

MAHANOY AREA HIGH SCHOOL



2011-2012 COURSE SELECTION GUIDE (PROGRAM OF STUDIES)

Mahanoy Area School District

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The mission of the Mahanoy Area School District in cooperation with parents and community members, is to provide diverse practical educational opportunities, to enhance each student's self-esteem, to develop individual talents and interests which will encourage students to achieve their full potential, and to become productive citizens in an ever-changing global society.

Principal's Message

Our goal is to have the best possible education for you. As a student you have a responsibility to yourself to make your life the best possible. A sound education is one way to accomplish that.

The course offerings are many and diverse. As you concentrate on what to select, challenge yourself. If you qualify for one of the honors, AP, advanced language or dual enrollment courses, select it. Keep in mind short-term as well as long-term goals. If you plan to attend post-secondary education, enter the workforce or military, there are courses designed to assist you. Not all courses are offered every year.

Be advised that your selections lock you into a schedule which can only be changed under the guidelines spelled out below. So be realistic when choosing. Carefully consider your strengths and weaknesses, discuss it with your guidance counselor, mentor, families or myself. If you follow these suggestions, I feel you will be rewarded with a diverse, challenging, and successful year.

This is your school and your education. Make the most of it!

Scheduling Guidelines

The graduation requirements for Mahanoy Area High school are in compliance with Pennsylvania State Board of Education regulations and include credits earned in grade 9 through 12.

I. Graduation Requirements include minimums in the following area

English	6.00 credits
Social Studies	4.00 credits
Mathematics	4.00 credits
Science	4.00 credits
Fitness/Health	1.50 credits
Technology/Business	2.50 credits
Arts/Humanities	2.00 credits
Electives	<u>4.00 credits</u>

28.00 credits (9th grade 2011-12)

Grades 10-12 are required to attain 26 credits for school year 2011-12.

* A score of proficient or advanced on the 11th Grade Mathematics PSSA will meet the criterion standards to fulfill a fourth year mathematics credit.

II. Promotion and Graduation Requirements:

To Grade 10	7.00 credits
To Grade 11	13.00 credits
To Grade 12	19.00 credits
For Graduation	28.00 credits

III. Schedule Changes:

Schedule changes will be permitted as follows:

1. With written parental/guardian permission to August 1, 2011
2. After August 1, 2011 only the following changes will be given consideration:
 - A. Request by student's teacher for change in the level of difficulty of a course.
 - B. Scheduling error-Example: Student completed English course in summer school but student schedule not adjusted.
 - C. Changes recommended by IEP Team or School Psychologists.
 - D. Administrative directed changes due to unusual circumstances.

Special Note: No schedule changes will be made at the end of the first marking period for students who failed any course.

Program of Studies

Our curriculum is designed to offer course choices that permit students to obtain the most comprehensive program available. It is to the student's advantage to schedule a variety of courses in order to be prepared to enter a four-year college, a technical trade/technological school, or a community college.

In order to better serve the students of Mahanoy Area High School, all students are encouraged to select courses that match their abilities and aptitudes. Note: Every student in grade 9 through grade 11 must maintain a full schedule. Students in grade 12 that have met the minimum graduation requirements have school-to-work and dual enrollment to college options.

DUAL ENROLLMENT

Dual enrollment allows (11th & 12th) students to take college courses while attending their home high school. Through a partnership between Mahanoy Area High School and Lehigh Carbon Community College (LCCC), students can earn both transferable college credits and high school credits for courses taken in the dual enrollment program.

Students participating in the dual enrollment program receive these course credits at a fraction of the cost they would pay to state universities or private colleges if they enrolled in those courses on campus. Courses are taught at our high school by our faculty and college professors.

Courses that are available for dual enrollment at this time are Composition & Research, Analysis of Literature, Introduction to Psychology, Introduction to Sociology, Art History. This is subject to change depending upon the availability of professors and course enrollment. Certain criteria are in place for those students wishing to enroll in dual enrollment course work. See the course description for more information.

If the dual enrollment grant is no longer available, students will need to pay the tuition to participate in the course as well as any fees for books, materials, etc.

SCHOOL-TO-WORK

The School-to Work Program allows 12th Grade students, who have enough credits to graduate, early dismissal/late arrival as long as the student is employed on a regular basis. Work skills and ethics are reinforced through weekly seminars and onsite job monitoring. Students may also enroll in an institution of higher learning.

Weighted courses

In order to bring our courses in line with other weighted systems in the country and to recognize our motivated students, our honors courses, advanced placement courses and dual enrollment courses will be weighted in the following way:

Honors courses and advanced language courses: average x 1.05 = grade
 AP and dual enrollment courses: average x 1.10 = grade

Schuylkill Technology Centers Vocational/Technological Program

The Schuylkill Technology Centers at their Frackville and Mar Lin Campuses offer students a unique opportunity to learn through live experiences in a real work environment. In addition, students train on state of the art equipment to help prepare them for various technical careers.

Traditionally, students attend the Schuylkill Technology Centers during grades 10-12. They spend half a year at one of the technology centers and spend half a year at the home school.

The Senior Elective Program is a new opportunity which allows seniors to spend a half day at the technology center taking technical electives. The other half of the day is spent at the home school where the seniors fulfill their academic requirements for graduation.

Listed below are the courses offered at the Schuylkill Technical Centers. More information on each shop is available in the guidance office:

Advanced Computer Networking	Food Preparation
Agricultural Ed/Horticulture	Machine Trade
Auto Body Repair	Marketing
Auto Mechanics	Masonry
Carpentry	Nursing Careers
Computer Aided Drafting and Design	Occupational Child Care
Cosmetology	Plumbing
Electro Mechanical	Residential/Industrial Electricity
Electronics	Small Engine
	Welding

Business, Careers, & Computer Information Technology

COURSE TITLE: INTRO TO BUSINESS

COURSE DESCRIPTION: General Business will introduce students to the world of business and help prepare them for economic roles as consumer, worker, and citizen. The course will also serve as a background for future business courses (9th Grade).

COURSE TITLE: KEYBOARDING

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Keyboarding is a course which offers students the opportunity to learn touch-type keyboarding (keying without looking at your hands) skills at a productive rate of speed and accuracy. While developing skills and proper keyboarding technique, students will enhance their knowledge of language skills and Microsoft Word to learn how to key basic business letters and report styles. This course will utilize Microsoft Office 2007 and Microtype 4 as instructional software. All bookwork is completed in Century 21 Keyboarding and Information Processing from south-Western Educational Publishing Company. (9th grade)

COURSE TITLE: CAREER EDUCATION

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This 9th grade course is designed to expose students to career clusters and explore different career opportunities. Students will learn how to successfully transition from school to work by looking for a job, applying and interviewing for a job starting a new job, workplace management and expectations of employers, and work attitudes. (9th grade)

COURSE TITLE: COMPUTER APPLICATIONS

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This 10th grade required course reinforces proper keyboarding technique with emphasis on speed and accuracy. Students are instructed on Word, Excel, Power Point, Publisher and Access using Microsoft Office 2007. Using the keyboard touch-type method students will prepare business documents, newsletters, and brochures; plan effective Power Point presentations; create Web pages with hyperlinks and many other creative projects. Students will be required to proofread, correct and type from a rough draft copy.

COURSE TITLE: COMPUTER APPLICATIONS/1.2 year course

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Students are instructed on Word, Excel, and Power Point using editing, formatting, special features, desktop publishing with work, creating Web pages, hyperlinks, planning effective Power Point presentations, and creating worksheets. Students will experience hands-on instruction in the Microsoft Office applications.

COURSE TITLE: ACCOUNTING I

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course allows the students to apply and develop an appreciation and an understanding for a systematic process of recording, classifying and sorting business data. The course will introduce the student to various business papers in connection with transactions requiring accounting entries. Students will be applying accounting principles for personal use record-keeping and acquaint themselves with the opportunity offered by accounting as a life work (10th-12th Grade).

COURSE TITLE: ACCOUNTING II

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course is a sequel to Accounting I. The student will apply and continue to develop an appreciation and an understanding for a systematic process for recording, classifying and sorting business data. The course will continue instructions to the student using business papers in connection with transactions requiring accounting entries. The student will develop an overall understanding for a sole-proprietorship, partnership, and corporation, and will be able to utilize skills in completing projects (Accounting I prerequisite).

COURSE TITLE: BUSINESS LAW

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Students will learn fundamentals on business law, introducing personal law, criminal law and tort law. Students will also learn legal ethics, employment, credit, banking, bankruptcy, contracts and partnerships (11th-12th Grade).

COURSE TITLE: BUSINESS COMMUNICATIONS/ENGLISH

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course provides seniors with opportunities to practice their writing, grammar, and punctuation skills through business correspondence (letters, memos, business reports, etc.). Students will also read business related books, magazines and materials. Oral presentations will reinforce presentation and oral communication skills. (12th Grade Only).

COURSE TITLE: SALESMANSHIP

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Students will learn the skills, procedures, and terminology needed to prepare sales presentations, enter an entry-level sales position, and be able to understand the sales environment and career advancement process in both retail and wholesale environments (10th -12th Grade).

COURSE TITLE: DESKTOP PUBLISHING

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This elective course provides students with opportunities to develop skills in electronic procedures for producing and editing publications. Students will create, format, illustrate, design, edit/revise and print publications. Students will also learn to scan pictures, produce newsletters, flyers, brochures, business cards, menus, and signs. Students will utilize Microsoft Word and Publisher to create publications

Prerequisite: Minimum grade of 85% in Computer Applications or Departmental approval with remediation (11th-12th Grade).

COURSE TITLE: YOUR EMPLOYABILITY SKILLS (YES)

COURSE DESCRIPTION: The YES Certificate Program helps students develop the fundamental skills employers require to maintain a well-trained workforce. It addresses key employability issues and offers participants a pathway to a secure and rewarding future (12th Grade Only).

COURSE TITLE: SPORTS AND ENTERTAINMENT MARKETING

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This elective course provides students with the opportunity to learn the basis of sports and entertainment marketing. Students will learn about the economics of marketing and the marketing mix. Some specific topics covered will include product and price decision making, sports promotion and images and licensing. In-class learning will be enhanced by case studies, market research activities and guest speakers (10th- 12th Grade).

COURSE TITLE: ENTREPRENEURSHIP

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course provides students with the entrepreneurial skills to develop business skills through solving problems relative to business situations and to experience the thrill of making decisions critical to maintaining a prosperous business. Learning in the classroom will be enhanced by speakers from the local business world, analyzing case studies, independent and collaborative projects (creating and selling a product to make the largest profit) and online activities simulating the real business experience (10th-12th Grade).

COURSE TITLE: WEB PAGE DESIGN

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This elective course provides students with opportunities to learn important topics of web design, by combining technical skills with design skills to create web pages with graphics, links, and page layout. Class experiences include learning the basics of Internet, planning websites, selecting color and design, hand-on exercises, and beginning web page creating through the use of Dreamweaver
Prerequisite: Minimum grade of 85% in computer applications or Departmental approval with remediation. (11th-12th Grade).

COURSE TITLE: PERSONAL FINANCE

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course is a **recommended** course for all 11th grade students at Mahanoy Area. The course will introduce students to financial and decision-making concepts. Topics to cover include: Money Management, Financial Security, Credit Management, Resource Management and Risk Management (11th Grade).

COURSE TITLE: BUSINESS MATHEMATICS

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Business Mathematics is for seniors who wish to strengthen their mathematical concepts and skills. Business Mathematics provides a valuable background for all who intend to seek employment in business offices as well as development of the student's life skills in areas such as payroll applications, money and banking, investments, taxes, insurance and entrepreneurship (12th Grade Only).

COURSE TITLE: MONEY MANAGEMENT

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course is designed to teach students through a simulation how to open a checking account, apply for a job, fill out an apartment application, create a budget, write checks, buy a car, and pay taxes. Students will also learn about the importance of filing and implementing a filing system along with how to compare insurance policies and premiums (11th Grade).

COURSE TITLE: MULTI MEDIA TRADITIONAL/ANNOUNCEMENTS

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This elective course will provide students with the necessary skill and opportunity to create and televise the morning announcements via the schools broadcasting system. Students will learn how to use the different broadcasting equipment and incorporate graphics, sound and live video into the morning announcements. Students will have opportunity to act as anchors, sports broadcasters and behind the scene crew members. (11th & 12th grade only)

COURSE TITLE: OFFICE PROCEDURES

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course will focus on preparing students with soft skills and up-to-date skills that will prepare them for the workplace environment. Throughout the year students will enhance interpersonal communication skills, develop effective ways to organize and file and improve written communication through e-mail, reports, and business letters. Opportunity to become certified in Microsoft Office and complete a Civil Service exam are anticipated. (12th Grade only)

GUIDANCE

COURSE TITLE: AMERICAN IDEAL: EDUCATION AND YOUR FUTURE

Students will have the opportunity and guidance to gather information to assist in making informed decisions regarding future education, job and career decisions. Topics include the different type of higher education, opportunities in the military, interest, inventories, standardized tests, the application process, jobs, careers and costs of various types of education. Through assignments and class discussions each student will have the opportunity to become more aware of plans and preparation including those dealing with and outside of their current personal interests. Initially students will learn about the purpose and evolution of the educational process in the United states.

ENGLISH

COURSE TITLE: 9TH GRADE ENGLISH

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Writing: An emphasis on informative, persuasive, narrative, and vocabulary. Literature: Traditional and contemporary literary selections. Short story, Drama, Non-fiction, Poetry, Novel, Epic with many study aids, active reading guides, and a focus on language. Grammar & Usage – work to improve language and usage in speaking and writing.

COURSE TITLE: 10TH GRADE ENGLISH

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course will feature the study of fiction, nonfiction, poetry, grammatical usage, writing and research. Students will develop literacy comprehension, analysis, and interpretation skills. Each student will complete various projects that will challenge him/her to think, discover facts, and evaluate facts in order to form conclusions based upon evidence.

COURSE TITLE: 11TH GRADE ENGLISH

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course will introduce students to fiction and nonfiction, drama, poetry, novels, speech, composition, and research. It will encourage students to apply knowledge gained through verbal, written, and oral expressions and problem-solving activities.

HONORS ENGLISH GRADES 10 AND 11

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course will feature the standard course description as noted in this handbook, but it will also include additional novel studies, book reports, and research projects. Honors students must have achieved at a proficient or above level in the previous English course and have the instructor's approval.

COURSE TITLE: 12TH GRADE ENGLISH

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course is an historical survey of English literature. The course is geared towards studying the foundations of English literary history through careful reading and critical analysis of fiction, nonfiction, poetry, and drama. Writing skills focus on critical thinking and connecting literature to class readings.

COURSE TITLE: ADVANCED PLACEMENT ENGLISH

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course engages students to become skilled readers of prose written in a variety of rhetorical contexts and to become skilled writers who compose for a variety of purposes. Both writings and readings should make students

aware of the interactions among a writer's purpose, audience expectation, and subject as well as the way generic conventions and the resources of language contribute to effectiveness in writing.

COURSE TITLE: HONORS ENGLISH GRADES 10 & 11

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course will feature the standard course description as noted in previous information. It will also include additional novel studies, book reports, and research projects. Honors students must have achieved at a proficient or above level in the previous English course and have the instructors approval.

COURSE TITLE: LCCC -COMPOSITION & RESEARCH

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course is designed to have students write essays, develop research papers and to master library research skills. Students will strive for sound logic, effective use of details, appropriate diction, and correct use of grammar and mechanics. Students will study models of proper writing, which include student essays as well as professionally written essays. Students must be approved by the department chair and have a proficient or advanced in prior English course.

COURSE TITLE: LCCC -ANALYSIS OF LITERATURE

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course is designed to provide students with the opportunity to write analytical essays about various literature sources (short stories, drama, novels and poetry). Students will demonstrate their understanding of logical thought processes, effective use of details, correct grammar/mechanics and appropriate use of vocabulary/diction. Students must be approved by the department chair and have a proficient or advanced in prior English course.

COURSE TITLE: SAT VERBAL LAB

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This elective course is designed for students who need to improve their SAT results or students who plan to take their SATs in their Junior or Senior years. Practice test, AMSCO's SAT Preparation, and Number 2.com will be used to individualize each student's preparation. (10th-11th grades and 1st semester seniors)

COURSE TITLE: CREATIVE WRITING I

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This elective course will expose the students to a variety of writing styles, including poetry, journaling, reaction/response, short stories, reviews, and prose. Students will practice and develop both self and peer editing skills. Students will implement the use of technology for writing and publishing. A student portfolio will be utilized to capture the student's work and progress (11th - 12th grades)

COURSE TITLE: CREATIVE WRITING II

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course requires Creative Writing I as a prerequisite as well as instructor recommendation. (11th – 12th grades)

COURSE TITLE: PUBLIC SPEAKING

COURSE DESCRIPTION: It is the extent of this course to teach public speaking skills that can help make a difference in the many speaking situations that students will face. The challenge will be made both interesting and intimidating by studying the many aspects of human nature and human communications (11th-12th Grade).

MATHEMATICS

COURSE TITLE: ALGEBRA I

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Algebra I is a course dealing with the structure and properties of real numbers. Problem solving is introduced in the beginning and is integrated throughout the entire course. Reasoning skills, analyzing information, making conjectures, and working with polynomials and functions are essential parts of the course. Geometric models are used to illustrate abstract algebraic concepts.

COURSE TITLE: GEOMETRY (HONORS)

COURSE DESCRIPTION: The term geometry means earth measure. It consists primarily of practical rules for measuring land and buildings. Originally, rules were found by observation and experimentation. This led to the development of a deductive system of mathematical ideas which has a wide range of applications. A strong Algebra II background is needed for this proof oriented course. **Prerequisite – Algebra II – (Honors)**

COURSE TITLE: GEOMETRY

COURSE DESCRIPTION: The term geometry means earth measure. It consists primarily of practical rules for measuring land and buildings. Originally, rules were found by observation and experimentation. This led to the development of a deductive system of mathematical ideas which has a wide range of applications. Studying geometry helps individuals to appreciate the power of logic as a tool to understand the world around them. Geometry gives meaning to mathematical concepts.

COURSE TITLE: ALGEBRA II (Honors)

COURSE DESCRIPTION: A rigorous course in algebra is designed to develop a more comprehensive knowledge of this very important field of mathematics. The topics studied begin to make more connections with geometry, the sciences, and a wide variety

of problem solving that applies to everyone's daily lives. The fast paced class builds on the topics covered in Algebra I. **Prerequisite – Algebra I**

COURSE TITLE: ALGEBRA II

COURSE DESCRIPTION: The second course in algebra is designed to develop a more comprehensive knowledge of this very important field of mathematics. The topics studied begin to make more connections with geometry, the sciences and a wide variety of problem solving that applies to everyone's daily lives. **Prerequisite – Algebra I**

COURSE TITLE: ELEMENTARY FUNCTIONS (Honors)

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course involves the student in a comprehensive study of polynomial, rational, and exponential functions. The course is designed to review and summarize important concepts covered in Algebra III and prepare students to study more advanced courses such as calculus. **Prerequisite – Algebra III/Trigonometry**

COURSE TITLE: CALCULUS (Honors)

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course is an introduction to a branch of mathematics which makes it possible to solve many applied and theoretical problems which may be difficult or impossible to solve by other means. Knowledge of this subject is essential in the physical, biological, social and management sciences. In calculus, functions are the major tools for describing the real world in mathematical terms. **Prerequisite – Elementary Functions**

COURSE TITLE: TRIGONOMETRY (Honors)

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course begins with a discussion of directed angles and the measurement of these angles using both degree and radian measure. Trigonometric functions and their identities and the methods of proving identities are presented. The everyday applications of trigonometry in problems involving right triangles are examined. **Prerequisite – Algebra III (Honors)**

COURSE TITLE: TRIGONOMETRY

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course begins with a discussion of directed angles and the measurement of these angles using both degree and radian measure. All trigonometric functions are introduced and examined in detail. Trigonometric identities and the methods of proving identities are presented. Special formulas and laws of trigonometry are studied. **Prerequisite – Algebra III**

COURSE TITLE: ALGEBRA TOPICS

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course is a review of topics from Algebra I and Algebra II. Problem solving is introduced in the beginning and is integrated throughout the entire course.

COURSE TITLE: PROBABILITY & STATISTICS

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This is a branch of mathematics closely associated with the social and physical sciences. The theory in this course which makes applications in all of the sciences includes techniques, a more formal study of axiomatic probability.

COURSE TITLE: ALGEBRA III (Honors)

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course is designed to cover topics that are not covered in Algebra II merely because of time restrictions. This section of algebra becomes more intense and requires individuals to be prepared to study more advanced material dealing with real and complex number systems. Solving systems of equations and problem solving is more intense. Graphs of functions and their properties are developed.

Prerequisite – Algebra II (Honors)

COURSE TITLE: ALGEBRA III

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course is designed to cover topics that are not covered in Algebra II merely because of time restrictions. This section of algebra requires individuals to be prepared to student more advanced material dealing with real and complex number systems. Solving equations and problem solving is more intense.

Prerequisite – Algebra II

COURSE TITLE: PSSA/SAT MATHEMATICS PREP

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course provides students with strategies and practice taking the math sections of standardized tests, including the PSSA and SAT tests.

COURSE TITLE: AP CALCULUS (Honors)

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS: This course gives an in depth analysis of limits, derivatives, and integrals of a function. We discuss the uses of the topics and apply them to real life situations will be discussed. **Prerequisites – Honors Algebra III and Trigonometry**

Honors instructors permission

SCIENCE

COURSE TITLE: COMPREHENSIVE SCIENCE

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Comprehensive science is an introductory science course divided into four disciplines. Each student will have a quarter of Introduction to Physics,

Introduction to Chemistry, Introduction to Earth and Space and Ecology. The main goal of this course is focus on foundational skills that will be use in other upper level science classes and state mandated testing (9th Grade).

COURSE TITLE: BIOLOGY I

COURSE DESCRIPTION: The course is designed to give students an understanding of the major content areas of biology. The topics range from biochemistry, cell biology, genetics, evolution, ecology, plants and microorganisms. Lab work is used to strengthen the concepts covered.

COURSE TITLE: HONORS BIOLOGY

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course is designed to give students an understanding of the major content areas of biology. The topics range from biochemistry, cell biology, genetics, plants and microorganisms. Lab work is used to strengthen the concepts covered. An 86% or above in previous science courses and department chairperson recommendation are required.

COURSE TITLE: PHYSICAL SCIENCE

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Physical Science is divided into a semester of Physics and a semester of Chemistry topics. The main goal of this course is to develop a basic foundation of skills that will be further developed in Chemistry and Physics. The selected topics provide the student with ample time and practice to develop those skills needed for future success in the sciences (10th Grade).

COURSE TITLE: EARTH AND SPACE SCIENCE

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Students will gain a better understanding of the planet on which they live, and apply the knowledge to their daily lives. From inside the earth to its surface to the surface of planets and stars, geologic time, and massive changes the universe has gone through.

COURSE TITLE: ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Provide students with a balanced approach to the diverse study of the environment. The emphasis is the study of science and the development of thinking and decision making skills. The goal is to provide students with the science background they need to analyze for themselves many of the issues concerning our environment.

COURSE TITLE: CHEMISTRY

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Chemistry is the science of matter, energy, and change. Chemistry deals with the materials of the universe and the changes and energy requirements associated with matter as it undergoes changes. This course will lay a foundation as to the fundamental models of Chemistry.

COURSE TITLE: HONORS CHEMISTRY

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Chemistry is the science of matter, energy, and change. Chemistry deals with the materials of the universe and the changes and energy requirements associated with matter as it undergoes changes. This course will lay a foundation as to the fundamental models of Chemistry. An 86% or above in previous science courses and department chairperson recommendation are required.

COURSE TITLE: PHYSICS

COURSE DESCRIPTION: The first semester deals with Mechanics, the study of motion and the forces that cause it. The second semester deals with topics of Thermodynamics, Wave Motion, Sound, Light, and, time permitting, Nuclear Physics. This is a laboratory-based course requiring a solid background in Algebra and Geometry, and preferably concurrent Trigonometry.

COURSE TITLE: HONORS PHYSICS

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Physics is the study of metric system, vector analysis, motion and force. All of these are used to understand energy and work. An 86% or higher in previous science courses plus Algebra III and Geometry. A student must be taking trigonometry during their senior year and have department chairperson recommendation to take this course.

COURSE TITLE: CONCEPTUAL PHYSICS

COURSE DESCRIPTION: The syllabus mirrors Physics, but is not as mathematically rigorous. It is for those students who need a technical background.

COURSE TITLE: ADVANCED PLACEMENT CHEMISTRY

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course will cover the names and nomenclature, reactions and preparations of organic and inorganic compounds, and the mechanisms by which these take place, reactions and preparations. AP Chemistry is of immense importance to technology. This course will cover the same concepts as a college freshman chemistry course. A national AP test is administered at the end of the year for possible placement. Prerequisites for course include strong grades in Biology and Chemistry.

COURSE TITLE: ADVANCED PLACEMENT BIOLOGY

COURSE DESCRIPTION: The AP Biology course is designed to cover the same concepts that would be presented in a two-semester biology course taken by incoming college freshman. The AP Biology course covers the following concepts: Molecules and Cells, Heredity and Evolution and Organisms and Populations. There are twelve labs that are designed to give the student a better understanding of the concepts presented during the course. A national AP test is administered at the end of the year for possible placement. Prerequisites are an 86% overall GPA or better and an 86% in Honors/general biology I. An 86% or better in chemistry and department chairperson recommendation is also required.

COURSE TITLE: APPLIED SCIENCE

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course will address various scientific concepts to include biology, chemistry and physics. These concepts will be applied to real life situations and circumstances. An in-depth review and investigation on how and why living and non-living interact will be addressed. A thorough review of career options in each of the scientific fields will be researched. Job shadowing, field trips and laboratory experiments will be used to enhance the learning experience.

COURSE TITLE: BIOLOGY II

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This elective course covers the concepts of animal evolution, phylogeny, structure and function from invertebrates through vertebrates. The course traces the lineage of the animal phylum. The course involves dissection of preserved animals. Prerequisites are strong Biology I grades.

COURSE TITLE: CONTEMPORARY ISSUES IN SCIENCE

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Basic scientific principles are applied to the understanding of current social-scientific problems and how they relate to an individual's personal life. Topics included are weather, space technology, medical technology, new technologies and their impact in science and on society.

COURSE TITLE: ECOLOGY

COURSE DESCRIPTION: A holistic approach to the study of the biological environment. Emphasis is focused on the natural environment of organisms, particularly

as biotic assemblages of these organisms interact with their environments from the concrete levels of organization up to the regional and biome levels. Course content includes a review of Ecology as a Science; the nature of Ecosystems; Laws of Minimum/Tolerances/Medium; Temperature/Precipitation/Climate; Soils/Nutrients/Other Abiotic Factors; Plant/Tree Ecology; Wildlife/Marine/Aquatic Biology and Conservation Efforts.

SOCIAL STUDIES

COURSE TITLE: AMERICAN HISTORY II/Pa. HISTORY II (1877-1945)

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This is a general survey course that begins at the end of the Reconstructive Period (1877) and continues chronologically to the end of World War II (1945). (9th Grade)

COURSE TITLE: AMERICAN HISTORY II/Pa. HISTORY II (1877-1945)

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This is a general survey course that begins at the end of the Reconstructive Period (1877) and continues chronologically to the end of World War II (1945). (11th Grade)

COURSE TITLE: WORLD HISTORY

COURSE DESCRIPTION: World History is a survey course that will start at the dawn of civilization to the modern dilemmas of nation building throughout the world. Major topics and concepts discussed in the class will include, emerging empires, development of an early modern world, imperialism and its effects throughout the world, and present day issues. By taking this course students will have a natural understanding of worldwide physical and cultural geography. (10th Grade)

COURSE TITLE: GOVERNMENT

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This will be a survey course for all students. Each student will be encouraged to explore the “nuts & bolts” of the constitution, the makeup and operation of Congress, executive and judicial branches. Political parties and elections will also be covered. The student will be assigned outside readings, research papers, along with oral presentations. Media such as newspapers, weekly news periodicals, video and computers will enrich the students’ learning environment (11th Grade).

COURSE TITLE: AMERICAN HISTORY III (1945 – Present)

Course Description: This is a general survey course picking up where American History II leaves off. This course will cover the time period from the beginning of the Cold War to the present time. The prerequisite of American History II is required. (12th Grade)

COURSE TITLE: CURRENT EVENTS (elective)

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Basic principles are applied to the understanding of current social-political problems and how they relate to an individual’s personal life. Topics included are national and international news, events and their impact in on society (11th-12th Grade).

COURSE TITLE: GEOGRAPHY (elective)

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This is a political/physical geography course covering the world's bodies of water and continents. National boundaries, capitals, mountains, lakes and rivers will be identified (11th-12th Grade).

COURSE TITLE: INVESTIGATING HISTORY (elective)

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course studies all the little known and mostly forgotten people, places and events that have some way made a mark in history. Pirates, politicians and heroes have all made their way through history, and their stories will be investigated in this course. Also, this course explores those places and events that were once famous, feared or revered in history, but that few today remember. (11th-12th Grade)

COURSE TITLE: ECONOMICS (elective)

COURSE DESCRIPTION: A survey course for all students in our school. Students will be taught the impact economics has on their lives. Commonplace economics will be enriched with academic topics to stimulate the interest of the students. Outside readings, research papers, oral presentations, and current events will be assigned. Discussion will be encouraged at all times (11th-12th Grade).

COURSE TITLE: LCCC INTRO TO SOCIOLOGY (elective)

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Introduction to the study of social behavior with emphasis on the specific approaches and empirical bases of motivation, emotion, learning, perception, intelligence, personality, individual differences, and the biological inheritance and social environment of human beings. To provide the student with the necessary background to allow him/her to enroll in advanced sociology and related courses. Secondary objectives include having the students improve their critical thinking skills, increase their personal insights into their own psychological development and be able to utilize this acquired knowledge in applied situations in their lives and in their interactions with other people.(11th-12th Grade) ***Social Studies Chairperson approval is needed.**

COURSE TITLE: LCCC INTRO TO PSYCHOLOGY (elective)

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Introduction to the study of psychological behavior with emphasis on the specific approaches and empirical bases of motivation, emotion, learning, perception, intelligence, personality, individual differences, and the biological inheritance and social environment of human beings. To provide the student with the necessary background to allow him/her to enroll in advanced psychology and related courses. Secondary objectives include having the students improve their critical thinking skills, increase their personal insights into their own psychological development and be able to utilize this acquired knowledge in applied situations in their lives and in their interactions with other people. (11th-12th Grade) ***Social Studies Chairperson approval is needed.**

ARTS AND HUMANITIES

COURSE TITLE: DRAWING

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course provides students with opportunities to study how the elements and principles of art influence perception and personal expression in today's society as well as throughout various periods of art history. Students will explore various techniques for using pencil, charcoal, pastel and marker. This course will give students experience in conceptualizing, visualizing and executing two-dimensional designs (10th-12th Grade).

COURSE TITLE: PAINTING

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course provides students with opportunities to study how the elements and principles of art influence perception and personal expression in today's society as well as throughout various periods of art history. Students will explore various techniques in watercolor and acrylic paints. This course will give students experience in conceptualizing, visualizing and executing two-dimensional designs (10th-12th Grade).

COURSE TITLE: 3D DESIGN

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course provides students with the opportunity to study how the elements and principles of art influence perception and personal expression in today's society as well as throughout various periods of art history. Students will explore various techniques in three-dimensional design to include clay, weaving, jewelry design, basketry, bookbinding and more. The course will afford students experiences in conceptualizing, visualizing and executing three-dimensional designs (10th-12th Grade).

COURSE TITLE: WORKING WITH CLAY

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Students explore various techniques for working with clay and its' significance and place in art history. This course will give students experience in conceptualizing, visualizing and executing pieces using coils, slabs sculptural techniques and casting methods (10th-12th Grade).

COURSE TITLE: ADVANCED STUDIO ART

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course is designed for students who have complete one or more of the following courses with a strong average: working with clay, 2D drawing or painting, and/or 3D design. Advanced Studio art is designed for students with a strong desire to learn more about one or more of these forms of visual art and is motivated to work independently.

COURSE TITLE: LCCC ART 101

DESCRIPTION: This course surveys painting, sculpture, architecture and other related art forms of Western culture with the consideration of the aesthetic, historical and technical significance of major artistic achievements (11th-12th Grade).

COURSE TITLE: INTRO TO ART/NINTH GRADE

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This nine week course introduces students to the role of art in society through a variety of hands on assignments. It also covers an introduction to art history and careers in art.

COURSE TITLE: GRAPHIC DESIGN

DESCRIPTION: Emphasis is placed on the fundamental principles and elements of art and on creative problem solving. Through a variety of exercises and projects students will learn the creative process from concept to execution and will develop the vocabulary needed to effectively discuss and critique visual communication. (grades 10-12)

COURSE TITLE: MUSIC THEORY

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Music theory is intended to introduce you to the technical study of music. This includes the study of the elements of music (melody, harmony, texture, rhythm, form, etc.), analysis of music, composition, aural skills (ear training and sight-singing) and keyboard skills. Through a rigorous study of music theory, you will enhance your performance and sight-reading skills, exercise higher thinking and thinking in the abstract, increase your improvisational skills and have a broader understanding of music.

COURSE TITLE: MUSIC HISTORY/MUSIC APPRECIATION

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This is an integrated course of study designed to incorporate the study of art, architecture, literature, and history presented from the perspective of music history. Students will demonstrate an understanding of a variety of musical styles as well as identify music periods and performers and their impact on our society.

COURSE TITLE: BAND

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Regularly scheduled class. Students earn a full credit per year for participation in band. A wide variety of activities is planned. Students have an opportunity to perform in small group, and large group settings throughout the year. Select band students participate in district; regional, and state honor bands. Band students are invited to perform for a variety of community events. Students also have the opportunity to become student tutors and student directors.

COURSE TITLE: CHORUS

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Regularly scheduled class. Students earn a full credit per year for participation in chorus. A wide variety of activities is planned. Students have an opportunity to perform in small group, and large group settings throughout the year. Select chorus students participate in district and regionally events. Chorus students are invited to perform for a variety of community events. Students also have the opportunity to become student tutors and student directors.

COURSE TITLE: INDEPENDENT MUSIC STUDY

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course is open to students who are planning a career in music or music education. Students will be guided to work independently in the preparation of a performance portfolio.

COURSE TITLE: RESEARCH SKILLS

COURSE DESCRIPTION: It is the intent of this course to teach students to be skilled researchers and evaluators of information. Students will use the Big 6 Research process to conduct multiple research projects. Each research project will expose students to a variety of print and non-print resources as well as research strategies. The strategies learned can be applied to all research opportunities in the students' career (9th & 10th grade)

WORLD LANGUAGES

COURSE TITLE: SPANISH 1

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Spanish 1 will begin with basic conversational phrases along with an introduction to adjective agreement, definite and indefinite articles, and the conjugation of several common irregular verbs. Also taught in Spanish 1 will be colors, numbers, days, and months along with telling time, expressing possession, and talking about the weather. Regular verb conjugation in the present tense will be taught as well as the conjugation of reflexive and stem-changing verbs. Students will be exposed to vocabulary words and phrases and cultural facts about places in the Spanish-speaking world. They will also have the opportunity to read in the target language.

COURSE TITLE: SPANISH 2

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Spanish 2 is a continuation of Spanish 1. It will begin with a review of the present tense and continue from there. Following the present tense will be the conjugation in the two past tenses – the preterite and the imperfect – and their uses. Also taught will be various command forms and the different uses of the verbs ser/estar (to be) and saber/conocer (to know). Students will continue to be exposed to numerous vocabulary lists and more advanced articles to read. They will also explore the Spanish-speaking world in more detail.

COURSE TITLE: SPANISH 3

1 credit

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Spanish 3 is a continuation of Spanish 2. After a review of the present, preterite, and imperfect tenses, it will continue through the formation and uses of the present perfect, future, and present subjunctive tenses. Mixed throughout will be smaller grammatical points such as the difference between por and para (for). Students in Spanish 3 will be introduced to various vocabulary sections. They will also be exposed to the Spanish-speaking world in more detail. Students will experience readings taken from Spanish and Spanish American literature: myths, poems, short stories, etc. They will also write in Spanish about different given situations.

COURSE TITLE: SPANISH 4

1 credit

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Spanish 4 begins with a review of all tenses learned to date, then continues with the conditional tense and the formation and uses of the imperfect subjunctive. Also discussed will be the different uses of para and para que. After completing what was not covered in Spanish 3, supplemental materials will be used including Spanish readers, magazines, and newspapers in addition to the book Spanish Four Years which offers students the opportunity to do more intensive work in the language. Students will continue to read from Spanish and Spanish American literature. They will continue to write about given situations. They will also have the opportunity to study in even more depth the cultures of the Spanish-speaking world.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION/HEALTH

ALL ELECTIVE COURSES DEPEND UPON THE STUDENT'S ACADEMIC SOUNDNESS IN REQUIRED COURSES FOR GRADUATION.

COURSE TITLE: 9TH GRADE HEALTH

COURSE DESCRIPTION: (required course) To provide the students with the well-being of their body, their mind and their relationships with other people.

COURSE TITLE: 9TH & 10TH GRADE PHYSICAL EDUCATION

COURSE DESCRIPTION: (required course) It is our hope and goal that students will learn the value and meaning of sound body and mind. This would include the teaching and doing of aerobics for cardiovascular benefits. Also important is a background for lifetime sports to be given to the students. Students will also demonstrate ability to work cooperatively in team sports.

COURSE TITLE: SPORTS PHYSIOLOGY I

COURSE DESCRIPTION: To identify the anatomical structures of the human body. To understand the working of the nine systems of the human body.

COURSE TITLE: SPORTS PHYSIOLOGY II

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course will cover the physiology of the systems and provide an understanding of the function of the parts of the system to the human body. The course will also work on the identification of the movements of the human body. The course will analyze movements and interpret the parts and the systems used in them.

COURSE TITLE: CURRENT TRENDS IN WELLNESS

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course will examine current trends in the personal health and health care fields. Students will utilize up to date information, methodologies and concepts to evaluate their health status, as well as providing current information in the health field. Mastery of this course will provide students with the concepts needed to maintain a healthy lifestyle. (11th or 12th grade)

COURSE TITLE: AQUATICS/INTRO TO LIFEGUARDING

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course will cover two basic types of aquatic fitness programs: fitness swimming and aquatic exercise. Aquatics will provide participants with aerobic training as well as cardiovascular, strength, and endurance training while providing an increase in flexibility. Fitness swimming will utilize workouts using swimming strokes to reach a specified level of intensity sustained for a set time thus providing an excellent way to improve overall physical fitness. (limited class size)

COURSE TITLE: SPORTS

COURSE DESCRIPTION: To participate in and learn the rules and regulations of competitive sports such as: football, basketball, volleyball, etc. This course will be designed for students who enjoy sports and wish to develop their athletic abilities. (11th & 12th grade)

COURSE TITLE: STRENGTH TRAINING

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course is designed to teach and learn the methods and practices of strength training such as: weight lifting, yoga, pilates, etc. This course will be designed for students who enjoy working out and wish to develop their core strength. (limited class size)

INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY

COURSE TITLE: COMPUTER AIDED DESIGN (CAD)

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course is designed as an exploratory course for students learning beginning drafting concepts through the use of computer aided-drafting (CAD). This course is intended to expose students to current practices available in the fields of engineering, with some interior designing and pre-architectural fields. The primary emphasis of the course is learning fundamental drafting standards and conventions. Topics of instruction will include Technical sketching of line and geometric shapes, sketching using basic CAD commands and basic 3-D wire frames using SolidWorks Educational software, and Architectural Drawing. Students will be able to create drawings of actual marketable projects and print out their work. (11th – 12th grade)

COURSE TITLE: TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Technology Education is a course that allows multiple topics to be covered at the same time. Students will be able to work in groups to learn about Space & Rocketry, Animation, Desktop Publishing, Computer Aided Design, Fluid Power, Electronics, Flight Simulation, Robotics, and Aerodynamics. Students can learn at their own pace as they gain knowledge through multimedia computer technology and receive hands on experience through workbook activities and group activities such as flying rockets, designing and testing their own car, flying on an airplane simulator, wiring circuits, driving a car, etc. As they work in small groups they will also learn about career pathways for each of these fields. (9th Grade)

FAMILY CONSUMER SCIENCE

COURSE TITLE: FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCE

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course combines classroom and laboratory activities and is designed to introduce the freshman student to the fascinating world of foods and nutrition. The MyPyramid, with in depth study of certain individual food groups, sound consumer practices, safety in food preparation and handling are emphasized. Social skills and etiquette centered around food are investigated. Proper nutrition to promote wellness throughout the life cycle and the Dietary Guidelines for Americans are studied. The nutritional, social, cultural and economic aspects of food are integrated throughout the semester course (9th Grade).

COURSE TITLE: PARENTING

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course provides students with opportunities to examine the benefits and consequences of family, work, or career decisions. Students will explore the daily activities that fulfill family functions in meeting responsibilities (e.g., economic, emotional support, childcare and guidance, housekeeping, maintaining kinship, and leisure lifestyles). They will identify developmental life stages (infancy, preschool, school-age, adolescence, adult and senior citizen). Students will also be required to compare and contrast child development guided practices in accordance with child development stages. Identify the role of caregiver in providing a learning environment. Review and identify characteristics of quality literature for children and other literacy enhancing activities (11th-12th Grade).

COURSE TITLE: MARRIAGE & FAMILY LIVING

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course will enable students to focus on the family as the foundation for a strong society. It incorporates current family issues, and involves students in content and activities that assist them in accepting responsibility, developing academic skills, thinking skills, and strengthening values (11th-12th Grade).

COURSE TITLE: GLOBAL FOODS AND WORLD NUTRITION

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course examines world food problems and the extent of under-nutrition in the world. Students will understand causes of under-nutrition globally and here in the U.S. in addition to learning about programs to help alleviate under-nutrition. Students will analyze cooking and eating trends in the U.S., Canada, Latin America, Europe, Mediterranean Countries, Middle Eastern and African Countries, and Asia. They will also evaluate how climate, geography, and culture affected the cuisine from those countries. Students will additionally enhance their understanding of world cuisine through preparation and sampling of foods (11th-12th Grade).

COURSE TITLE: CHILD DEVELOPMENT

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Child Development enhances the understanding of child development from 0-7 years of age, responsibility of caregivers, nutrition and snacking, parental guidance, health and safety, and activity planning. Students will learn the 5 learning stages of development, the responsibility of parents, caregivers and citizens in raising, and teaching children from infancy to school age. Students will create a course portfolio displaying examples of mastery and comprehension of course; apply learned concepts while working and observing elementary school children; record observations and classroom concept responses in student journal, and create a themed bulletin board to apply their knowledge of safety, care, and nutrition for children.

