level: 11 & 12

Number of Semesters: 2

Credit: 1-Science

Weighted Course

Dual Credit option available

Prerequisite: C or better in Algebra II

Description of course:

Physics is a problem-solving course. Units include simple motion, velocity and acceleration, vector mathematics, forces and gravity, Newton's laws of motion, work and energy, thermal properties, and fluids. Emphasis is placed on establishing good study habits with opportunities for both directed and independent practice. Students will have many opportunities to experience hands-on learning by designing and/or implementing the laboratory experience in correlation with classroom material. Mathematical skills should be proficient.

PHYSICS II

Grade Level: 11 & 12

Number of Semesters: 1

Weighted Course

Credit: 1 –Science

Dual credit option available

Prerequisite: C or better in Algebra II

Description of course:

Physics II is a problem-solving course like Physics I. Units include Heat, Thermodynamics, Electricity, Magnetism, Electronics, Waves, Sound, Light, and Astrophysics. Each semester will have one project based unit that will allow the student to experience hands-on-learning. Mathematical skills need to be proficient in order to understand the materials in this class. Physics I is recommended, but is not a prerequisite for this class.

GEOLOGY

Grade Level: 11 & 12

Number of Semesters: 1

Credit: ½ -Science

Prerequisite: 4 semesters of high school science

Description of course:

Topics begin with the basics of geology: minerals and rocks, the earth's internal structure, earthquakes, volcanoes and plate tectonics. Surface processes affecting the environment include stream behavior and flooding, groundwater, and mass wasting, karst topography and glaciers. The course examines energy sources and environmental concerns as well.

HYDROLOGY/OCEANOGRAPHY

Grade Level: 11 & 12

Number of Semesters: 1

Credit: ½ -Science

Prerequisite: 4 semesters of high school science

Description of course:

A study of all the water components of the earth and the human environment with an emphasis on the ocean and its properties. Hydrology is the study of the movement distribution, and quality of water on Earth and other planets, including the hydrologic cycle, water resources and environmental watershed sustainability. Surface processes affecting the environment include stream behavior and flooding, groundwater, and air pollution. The course examines laws governing the extraction and use of water, as well as energy sources and environmental concerns.

SCIENCE

ASTRONOMY

Grade Level: 11 & 12

Number of Semesters: 1

Credit: ½ -Science

Prerequisite: 4 semesters of high school science

Description of course:

Topics include: solar system structure and dynamics, stellar composition and evolution, binary and multiple star systems, galactic structure and evolution, and theories describing the known universe. Included also is the study of the evening sky, constellations, planetary movement, and astronomical instrumentation.

METEOROLOGY

Grade Level: 11 & 12

Number of Semesters: 1

Credit: ½ -Science

Prerequisite: 4 semesters of high school science

Description of course:

Components of the atmosphere, atmospheric dynamics, weather elements, weather phenomena and their physical causes, weather maps, weather predictions, and operation and use of weather instruments.

HUMAN PHYSIOLOGY

Grade Level: 11 & 12

Number of semesters: 2

Credit: 1-Science

Weighted class

Dual Credit option available

Prerequisites: C or better in Biology I

Description of course:

Human Physiology is a course designed for those students who wish to have a better understanding of the human body. This is accomplished by learning anatomy, dissections, and two crime scenes. This class is designed for those students who are interested in health related fields such as medicine nursing, dentistry, veterinary science, or physical therapy.

HUMAN PHYSIOLOGYII

Grade Level: 12

Number of semesters: 2

Credit: 1-Science

Weighted class

Prerequisites: C or better in Human Physiology I

Description of course:

This course offering is to give students who want to be in the healthcare field practice in diagnosing patients. This course will give patient info for the student to research and determine needed treatment. It will be like doing rounds in a hospital setting. There will also be some crime scenes to further use their logic and reasoning skills.

AP BIOLOGY

Grade Level: 11 & 12

Number of semesters: 2

Credit: 1-Science

Weighted class

Prerequisites: B or better in Biology I

Description of course:

AP Biology is an introductory college-level biology course. Students cultivate their understanding of biology through inquiry-based investigations as they explore the following topics: evolution, cellular processes—energy and communication, genetics, information transfer, ecology, and interactions.

SOCIAL STUDIES

WORLD HISTORY

Grade Level: 9

Number of Semesters: 2

Credit: 1-Social Studies

Description of course:

World History is a survey course covering over 8,000 years of global history, from pre-history to the modern period in both the western and non-western worlds. Students will examine the historical roots of significant events, ideas, and movements and their impacts throughout history. They will broaden their historical perspectives as they explore ways societies have dealt with continuity and change as exemplified by issues such as war and peace, internal stability and strife, and the development of political and economic institutions. Areas of study include: the rise of civilization, political, social, and economic development of the Middle Ages; the Renaissance; the age of discovery and colonization; the Enlightenment; the growth of democracy and nationalism; the Industrial Revolution; the two world wars; Imperialism; the Cold War; globalization; and current events.

AMERICAN HISTORY

Grade Level: 10

Number of Semesters: 2

Credit: 1-Social Studies

Description of course:

The course will investigate the history of America from Reconstruction to the present. Students will identify the important developments, events, and personalities in chronological order as well as study the ideas and concepts that affected development. The course will teach students how to identify major geographical features through map study and identify the evolution of economic principles.

American History includes lecture, class discussions, student research reports and general textbook use.

*This class is a required course for all 9th grade students.

*Any incoming (transfer) student who has not had American History will be required to have this course.

AP WORLD HISTORY

Grade Level: 10

Number of Semesters: 2

Credit: 1 -Social Studies

Weighted Course

Prerequisites:

1 unit of Social Studies

GPA 3.0 **and** staff recommendation

AP contract signed by student and parent

Description of course:

Advanced Placement World History is equivalent to a freshman college course which can possibly earn students college credit. While providing a way to understand history and a foundation from which to observe today's ever changing world, its emphasis on encounters and interactions establishes a structure that is most important. This course is driven by the six themes and "habits of mind" that are outlined by the *College Board*. Students are expected to do a considerable amount of reading in both the major text, as well as the supplemental resources which will be utilized throughout the term(s). This course is designed to expand the students' knowledge of historical events, facts, and personalities, which have helped to shape the development of the political and social structures of humankind, in addition to civilization as a whole.

AMERICAN GOVERNMENT & POLITICAL SYSTEMS

Grade Level: 11 & 12

Number of Semesters: 2

Credit: 1 -Social Studies

*Must pass the Missouri and U.S. Constitution tests to pass the class

Description of course:

This course will provide students with knowledge concerning the development and operation of our federal and state government. Students will investigate the formation of laws and the basic principles of our government. The course will explore economic principles as related to government and students will learn to use critical thinking for participation in a democratic society.

SOCIAL STUDIES

AP AMERICAN GOVERNMENT & POLITICAL SYSTEMS

Grade Level: 11 & 12
Number of Semesters: 2
Credit: 1 -Social Studies
Weighted Course
Prerequisites:

- PLAN score of 18 or ACT score of 21
- GPA 3.0 and staff recommendation
- Two Units of High School Social Studies
- AP contract signed by student and parent

*Must pass the Missouri and U.S. Constitution tests to pass the class

Description of course:

Advanced Placement US Government and Politics is a year long, college level course that introduces the student at an accelerated pace to the basic principles, institutions and practices of American government and politics with an emphasis on the political, social, and economic history of the United States. Dilemmas of democracy, foundations of American government, linking people with government, institutions of government, civil liberties/civil rights, and economic principles and policies will comprise the majority of the units for this course. The course seeks to prepare students to take the College Board Advanced Placement Examination in US Government and Politics, offered every year in May. Students will be expected to take the AP examination.

AP EUROPEAN HISTORY

Grade Level: 12
Number of Semesters: 2
Credit: 1-Social Studies
Weighted Course
Prerequisites:

- 3 units of Social Studies
- PLAN score of 18 OR ACT score of 21
- GPA 3.0 and staff recommendation
- AP contract signed by student and parent

Description of course:

Advanced Placement European History is a senior level class and is presented as an analysis of historical events on the continent, and globally, from the 1400's through the 1900's. The chronology and the cause and effect nature of European social, economical, and political development is the primary focus.

AP PSYCHOLOGY

Grade Level: 10-12
Number of Semesters: 2
Credit: 1 – Social Studies
Weighted Course
Prerequisites:

GPA 3.0 and staff recommendation
AP contract signed by student & parent

Description of Course:

The *Advanced Placement Psychology* course is a college level course that is taught at an accelerated pace. The course is designed to introduce students to the fascinating world of psychology. They will learn about the methods psychologists use to monitor and evaluate psychological processes. Topics will include research methodology, statistics, personality development and theories, therapy, developmental psychology, biological bases of behavior, learning, social psychology, sensation, perception, states of consciousness, memory and other cognitive processes, intelligence and testing, motivation, emotion, mental illness, stress and diversity. The course also seeks to prepare students to take the College Board Advanced Placement Examination in Psychology, offered every year in May. Students will be expected to take the AP Examination.

COMPARATIVE RELIGIONS

Grade Level: 11-12
Number of Semesters: 2
Credit: 1-Social Studies
Prerequisites: 2 units of Social Studies

Description of course:

This course will examine the major religions of the world including but not limited to Judaism, Christianity, Islam, Hinduism and Buddhism. Students will explore the origins of religious thought, philosophy, practice, and the relationships shared between the major religions and schools of thought. Students will study the depth and extent of the world's religious traditions, including their changing historical contexts, worldviews, practices, goals, and ideals. This course will be taught at a very high level. In fact, it will resemble an A.P. class greatly in terms of pace, diversity in material presented, and difficulty level concerning tests and other forms of assessment.

SOCIAL STUDIES

CONFLICT AND THE 20TH CENTURY

Grade Level: 11-12

Number of Semesters: 1

Credit: ½ Social Studies

Prerequisites:

GPA 3.0 **and** 2.5 GPA in all English coursework

Description of course:

This course will cover the key conflicts of the 20th century. It will start with a base territorial expansion and aggressive militarism that leads into World War I. From the conflict, students will trace the lineage of other 20th century conflicts. Topics will include: World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam Conflict, Afghanistan, and both Iraqi conflicts. Students will discover the relationships between war, resolutions, treaties, and the broad range of effects that these will have on the shaping political atmosphere of the world.

HISTORY VS. HOLLYWOOD

Grade Level: 11-12

Number of Semesters: 1

Credit: ½ -Social Studies

Description of course:

This course will study Hollywood's portrayal of historical events and its metaphorical reference to events in history through historical allegory. Students will evaluate the accuracy of Hollywood feature films by contrasting the content of the films from traditional sources of historical information such as books, textbooks, articles and newspapers. In addition to Hollywood's portrayal of history, students will study the implied historical references of historical events Hollywood symbolically implies in its films. Contact Gary Neal at x5306 with any questions.

CONTEMPORARY ISSUES

Grade Level: 11-12

Number of Semesters: 1

Credit: ½ Social Studies

Description of course:

This course will focus on issues of interest and concern in today's world. (i.e. nuclear war, social issues, wars in the Middle East, the cold war, etc.) Students will be expected to actively participate in discussion, research, writing and presentations.

FINE ARTS-VISUAL ARTS

DRAWING I

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, & 12

Number of Semesters: 1

Credit: ½ -Fine Art

Description of course:

This course will explore basic drawing techniques and skills to strengthen student's ability to draw from observation, and prepare them for upper level art courses.

DRAWING II

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, & 12

Number of Semesters: 1

Credit: ½ -Fine Art

Description of course:

This course will continue building basic drawing techniques and skills to strengthen student's ability to draw from observation, and prepare them for upper level art courses.

ART FOUNDATIONS I

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, & 12

Number of Semesters: 1

Credit: ½-Fine Art

Description of course:

This course will provide students the opportunity to understand and create works of art based on the elements and principles of design.

ART FOUNDATIONS II

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, & 12

Number of Semesters: 1

Credit: ½-Fine Art

Description of course:

This course will continue providing students the opportunity to understand and create works of art based on the elements and principles of design.

PHOTOGRAPHY I

Grade Level: 10, 11, & 12

Number of Semesters: 2

Credit: 1-Fine Art

Prerequisite: 1 full credit of visual arts with a "C" or better

Description of course:

This course is based around the 35 mm (film) camera and processing. The skills developed here will lay the foundation for any modern photography medium, such as digital. (Students will be responsible for obtaining their own 35 mm manual camera). Each semester the class will have a \$30.00 fee and the cost of film.

PHOTOGRAPHY II

Grade Level: 11 & 12

Number of Semesters: 2

Credit: 1 Fine Art

Prerequisite: Photo I with a "C" or better

Description of course:

This course will follow up with and build upon skills and techniques learned in Photography I. Students will expand their skills with a variety of cameras, technology, and the darkroom. (Students will be responsible for obtaining their own 35 mm manual camera). Each semester the class will have a \$30.00 fee and the cost of film.

PAINTING I

Grade Level: 10, 11, & 12

Number of Semesters: 2

Credit: 1-Fine Art

Prerequisite: 1 full credit of visual arts with a "C" or better

Description of course:

Students will explore 4 major painting mediums (ink watercolor, acrylic and oil) and their various applications and techniques. Each semester the class will have a \$25.00 fee.

PAINTING II

Grade Level: 11 & 12

Number of Semesters: 2

Credit: 1-Fine Art

Prerequisite: Painting I with a "C" or better

Description of course:

This course will follow up with and build upon skills and techniques learned in Painting I. Students will choose a painting medium to be their focus. Students will be required to complete a portfolio. Each semester the class will have a \$30.00 fee.

FINE ARTS-VISUAL ARTS

POTTERY/SCULPTURE

Grade Level: 11 & 12

Number of Semesters: 2

Credit: 1 Fine Art

Description of course:

This course will teach the fundamentals for creating three-dimensional artwork out of a variety of media. Students will learn the processes for creating with clay (including hand built and wheel thrown), as well as learning the techniques for creating a variety of sculptures using the additive and subtractive processes. This course will have a fee for expendable materials.

AP STUDIO ART 3D DESIGN

Grade Level: 11 & 12

Weighted Course

Number of Semesters: 2

Credit: 1 Fine Art

Prerequisites: Pottery I with a "C" or better

AP contract signed by student and parent

Description of course:

This course will follow up with the skills and techniques learned in Pottery I. Students will expand their skills with a variety of mediums, techniques and projects. Students will be required to create a portfolio containing artwork and written understanding. Each semester the class will have a \$40.00 fee.

AP STUDIO ART 2D DESIGN

Grade Level: 11 & 12

Weighted Course

Number of Semesters: 2

Credit: 1 Fine Art

Prerequisites: Pottery I with a "C" or better

AP contract signed by student and parent

Description of course:

This course will follow up with the skills and techniques learned in Pottery I. Students will expand their skills with a variety of mediums, techniques and projects. Students will be required to create a portfolio containing artwork and written understanding. Each semester the class will have a \$40.00 fee.

FINE ARTS-DRAMA

DRAMA I

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11 & 12

Number of Semesters: 2

Credit: 1-Fine Art

Prerequisite: none

Description of course:

This class provides the student with an opportunity to learn and develop skills in pantomime, improvisation, oral interpretation, acting, makeup, costuming, scene design and stagecraft and to apply these skills. Students will work with school productions.

Semester I concentrates on improvisation, pantomime, and character study; Semester II concentrates on makeup and one act plays.

ADVANCED THEATRE

Grade level: 10-12

Number of Semesters: 2

Credit: 1 Fine Art

Prerequisite: A or B in Stagecraft / A or B in Drama I and teacher recommendation

Description of course:

Students will be involved in an in depth look at the history, background and skills used in theatre. They will demonstrate knowledge and understanding and practice application of these principals in design, critiques, advanced acting, and production work. Specifically, these students will be able to use critical thinking skills in applying theatre principals to other production, and directing in the school or community. This is not a basic theatre high school course. Students may elect to receive college credit for the course.

STAGECRAFT I

Grade Level: 10, 11 & 12

Number of Semesters: 2

Credit: 1-Fine Art

Prerequisite: Staff recommendation, Drama I

Description of course:

Students in Stagecraft will have the opportunity to learn about all that goes on backstage to put a production together. Students will learn the basics of scene painting, props, costumes, makeup, and set design. Theories and techniques will be demonstrated and practiced through the building of props, flats, costumes and other production pieces. Students will also gain a history of the stage itself. Guest speakers will be introduced to give students insight into the professional aspects of production.

TECHNICAL THEATRE

Grade level: 10-12

Number of Semesters: 2

Credit: 1 Fine Art

Prerequisite: Stagecraft or Drama I, Teacher recommendation AND Safety test

Description of course:

Students will experience the hands on side of stagecraft. They will build sets, props, and costumes for the productions on the BHS Stage. Students will run the lights and sound for productions, assemblies, and guest speakers. After completion of training, students will be part of the BHS Sound crew.

FINE ARTS-SPEECH

SPEECH & DEBATE

Grade Level: 9-12

Number of Semesters: 2

Credit: 1 Fine Art

Prerequisite: Public Speaking/teacher recommendation. Contract signed by student and parent is required.

Description of the course:

Advanced Speech is a co-curricular performance class. Students in Advanced Speech will use skills and knowledge developed in Public Speaking as they prepare to perform both in class and in a minimum of six tournaments during the course of the speech tournament season. Tournaments take place two to three times per month (October-March) and occur on Friday evening and/or all day Saturday. Students who take Advance Speech must be committed to preparing, practicing, and performing both inside and outside of the classroom. Students who attend speech tournaments must adhere to "speech tournament" dress guidelines.

FINE ARTS-INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

MARCHING BAND

Grade Level: 11-12

Number of Semesters: 1 (FALL SEMESTER)

Credit: 1/2-Fine Art

Prerequisite: Instrumental musicians must have achieved one of the following:

- Successful completion of Band the previous year
- Passing grade in band at previous school (transfer students only).
- Successful audition if students has been out of Band in the previous year for administrative or medical reasons.
- Passing grade in Band at previous school (transfer students only).
- Color Guard must complete a successful audition for the Guard Director

Description of course:

The Pride of Branson Band will perform at all home football games (regular season and playoff games), any away playoff games as determined by the Athletic Director and Director of Bands, marching competitions, parades, pep rallies/assemblies, winter concert, and other events as opportunities arise. Given the performance demands of the fall semester, the Branson Band requires two weeks of summer band (a third week is required for percussion and color guard members) and 6:30 am, before school rehearsals during the fall semester (ending approximately during the third week of October).

JAZZ BAND

Grade Level: 11-12

Number of Semesters: 1 (SPRING)

Credit: ½ -Fine Art

Prerequisite: Admission by audition only. Students who play jazz music instruments that are typically found in the symphonic/concert band, must be enrolled concurrently in Symphonic/Concert band. Students who do not play a symphonic/concert band instrument (i.e. guitar, piano, bass) must pass a screening with the Director of Bands. All students must be able to read music.

Description of course:

This ensemble is a performing competitive group. Instrumentation will be determined by the Director of Bands. The ensemble will rehearse music of various jazz styles and will perform at both on-campus and off-campus competitions/performances.

JAZZ ENSEMBLE

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11 & 12

Number of Semesters: 1 (FALL)

Credit: ½ -Fine Art

Prerequisite: All students must be able to read music and have proficiency on an instrument (does NOT have to be an instrument typically found in a Jazz Ensemble). Students are NOT required to be in Marching Band. Students may also perform in this ensemble on a secondary instrument.

Description of course:

Students will explore elements of jazz performance style and improvisation, with some attention given to history, interpretation, and theory. This course may combine in-class performance requirements with academic assessments.

SYMPHONIC BAND

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11 & 12

Number of Semesters: 1

Credit: ½ -Fine Art (SPRING)

Prerequisite: Admission to course by audition only. Students must also have been enrolled in and successfully completed Marching Band during the fall semester.

Description of course:

This ensemble is a performing, competitive group. Instrumentation will be determined by the Director of Bands. The ensemble will rehearse wind band literature of various styles and will perform at both on-campus performances (including commencement) and off-campus festivals/performances. Members of the Symphonic Band are encouraged to participate in the District Solo and Ensemble Music Festival and take private music lessons.

FINE ARTS-INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

CONCERT BAND

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11 & 12

Number of Semesters: 1

Credit: ½ -Fine Art (SPRING)

Prerequisite: Students must also have been enrolled in and successfully completed Marching Band during the fall semester.

Description of course:

This ensemble is a performing group. Instrumentation will be determined by the Director of Bands. The ensemble will rehearse wind band literature of various styles and will perform at both on-campus performances (including commencement) and off-campus festivals/performances. Members of the Symphonic Band are encouraged to participate in the District Solo and Ensemble Music Festival and take private music lessons.

AP MUSIC THEORY

Grade Level: 11 - 12

Number of Semesters: 2

Credit: 1-Fine Art

Prerequisite: Entrance exam

Instructor approval

Description of course:

Music Theory is open to students that have pre-existing knowledge of music (i.e. instrumental music, choir, private lessons, and orchestra). Students will be required to take an entrance exam to ensure they have the knowledge base necessary to be successful. Students will increase their knowledge and understanding in the following areas: vocabulary, music theory, harmony, scales, chords, intervals, etc. Students will learn music composition, arranging, music history (as it relates to styles of musical composition) and ear training. Students will have the opportunity to take the National Advanced Placement exam in May for college credit.

FINE ARTS-VOCAL MUSIC

MEN'S CHORUS

Grade Level: 9-12
Number of Semesters: 1
Credit: 1/2-Fine Art
Prerequisite: By audition only

Description of course:

Men's Chorus is a group of skilled male singers. The course will focus on several aspects of choral music including: sight reading, ear training, foreign language, complex rhythms, and teamwork. Men's Chorus will periodically perform with Ladies Select Ensemble.

WOMEN'S CHORUS

Grade Level: 9-12
Number of Semesters: 2
Credit: 1-Fine Art

Description of course:

Ladies Select Ensemble is an auditioned choir. The course includes both curricular and some extracurricular activities. Ladies Select Ensemble may participate in spring District Music Festival events. Selected members may be encouraged to prepare small ensemble entries for District Music Festival and to audition for All-District Honor Choir. Ladies Select Ensemble will perform in a required major concert performance each grading period; additional required performances in the school and community may be scheduled.

ADVANCED WOMEN'S CHORUS

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11 & 12
Number of Semesters: 2
Credit: 1-Fine Art
Audition only

Description of course:

Advanced Women's Chorus is an auditioned, select, upperclassmen ensemble for treble singers. Students will learn/perform choral works for women from various periods of music history in order to reinforce concepts taught in Advanced Women's. Students must participate both semesters.

CHAMBER CHOIR

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11 & 12
Number of Semesters: 2
Credit: 1-Fine Art
Prerequisite: Audition/staff selection

Description of course:

Chamber Singers is an auditioned choir and is a select ensemble of serious student musicians who demonstrate advanced level musicianship. Its purpose is to give students challenging and developing choral experiences. The course includes both curricular and some extra-curricular activities. Chamber Singers members may be encouraged to audition for All-District Honor Choir. Chamber Singers will perform in a required major concert performance each grading period; additional required performances in the school and community may be scheduled. Chamber singers will perform a repertoire of choral literature representing a variety of musical periods and styles.

HANDBELLS

Grade Level: 9-12
Number of Semesters: 1
Credit: ½-Fine Art

Description of course:

Students will learn basic note reading skills and hand bell ringing techniques. The ensemble participates in a required concert performance each grading period and may present additional required performance in the school and community. This is a non-singing course.

MUSIC THEATRE

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11 & 12
Number of Semesters: 1
Credit: ½-Fine Art

Description of course:

This is a performance based class. This class would allow students with an interest in music theatre experience the building blocks necessary for a successful performance. Review and drill of music and drama fundamentals, stage design; costuming, makeup, and history are practiced on a daily basis. This class is open to all students without audition.

PRACTICAL ARTS-VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE

AGRICULTURAL SCIENCE I

Grade Level: 9-12
Number of Semesters: 2
Credit: 1-Practical Art

Description of course:

This is an agricultural survey course that integrates basic biological and technological concepts with principles of production agriculture. Students are taken on a journey through all of today's agricultural areas including animal science, plant science, environmental science, agribusiness, and introduction to welding. There will be an FFA membership fee for this class.

AGRICULTURAL SCIENCE II ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

Grade Level: 10-12
Number of Semesters: 2
Credit: 1-Practical Art
Prerequisite: Agricultural Science I

Description of course:

A course designed for instruction in plant and crop science, soils, entomology, horticulture and forestry. Students are given additional instruction in career development, leadership, and supervised agricultural experience. Students will have hands-on training in greenhouse operation and perform various laboratory experiments related to units of study. There will be an FFA membership fee for this class.

AGRICULTURAL SCIENCE II ANIMAL SCIENCE

Grade Level: 10-12
Number of Semesters: 2
Credit: 1 -Practical Art
Prerequisite: Agricultural science I

Description of course:

This course offers advanced study in animal production, management, and units related to the evaluation of animal products. Units of study include the processing of meat animals, dairy cattle management and production, beef cattle management and production, swine management and production, livestock anatomy, and livestock reproduction. This course will also include agricultural careers, leadership, and supervised agricultural experience. There will be an FFA membership fee for this class

AGRICULTURAL STRUCTURES

Grade Level: 10-12
Number of Semesters: 2
Credit: 1-Practical Art
Prerequisite: None

Description of course:

Agricultural Structures is the study of the basic skills and knowledge needed for the building of agricultural structures such as: surveying, electrical wiring, plumbing and basic building construction. Additionally, this class will explore the proper and safe use and application of both hand and power woodworking tools. There will be an FFA membership fee for this class.

INTRO TO HORSES

Grade Level: 11-12
Number of Semesters: 2
Credit: 1-Practical Art (**Dual credit option**)
Prerequisites: Agriscience I & II

Description of course:

This is a course that contains units of study that deal with the latest concepts of owning and managing a horse. This course will emphasize principles involved in selection, health management, facilities, nutritional management, exercise physiology, reproduction, tack, equipment and business management. Each unit of study will consist of hands on activities with laboratory exercises or field work with local Equine businesses. There will be an FFA membership fee for this class.

GREENHOUSE OPERATION AND MANAGEMENT

Grade Level: 11-12
Number of Semesters: 2
Credit: 1 -Practical Art
Prerequisite: Agriscience I & II

Description of course:

This is a course that covers the introduction to the Horticulture industry, plant growth structures, plant anatomy and propagation, growing media, pest control, management and marketing of Greenhouse grown plants. There will be an FFA membership fee for this class.

PRACTICAL ARTS-VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE

AGRICULTURAL COMMUNICATIONS & ISSUES

Grade Level: 10-12

Number of Semesters: 2

Credit: 1 -Practical Art

Prerequisite: Agricultural science I & II

Description of course:

This course will enable students to develop the knowledge, attitudes, and skills to demonstrate positive leadership for agriculture. Areas of focus include public speaking, current agricultural issues, time management, career and college research, media development, written communication, meeting people, good first impressions, personal goals, and organization teamwork. There will be an FFA membership fee for this class.

AGRICULTURAL MANAGEMENT & ECONOMICS

Grade Level: 11-12

Number of Semesters: 2

Credit: 1 -Practical Art (1/2 Personal Finance)

Prerequisite: Agricultural Science I & II

Description of course:

This course combines farm management, agribusiness management, and content based on agricultural economic principles. Computer applications are included to enhance student understanding and utilization of current technology. Units include human relations, verbal and written communication, microcomputers in agriculture, economic principles, farm planning, agribusiness functions, and business management. There will be an FFA membership fee for this class.

PRACTICAL ARTS-TECHNOLOGY

COMPUTER APPLICATIONS I

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

Number of Semesters: 2

Credit: 1-Practical Art

Description of course:

This course offers students the opportunity to investigate all aspects of the computer, including the history, basic operations and computer software. Students will become proficient in their skill of basic computer software. Multidisciplinary projects will involve using various applications such as word processing, spreadsheets, databases, and presentation software. Students will also have an opportunity to conduct research on the Internet, explore new technological innovations, examine technology-related careers and speculate about future computer applications.

COMPUTER APPLICATIONS II

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11 & 12

Number of Semesters: 2

Credit: 1-Practical Art

Prerequisite: Computer Applications I

Description of course:

This is a hands-on course designed for both the business student who wants to learn job-entry level skills and for the business student who wishes to prepare for a college degree in the Business field. This course is a continuation of Computer Applications I and includes more in-depth individual and group instruction in current office practices. By the conclusion of the course, the student will be proficient in word processing, databases, and spreadsheets using industry standard business software.

TECHNOLOGY PRACTICUM

Grade Level: 10, 11 & 12

Number of Semesters: 2

Credit: 1-Practical Art

Prerequisite: Completed application from teacher

Description of course:

Students in this course will be required to work independently and cooperatively with other students to learn to support the computer hardware and software throughout the district. Activities will include the completion of hands-on activities. The activities will consist of the fulfillment of tech requests from other students, teachers, administrators, and support staff throughout the district. Students will use reference manuals, tutorial exercises, textbooks, telephone support lines, computers and their peripherals, and on-line documentation and related assistance as they fill the received requests. Students will report to the classroom each day, and then will be instructed on the day's activities. Students will receive tasks from both the instructor and district technology personnel. **Students must have on file a permission to leave campus form signed by a parent or guardian. Students who will excel in this course are those who have a desire to complete assignments at a level higher than the minimum required.**

BUSINESS TECHNOLOGY

Grade Level: 11 & 12

Number of Semesters: 2

Credit: 1-Practical Art

Prerequisites: Computer Applications I

Description of course:

Training includes individual and group instruction in current office practices. This course is designed for students to gain entry-level computer skills in the office setting, filing, business communications, pre-employment preparation, entrepreneurship, career exploration and other valuable business skills.

PRACTICAL ARTS-TECHNOLOGY

CODING & 3D GAME DESIGN-

Grade Level: 10-12

Number of Semesters: 1

Credit: ½ -Practical Art

Prerequisite: Computer Apps I & Application

Description of course:

Coding and 3D Game Design is a hands-on course designed for students who are interested in pursuing a career in the computer gaming industry. In this class students will create their own 3D Video Game. Students will also gain a solid understanding of the basics of program, demonstrate the design process for 3D game development, understand the fundamentals of math, variables, and storing information used in game programming and learn how to present a design concept to customers, investors, and media and package the game for distribution. Students will also have the opportunity to sit for an Industry Certification Exam upon successful completion of the course upon recommendation of the teacher.

MOBILE APPLICATION DEVELOPMENT

Grade Level: 10-12

Number of Semesters: 1

Credit: ½ -Practical Art

Prerequisite: Computer Apps I & Application

Description of course:

Mobile Application Development is a highly interactive hands-on course that provides students with the specialized knowledge that is important in the development of web and mobile computer applications. Students will gain a solid understanding of the basics of programming and the design process for mobile applications, understand the basics of User Interface and User Experience design, and understand the fundamentals of math, variables, and storing information as used in app deployment. Students will also learn how to monetize an app to generate revenue and learn how to deploy apps to different devices including iOS, Droid, and Windows phones. Students will also have the opportunity to sit for an Industry Certification Exam upon successful completion of the course upon recommendation of the teacher.

WEB DESIGN

Grade Level: 9-12

Number of Semesters: 1

Credit: ½ -Practical Art

Prerequisite: Computer Apps I

Description of course:

The intellectual focus of this course will be on web page planning, basic design, layout and construction (effective and ineffective), setup and maintenance of a web site. Students will learn to create web pages using a variety of software including HTML and WYSIWYG webpage editing software (What You See Is What You Get), as well as use various image creation tools. Besides the introductory topics of changing text appearance and layout, advanced topics such as tables, frames, forms, graphics, and animation will also be covered. Students will create a variety of web pages with both free software and professional design studios.

GRAPHIC DESIGN

Grade Level: 9-12

Number of Semesters: 1

Credit: ½ -Practical Art

Prerequisite: Computer Apps I

Description of course:

This course provides students with the knowledge and skills necessary to improve their creativity and the quality of business documents and publications. Students will combine text and graphics to produce professional eye-catching publications; such as letterheads, newsletters, brochures, business cards, and calendars.

PRACTICAL ARTS-BUSINESS

BUSINESS LAW

Grade Level: 11 & 12
Number of Semesters: 2
Credit: 1-Practical Art

Description of course:

This course has a fundamental emphasis on business law, while introducing personal law topics. Students will have the opportunity to study real law cases and true situations that show how business and personal law impacts not only business, but the lives of young people and adults as well.

ACCOUNTING

Grade Level: 11 & 12
Number of Semesters: 2
Credit: 1-Practical Art
Dual Credit option available

Description of course:

Accounting introduces business vocabulary necessary for today's business world. Basic accounting principles and procedures that can be used for both personal and vocational use are presented in an organized and efficient manner. The course content covers the accounting cycle for all three types of business organizations--a proprietorship, a partnership, and a corporation. Through the use of both manual and automated simulations, students are able to experience first-hand how an accounting system actually works.

PERSONAL FINANCE

Grade Level: 11, 12
Number of Semesters: 1
Credit: ½-Practical Art
Prerequisite: None
Dual Credit option available

Description of course:

This course is an introduction to the world of money management and finance. Students will learn what to do with their money by learning about their financial options and their responsibilities. Students will learn how choices influence occupational options and future earning potential. Students will also learn to apply decision-making skills to evaluate career choices and set personal goals. The course content is designed to help the learner make wise spending, saving, and credit decisions and to make effective use of income to achieve personal financial success.

MARKETING

Grade Level: 11-12
Number of Semesters: 2
Credit: 1 – Practical Art

Description of Course

This introductory marketing course develops student understanding of distribution, financing, marketing-information management, pricing, product/service management, promotion, and selling. Students acquire an understanding of the need for marketing planning in such areas as identification of target markets, development of marketing strategies, and implementation of marketing procedures. Throughout the course, students are presented problem-solving situations for which they must apply academic and critical-thinking skills. Participation in Supervised Marketing Education Employment is optional; giving students the opportunity to apply newly acquired marketing skills in the workplace.

SUPERVISED MARKETING

Grade Level: 11-12
Number of Semesters: 2
Credit: 1 or 2 – Practical Art (depending on number of hours worked)
Prerequisite: enrolled concurrently in Marketing

Description of Course

Employment provides students the opportunity to learn knowledge and skills in the classroom and to apply and test that learning in the workplace. Students develop transferable employability skills and occupational competence which will serve them throughout their continuing education and career. The cooperative nature of the program insures that these competencies are based on industry standards. In addition to occupational competence, this program fosters self-directed learning, strengthens the development of core academic skills through application in authentic situations, allows students to explore career options, enhances skills such as communication, leadership and problem solving, and contributes to community economic development. Supervised Marketing Education Employment expands opportunities for all students and exposes them to a broad array of career opportunities, work philosophies, and work environments. Supervised Marketing Education Employment enhances the school's ability to meet the needs of a diverse student population.

PRACTICAL ARTS-FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCES

FCS LEADERSHIP

Grade Level: 9-10
Number of Semesters: 1
Credit: ½-Practical Art

Description of course:

This instructional program introduces individuals to career opportunities and/or career pathways in family and consumer science-related occupations/careers. It generally prepares individuals to perform development, marketing, and management functions associated with owning and operating a family and consumer science-related business. Instruction emphasizes career development and preparation components, balancing family life and entrepreneurial ventures, hands-on activities in entrepreneurial concepts, and using technology.

NUTRITION & WELLNESS

Grade Level: 9-10
Number of Semesters: 1
Credit: ½-Practical Art

Description of course:

Do you want to learn how to prepare healthy meals for yourself and your future family? In Nutrition and Wellness you will understand the principles of good nutrition; the relationship of nutrition to health and wellness. Students will demonstrate safe kitchen practices and sanitation, meal planning using a budget, and reading food labels. Students will demonstrate basic meal preparation skills for the following food groups: dairy, grains, protein and fruits/vegetables. This course includes and extensive baking unit.

CULINARY ARTS I

Grade Level: 9-12
Number of Semesters: 2
Credit: 1 -Practical Art

Prerequisite: *Nutrition and Wellness, FCS Leadership*

Description of course:

Did you like to cook in Nutrition and Wellness? In Culinary Arts I you will learn advanced cooking terms and techniques. Instruction include the following culinary units; how to decorate cakes, preparing soups and the five mother sauces and a variety of grain products, pasta and fruits and vegetables. Culinary Arts I is designed to provide training opportunities in the foodservice and hospitality/tourism industries. This course will concentrate on skills and attributes needed to fill entry level culinary and food service positions. Students will earn a SERV-SAFE certification.

CULINARY ARTS II-PROSTART II

Grade Level 11-12
Number of Semesters: 2
Credit: 1 –Practical Art

Prerequisite: *Culinary Arts I, Nutrition and Wellness, FCS Leadership and application*

Dual Credit with OTC: 4 hrs. *HSM 101 Introduction to hospitality industry, HSM 115 Safety and Sanitation*

Description of course:

This course is designed to provide students with more advanced cooking skills for use in the foodservice industry. Students will prepare breakfast foods, salads and garnishing, meat and poultry, desserts and baked goods focusing on global cuisines. Students will have an opportunity to master cake decorating skills in the desserts and baking unit. This course will have an entrepreneur/marketing component based on the food truck or pop-up restaurant.. They will apply purchasing techniques and demonstrate an understanding of inventory monitoring and control. All students will be encouraged to pursue the national certificate of achievement and take the National Restaurant Association end of course exam

PRACTICAL ARTS-FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCES

FAMILY LIVING

Grade Level: 9-10
Number of Semesters: 1
Credit: ½ -Practical Art

Description of course:

This course investigates the nature, function, and significance of human relationships within the family/individual unit. It includes instruction in the concepts and principles related to various family living conditions; establishment and maintenance of relationships; and preparation for marriage, parenthood, and family life. Instruction emphasizes the uniqueness of families and individuals, the development and socialization of the individual, and meeting the needs and interests of individuals and family members.

PARENTING

Grade Level: 9-12
Number of Semesters: 1
Credit: ½ -Practical Art

Description of course:

This course focuses on the effects of parenting roles and responsibilities on strengthening the well-being of individuals and families. Students analyze roles and responsibilities of parenting; evaluate parenting practices that maximize human growth and development; evaluate external support systems and community resources that provide services for parents; and analyze physical and emotional factors related to beginning the parenting process. Careers related to parenting are investigated. Instruction emphasizes leadership, problem-solving, and communication skills in parenting techniques.

CHILD DEVELOPMENT I

Grade Level: 9-12
Number of Semesters: 1
Credit: ½ -Practical Art

Description of course:

This instructional program studies the intellectual, social, emotional, and biological development of children and the planning and design of related human services. It includes instruction in parent-child relations; parenting practices; special needs of children; parental and environmental influences on child development; external support services; and related public policy issues.

CHILD DEVELOPMENT II

Grade Level: 11-12
Number of Semesters: 2
Credit: 1 -Practical Art

Prerequisite: A in Child Development I;

Parenting, Family Living, FCS Leadership, and application.

Dual credit with OTC: Can be articulated for credit through OTC, requires 50 contact hours in P-K educational setting, Possibility of Dual Credit

Description of course:

This instructional program provides advanced study in child development and guidance, including the physical, social, and intellectual development of children. Actual experience in supervising children provides the opportunity to improve parenting skills, explore careers related to child development, and identify general employment skills.

PATHWAYS TO TEACHING

Grade Level: 11-12
Number of Semesters: 2
Credit: 1 -Practical Art

Prerequisite: C or better in Child Development I; Parenting, Family Living, FCS Leadership and application

Description of course:

This course focuses on exploring the teaching profession, grades 1-12. This is a program that focuses on the general theory and practice of learning and teaching; the basic principles of educational psychology; the art of teaching; the planning and administration of educational activities; school safety and health issues; and the social foundations of education. Internship hours during the course time will be a great hands-on learning aspect of this course.

PRACTICAL ARTS-FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCES

HOUSING AND ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN

Grade Level: 9-12

Number of Semesters: 1

Credit: ½ -Practical Art

Description of course:

Do you like art, decorating, and detailed drawing? Then Interior design is for you! In this course you will learn about housing styles and exterior characteristics and how to buy a home.. Students will practice drawing floor plans and elevations, applying the elements and principles of design in decorating and furniture arranging. Students will create a design sample board for presentation.

APPAREL, TEXTILES, AND FASHION I

Grade Level: 9-12

Number of Semesters: 1

Credit: ½ -Practical Art

Description of course:

This course is designed to help individuals understand the social, psychological, and physiological aspects of clothing and textiles; the nature, acquisition, and use of clothing and textile products; the selection, construction, maintenance, and alteration of clothing and textile products; and the effect of consumer choices on the individual and family as well as the clothing and textile industry. Students will create a sewing notebook and complete a project with a zipper.

APPAREL, TEXTILES, AND FASHION II

Grade Level: 9-12

Number of Semesters: 1

Credit: ½ -Practical Art

Prerequisite: C or better in Apparel, Textiles, and Fashion I

Description of course:

A course designed to extend knowledge gained in apparel and textiles for the advanced student interested in fashion, fabric properties, recycling of clothing. Students will complete a project with buttons, collar and sleeves. Students will also focus on fashion merchandising techniques and create a window display.

WORLD LANGUAGES

SPANISH I

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11 & 12

Number of Semesters: 2

Credit: 1-Foreign Language

Description of course:

Students will gain skills in the target language enabling them to: ask and answer questions; share likes and dislikes; describe themselves, family and friends; discuss weather and time; ask prices and pay for goods, select clothing; order food in a restaurant; request a room in a hotel; give and follow directions in the city; and identify common household and school related vocabulary. Students will broaden their understanding of the world culture via cultural activities, authentic songs, and holiday celebrations.

SPANISH II

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11 & 12

Number of Semesters: 2

Credit: 1-Foreign Language

Prerequisite: Spanish I or teacher recommendation

Description of course:

Students further develop their language skills to: ask and answer about the details of events and to seek clarification; write a basic letter; describe their childhood/past experiences in sequence; state what they want, can, or must do; discuss daily routines such as hygiene, household chores, leisure and school subjects; express interests in careers, sports, common entertainment, and pastimes; develop basic travel plans; and explore select cultural topics. Students will gain further cultural understanding through investigation of contemporary life, music, art, historical events, and historical figures. Students are required to pass both semesters of Spanish I prior to this course.

SPANISH III

Grade Level: 10, 11 & 12

Number of Semesters: 2

Credit: 1-Foreign Language

Prerequisite: C or better in Spanish II or teacher recommendation

Description of course:

Students will transition into basic fluency skills, enabling them to: give commands and detailed instructions; express obligation, will or emotion about events; describe personality, relationships, and emotions; give details about entertainment/ media/world events; respond in a basic interview; complete a social media profile; request services such as repairs, postal services, a haircut, and medical attention; use the phone to maneuver changes in plans/cancellations; operate an ATM; and make online purchases. Students will explore select cultural aspects like authentic music, cinema, art, cuisine and political structures as well as unique/controversial traditions. This course is weighted and requires teacher recommendation.

SPANISH IV

Grade Level: 11 & 12

Number of Semesters: 2

Credit: 1-Foreign Language

Prerequisite: B or better in Spanish III or teacher recommendation

Description of course:

Students will develop more impromptu structures enabling them to: ask and answer questions to determine future outcomes and seek solutions; give clear and detailed descriptions about cultural events, one's community, and world events; discuss present challenges like academic struggles, paying for necessities, and dealing with difficult people; discuss future plans about university, professional aspirations, and desirable places to live; and exchange information about community. Cultural exploration is expanded to align with the six themes present in the AP course. This course is weighted and requires teacher recommendation.

AP SPANISH LANGUAGE

Grade Level: 12

Number of Semesters: 2

Weighted course

Credit: 1-Foreign Language

Prerequisite: B or better in Spanish IV or teacher recommendation

AP contract signed by student and parent

Description of course:

This course is based on the six themes designated by the College Board; Global Challenges, Science and Technology, Contemporary Life, Personal and Public Identities, Families and Communities, and Beauty and Aesthetics. Students will move further into impromptu speaking enabling them to: exchange detailed information about personal and academic interests; converse, present, and persuade about social/cultural issues; incorporate cultural expression into their language; and develop supportive arguments to defend their perspectives. Students pursue individual interest in current events, careers, and cultural traditions. This course is weighted and required teacher recommendation.

WORLD LANGUAGES

FRENCH I

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11 & 12
Number of Semesters: 2
Credit: 1-Foreign Language

Description of course:

Students will gain skills in the target language enabling them to: ask and answer questions; share likes and dislikes; describe themselves, family and friends; discuss weather and time; ask prices and pay for goods, select clothing; order food in a restaurant; request a room in a hotel; give and follow directions in the city; and identify common household and school related vocabulary. Students will broaden their understanding of the world culture via cultural activities, authentic songs, and holiday celebrations.

FRENCH II

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11 & 12
Number of Semesters: 2
Credit: 1-Foreign Language
Prerequisite: French I

Description of course:

Students further develop their language skills to: ask and answer about the details of events and to seek clarification; write a basic letter; describe their childhood/past experiences in sequence; state what they want, can, or must do; discuss daily routines such as hygiene, household chores, leisure and school subjects; express interests in careers, sports, common entertainment, and pastimes; develop basic travel plans; and explore select cultural topics. Students will gain further cultural understanding through investigation of contemporary life, music, art, historical events, and historical figures. Students are required to pass both semesters of French I prior to this course.

FRENCH III

Grade Level: 10, 11 & 12
Number of Semesters: 2
Credit: 1-Foreign Language
Prerequisite: French I & II

Description of course:

Students will transition into basic fluency skills, enabling them to: give commands and detailed instructions; express obligation, will or emotion about events; describe personality, relationships, and emotions; give details about entertainment/ media/world events; respond in a basic interview; complete a social media profile; request services such as repairs, postal services, a haircut, and medical attention; use the phone to maneuver changes in plans/cancellations; operate an ATM; and make online purchases. Students will explore select cultural aspects like authentic music, cinema, art, cuisine and political structures as well as unique/controversial traditions. This course is weighted and requires teacher recommendation.

AP FRENCH LANGUAGE

Grade Level: 11 & 12
Number of Semesters: 2 Weighted Course
Credit: 1-Foreign Language
Teacher Recommendation
AP contract signed by student and parent

Description of course:

This course is based on the six themes designated by the College Board; Global Challenges, Science and Technology, Contemporary Life, Personal and Public Identities, Families and Communities, and Beauty and Aesthetics. Students will move further into impromptu speaking enabling them to: exchange detailed information about personal and academic interests; converse, present, and persuade about social/cultural issues; incorporate cultural expression into their language; and develop supportive arguments to defend their perspectives. Students pursue individual interest in current events, careers, and cultural traditions. This course is weighted and required teacher recommendation.

SPANISH FOR NATIVE SPEAKERS

Grade Level: 9-12
Number of Semesters: 2
Credit: 1-Foreign Language
Teacher Recommendation

Description of course:

The Spanish for Native Speakers course is designed for heritage speakers who wish to improve their proficiency in the language. Heritage speakers come from a home where Spanish is spoken, they only speak or understand Spanish, or are to some degree bilingual in Spanish and English. The class will enable students to develop, maintain, and enhance their Spanish proficiency by providing them opportunities to speak, listen, read, and write for a variety of audiences while exploring Hispanic culture.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION & HEALTH

HEALTH

Grade Level: 9

Number of Semesters: 1

Credit: ½ -Health

Description of course:

Topics will include the physical, mental and social well being of the individual through the life cycle, communicable diseases, reproduction, health education, drug awareness, fitness and nutrition education. Activities include field trips as well as guest lecturers. Students will be instructed in life-saving techniques including emergency first aid and adult CPR.

TEAM SPORTS

Grade Level: 9-12

Number of Semesters: 2

Credit: 1-Physical Education

Description of course:

Team sports includes activities such as football, ultimate Frisbee, kickball, softball, dodge ball, 4-base, handball, whiffle ball, soccer, volleyball and other various team oriented sports. Team Sports is a class that requires a student to dress out in a school issued uniform, tennis shoes and to participate on a team. The class also consists of a semester final, which will include sit-ups, push-ups, sit and reach and mile run.

ADVANCED LIFETIME SPORTS

Grade Level: 11 & 12

Number of Semesters: 2

Credit: 1-Physical Education

Description of course:

Advanced Individual and Dual Sports will help students develop recreational skills that can carry over to lifetime activities. Daily physical fitness is an integral part of individual and dual sports. This includes warm-up exercises specific to the activity and conditioning to improve the health related fitness components. A minimum of four units will be taught. The students will learn rules, strategies and proper safety procedures for equipment used in all activities studied. The student will actively participate in and dress in the required Branson Physical Education uniform. This course is limited to juniors and seniors. Students will participate in the following activities: golf, racquetball, tennis, ice skating, trap shooting, handball, bowling, badminton, pickle ball, recreational games, disc golf, and fitness assessments.

STRENGTH TRAINING & CONDITIONING

Grade Level: 9-12

Number of Semesters: 2

Credit: 1-Physical Education

- **Students must not have earned a D or F in any PE course the previous semester.** *This requirement may be waived by the instructor depending on the situation.*
- **Students must plan to participate in a Branson HS sport the year they are enrolled in the class.** *This requirement may be waived by the instructor depending on safety regulations.*

Description of course:

The students will be expected to dress in school uniform and participate daily. The course is designed to introduce students to basic strength training activities. These activities will include bench press, power cleans, back squats and variations of these lifts. The conditioning aspect of the class will include speed and quickness activities as well as running technique.

CARDIO FITNESS

Grade Level: 9-12

Number of Semesters: 2

Credit: 1-Physical Education

Description of course:

Students will be expected to dress-out in school uniform daily. Focus of the class will be on cardiovascular and fitness training. This course is designed to introduce students to basic exercises and activities so that they might become more involved in lifetime physical activity. Activities will include jogging, walking, aerobic exercises (bike, elliptical, treadmill), and the occasional game. Instruction will be given in yoga, stretching and basic strength training.

WALKING

Grade Level: 9-12

Number of Semesters: 2

Credit: 1-Physical Education

No uniform or dressing out required

Description of course:

This class is designed to give students the opportunity to achieve cardiovascular fitness through low impact walking, stretching, and plyometric activities. Each day will consist of distance walking at different intervals and progressions. Objectives of this course is for each student to improve their cardiovascular endurance and improve flexibility

AFJROTC

AFJROTC AEROSPACE SCIENCE

Grade Level: 9

Number of Semesters: 2

Credit: 1-Elective

Note: Cadets can earn 1 full PE credit by successfully passing two full years of AFJROTC Aerospace Science.

Description of Course: The AS portion of this course begins "A Journey into Aviation History" by focusing on the ancient development of flight, the modern pioneers of flight, and how flight expanded in its early years. The LE portion introduces Cadets to the history, organization, mission, traditions, goals, and objectives of AFJROTC. Cadets will be introduced to civics, including a historical understanding of the American flag and other national symbols, military customs and courtesies, and the principles of ethical and moral behavior. Specific lessons cover how to be emotionally, mentally, and physically healthy and how to avoid and prevent violence and bullying. The PT portion consists of exercise programs focused upon individual base line improvements with the goal of achieving a national PT standard. PT also covers healthy living, physical fitness, and how to make safe, drug-free, and responsible decisions.

AFJROTC AEROSPACE ADVANCED

Grade Level: 10, 11, 12

Number of Semesters: 2

Credit: 1-Elective

Note: Cadets can earn 1 full PE credit by successfully passing two full years of AFJROTC Aerospace Science.

Description of Course: The AS portion of this course rotates on a 3-year cycle: "The Science of Flight" teaches how airplanes fly, how weather affects flight, how the human body is affected by flight, and flight navigation; "Exploring Space" covers the space environment, orbits, unmanned satellites, space probes, space vehicles, launch systems, space missions, the human aspect of spaceflight, and the human experience in space; and "A Journey into Aviation History" continues to explore how airplanes advanced throughout military aviation and in commercial aviation, and contains instruction on Astronomy and Rocketry. The LE portion also rotates on a 3-year cycle: "Communication, Awareness, and Leadership" stressing communications skills, Cadet Corps activities, preparing for leadership, solving conflicts, and personal development; "Life Skills and Career Opportunities" teaching financial planning, contracts, leases, warranties, legal notices, personal bills, and career paths; and "Principles of Management" providing exposure to the fundamentals of management, including ethical dilemmas, case studies, and role playing activities based on real life experiences. The PT portion consists of exercise programs focused upon individual base line improvements with the goal of achieving a national PT standard. PT also covers healthy living, physical fitness, and how to make safe, drug-free, and responsible decisions.

AFJROTC

AFJROTC COMMAND & CONTROL

Grade Level: 11, 12

Number of Semesters: 2

Credit: 1-Elective

Consent: Consent of the Senior Aerospace Science Instructor required.

Description of Course: Cadets that take this course provide the leadership required to run the Cadet portion of AFJROTC. They manage a Cadet Wiring Diagram, which assigns all AFJROTC leadership positions, and they Command and Control all aspects of the Cadet portion of the overall AFJROTC program. They create, plan, and execute all major Cadet Corps activities. They communicate their direction to the Cadet Corps through a system of Daily Announcements and monthly Newsletters. They also keep records so that each year's leaders can see what happened in the past, plan for the current year, and provide for the future. These Cadets also prepare and present the AFJROTC Program to the United States Air Force AFJROTC Headquarters Inspector for evaluation when required.

GENERAL ELECTIVES

GIFTED STUDIES

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11 & 12

Number of Semesters: 2

Credit: 1-Elective

Prerequisite: Must meet gifted criteria

Description of course:

Curricular emphasis in the high school gifted program consists of eight specific (core) areas and three general areas that define the scope of the program. The eight core areas are thinking skills, fine arts, research, computing, communications, philosophy, academic units and great literature. The three general areas are group projects, field experience and social/emotional growth. The course is designed to provide a differentiated curriculum that incorporates these goals.

A + TUTORING

Grade Level: 11 & 12

Number of Semesters: 1 or 2

Credit: ½/1 -Elective

Description of course:

The A+ Tutoring Program provides tutoring opportunities during the school day, after the school day and during the summer school. It is offered as a semester course or a year course to juniors and seniors.

LEADERSHIP

Grade Level: 11-12

Number of Semesters: 1

Credit: 1 -Elective

Dual Credit Option Available

Description of course:

Fundamentals of Leadership is a course that will develop leadership skills, promote volunteerism, and strengthen school and community awareness. Students will engage in individual and group problem-solving exercises to expand their ability to solve real world problems in the future. Critical thinking skills and reflective journaling will allow students to explore new innovative ways to approach problems and create solutions. This one semester elective course will be open to juniors and seniors and may be repeated

ACT PREP

Grade Level: 10, 11, & 12

Number of Semesters: 1

Credit: ½-Elective

Description of course:

The ACT has become an important factor in the process of college acceptance and scholarship selection. The ACT Prep course is designed to aid students in improving test-taking skills and to develop strategies for taking the ACT. A review of English, math, reading and science skills needed for success on the ACT will be reviewed. The course will also touch on various topics concerning post-secondary planning.

DRIVERS EDUCATION

Grade Level: Age 15 at beginning of the course

Number of Semesters: 1

Credit: ½ -Elective

Available summer only

Description of course:

This class consists of approximately 30 hours in the classroom, 12 hours of observation and 6 hours of driving. Students who complete this course successfully should be ready to obtain their Missouri Driver's License.

MASS MEDIA COMMUNICATIONS

Grade Level: 11 & 12

Number of Semesters: 2

Credit: 1-Elective

Prerequisite: Completed application from teacher

Description of course:

Mass Communications is designed for students with an interest in television or film production either as a career opportunity or for integrating video into other course work. This course will give students hands-on opportunities in television production. Through a variety of video production experiences, students will learn the power of the medium, examine issues of fairness and objectivity, make critical thinking decisions on a regular basis, exercise creativity and gain an overall understanding of modern news-gathering techniques.

GENERAL ELECTIVES

PUBLICATIONS-

Grade Level: 11 & 12

Number of Semesters: 2

Credit: 1-Elective

Prerequisite: English I & II and staff recommendation; completed application from teacher

Description of course:

This class will prepare the school yearbook. The class will be responsible for layout, design, photographic design and preparation, newsgathering, writing and editing, marketing, budgeting, etc., while working under the pressure of meeting deadlines.

ESL: BEYOND HIGH SCHOOL

Grade Level: 11 (Also open to senior transfer students)

Number of Semesters: 2

Credit: 1 -Elective

Description of course:

This course is designed for juniors (and transfer seniors) in the ESL program. The focus of the elective will be preparation for life after high school. The course emphasizes college and career readiness, community service, and the development of English skills needed for success.

ESL: STUDY SKILLS

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11 & 12

Number of Semesters: 2

Credit: 1-Elective

Description of course:

The ESL Study Skills class provides content area support, including opportunities to complete assignments, for all students in the ESL program.

AP CAPSTONE

AP CAPSTONE PROGRAM

Upon completion of these two courses, and receiving qualifying scores on hour other AP courses, students will have the opportunity to receive an AP Capstone distinction upon graduation. These courses offer a rigorous and collaborative approach to students in an interdisciplinary setting. Students will develop a portfolio along with several research projects and presentations. Contact Julie Schreffler at x5217 with any questions.

AP RESEARCH

Grade Level: 11-12

Course length: Year-long

Prerequisites: AP Seminar

Course credit: 1 Elective Weighted

Description of course:

AP Research, the second course in the AP Capstone experience, allows students to deeply explore an academic topic, problem, issue, or idea of individual interest. Students design, plan, and implement a yearlong investigation to address a research question. Through this inquiry, they further the skills they acquired in the AP Seminar course by learning research methodology, employing ethical research practices, and accessing, analyzing, and synthesizing information. Students reflect on their skill development, document their processes, and curate the artifacts of their scholarly work through a process and reflection portfolio. The course culminates in an academic paper of 4,000–5,000 words (accompanied by a performance, exhibit, or product where applicable) and a presentation with an oral defense.

Contact Julie Schreffler at x5217 with any questions.

AP SEMINAR

Grade Level: 10-12

Course length: Year-long

Course credit: 1 Elective Weighted

Prerequisite: satisfactory completion of 9th and 10th grade Honors English with instructor recommendation

Description of course:

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

Contact Julie Schreffler at x5217 with any questions.

OTC DUAL CREDIT PROGRAMS

AP RESEARCH

Grade Level: 11-12

Course length: Year-long

Prerequisites: AP Seminar

Course credit: 1 Elective Weighted

Description of course:

AP Research, the second course in the AP Capstone experience, allows students to deeply explore an academic topic, problem, issue, or idea of individual interest. Students design, plan, and implement a yearlong investigation to address a research question. Through this inquiry, they further the skills they acquired in the AP Seminar course by learning research methodology, employing ethical research practices, and accessing, analyzing, and synthesizing information. Students reflect on their skill development, document their processes, and curate the artifacts of their scholarly work through a process and reflection portfolio. The course culminates in an academic paper of 4,000–5,000 words (accompanied by a performance, exhibit, or product where applicable) and a presentation with an oral defense.

Contact Julie Schreffler at x5217 with any questions.

AP SEMINAR

Grade Level: 10-12

Course length: Year-long

Course credit: 1 Elective Weighted

Prerequisite: satisfactory completion of 9th and 10th grade Honors English with instructor recommendation

Description of course:

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

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