

Mt. Blue High School

COURSE OF STUDIES



129 Seamon Rd
Farmington, ME 04938

2020 - 2021

MT. BLUE HIGH SCHOOL

COURSE OF STUDY GUIDE

2020-2021

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MT BLUE HIGH SCHOOL

Mission Statement

Mt. Blue High School will provide diverse, demanding and high quality educational opportunities within a safe environment to ensure all students value learning, achieve their individual potential, and become responsible citizens.

Students will acquire knowledge of and demonstrate essential skills in academic, artistic, and technical disciplines, problem solving, wellness and social interactions through a challenging, individually-oriented educational program.

MBHS Content Expectations

The Arts - Students will gain an appreciation for cultural understanding and aesthetic appreciation for their environment and the world.

Health & Physical Education - Students will participate in a variety of activities that will improve and maintain a healthy lifestyle.

Language Arts - Students will demonstrate proficient levels of reading, writing, speaking, and listening.

Mathematics - Students will demonstrate skills in the mathematical concepts of communication, computation, and reasoning.

Science - Students will develop the ability to investigate the world around them while realizing their responsibility to society at large.

Social Studies - Students will demonstrate an understanding of history, their place in the world, and the rights and responsibilities of living in a democratic society.

World Language - Students shall communicate meaningfully in a number of real-life situations in a manner understandable to a native speaker.

Academic Expectations

- Students will work toward developing meaningful, attainable goals that align with their abilities.
- Students will understand the value of lifelong learning.
- Students will demonstrate the ability to communicate effectively and appropriately in a variety of circumstances.
- Students will develop curiosity about the world around them.
- Students will develop the ability to investigate the physical, cultural, economic and political world.
- Students will use a variety of resources, including technology, to solve problems, express ideas, and gain knowledge.
- Students will demonstrate a variety of artistic and creative modes of expression.
- Students will connect and apply ideas, information, and skills learned in one context to other situations or disciplines.

Social Expectations

- Students will show respect for people, ideas and property by working collaboratively with others in the schools and/or community.
- Students will demonstrate skills that enable them to communicate effectively with family, peers, and community members.
- Students will demonstrate the value of compassion, honesty, and fairness.
- Students shall be aware of the diversity of people and respectful of their rights.
- Students will demonstrate the value of a healthy mind in a healthy body.
- Students will demonstrate the ability to accept constructive criticism.

Civic Expectations

- Students will demonstrate good citizenship in the school.
- Students will be accountable for their own choices.
- Students will understand the impact of their action or inaction as citizens within a democratic society.
- Students will develop and demonstrate work habits and attitudes necessary for successful employment.



NOTE TO STUDENTS AND PARENTS

Students and parents need to be aware that because of fiscal restraints, specific courses and offerings may change without warning at any time *prior* to the opening of school in August and at semester break (midyear). Administration and staff want to maintain quality educational programs and offer a well-balanced curriculum designed not only to meet educational needs but also student's interests. The purpose of this statement is to advise all students that we reserve the right to make changes when deemed necessary. It behooves students to be very careful and accurate in selecting courses, as it may become necessary to select alternative courses.

SCHOOL COUNSELING DEPARTMENT

The School Counseling Department at Mt. Blue High School is structured to help students explore information and receive assistance in all aspects of their educational and personal experience. Students are encouraged to use the resources of this office regarding selection of their high school course of study, career information, college search & application, and military career information. The school counseling office also offers services to students needing information or assistance with concerns of a personal nature. All personal counseling conversations are kept confidential unless there is a concern for the safety of the student or others.

Counselors are available to meet with students on an appointment basis during the students' study period, before and after school and during students' lunchtime. Both students and parents should feel free to enlist the help of the counselors whenever any information or assistance is needed.

The counselors work with students throughout their four years and encourage parents to call or visit. Please call Mt. Blue High School (778-3561) and ask for the school counseling office. The following is the current alphabetical breakdown of students by counselor:

Grade 9
Karin Parsons
A-Z

Gerri L. Chesney
A-J

Grades 10-12
Julie Talmage
K-Z

Beverly Vollrath
Secretary

Melanie Prescott
Registrar

Mission Statement

In RSU 9, the school counseling department personnel view each student as an individual with unique needs, interests, and abilities. We believe that the learning experience is linked directly to the personal, social, emotional, educational, and cultural needs of the student.

Our primary goal is to support and encourage students, and to act as an advocate on their behalf. We also strive to assist students in the acquisition of knowledge and skills that will enable them to achieve greater independence and self-knowledge in the areas of academic and career planning, decision-making, interpersonal and social skills, and self exploration. Our focus for students is the formulation of their own ideas, goals and objectives needed to explore and achieve the quality of life that they desire.

We believe that all students should be working toward the creation of a plan that will enable them to successfully compete in today's competitive job market. This plan may include some type of college, military experience, apprenticeship/training and/or direct entry into the labor force. We also believe that students need to realize that the demand for unskilled labor has been drastically reduced over the years, and in order for them to be competitive, some type of additional training beyond and/or supplemental to their high school experience is a necessity for most high school graduates.

MINIMUM GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Mt. Blue High School has established graduation requirements which not only meet state standards, but also encourage students to take full advantage of the educational opportunities offered by the school. As parents and students review these requirements, please be aware that in many instances they are minimum requirements and to benefit fully from high school, students are encouraged to exceed these requirements.

As a minimum (to graduate from Mt. Blue High School) students will have to complete **24 credits** and have met the content standards of the Maine Learning Results.

ENGLISH	4.0 credits
(1 in Freshman English)	
(1 in Sophomore English)	
(1 in Junior English)	
(.5 in British Literature, Sr. Seminar, or Tech Writing + .5 English elective)	
MATHEMATICS	3.0 credits
SCIENCE	3.0 credits
(1 in Earth Science)	
(1 in Biology)	
(.5 in Chemistry)	
(.5 in Physics)	
SOCIAL STUDIES	3.5 credits
(1 in Grade 9 Social Studies)	
(1 in Grade 10 Social Studies)	
(1 in Grade 11 Social Studies - U.S. History)	
(.5 in Economics)	
PHYSICAL EDUCATION	1.5 credits
VISUAL & PERFORMING ARTS	1.0 credit
HEALTH	0.5 credit
CAREER & EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT*	0.5 credit
ELECTIVES	<u>7 or more credits</u>
TOTAL Carnegie Credits:	24

* Career & Education Development: Each student must complete and pass a minimum of one ½ year credit in Career & Education Development. This requirement can be met through courses within the departments of JMG, Family & Consumer Sciences and Foster Career and Technology Center.

PROGRAM INFORMATION

ACADEMIC LETTER/PIN: In order to qualify for an Academic Letter/Pin, students must have an eighty-nine (89) G.P.A. for that year which is calculated through three quarters of work that year. Students **MUST** carry at least 6 credit-bearing courses each semester. Some courses count more than one (i.e. Some FCTE, AP and science courses). In order to receive a 4th year academic award, a senior must have earned 3 previous academic pins/letter while being enrolled at Mt. Blue High School. Students must be attending at Mt. Blue High School all year in order to qualify.

ACADEMIC LOAD: Students must schedule a minimum of six credit bearing courses per semester. Students taking AP courses may have a reduced academic load requirement. Some courses may meet for more than one period (i.e. FCTE classes, 2 period science classes, etc).

ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP) PROGRAM: Advanced Placement (AP) Courses are designed to challenge highly motivated, committed students. Students who remain enrolled in an AP class after the first quarter are expected, but not required, to take the AP exam in May at their own expense. If a student is enrolled in more than two AP courses, the school district will pay all exam costs after the first two. Students who score well on these exams may receive college credit directly from the college to which they apply. These courses require a strong commitment on the part of the student to do work outside of the classroom, *both during the summer and the school year.*

ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION OFFERINGS: The Mt. Blue Alternative Education provides students with a more personalized, defined teaching method than is generally offered in a traditional school setting. The program incorporates an element of caring and acceptance in order to implement a curriculum based on the learning needs and interests of the student. Courses are often co-taught to better support our students.

AUDIT OF COURSES: Students may choose to audit courses without credit prior to the start of the course. Students should see their counselor for additional information.

AWARDING OF CREDIT: Credits at MBHS are determined and awarded by the principal. This includes all independent studies, teacher's aides, internships and courses. In order to be awarded credit, students must obtain a minimum grade of 60 and a Meets/Partially Meets in content standards.

BRIDGE ACADEMY PROGRAM: In collaboration with the University of Maine at Augusta and the University of Maine at Farmington, the Bridge Academy program provides an early college educational experience and college credits for eligible Maine juniors and seniors. Students participate in college courses taught by college approved high school teachers. Students are responsible for the reduced tuition cost of each course.

CLASS STANDING CREDIT GUIDELINES

First Year:	Successful completion of grade 8
Second Year:	Six earned credits
Third Year:	Twelve earned credits
Senior:	Eighteen earned credits

The above listed credit guidelines are provided for students and parents to plan for a feasible path toward graduation through each year of high school. When students fall behind in credit accumulation, parents will be contacted to make them aware that their student is not currently on the suggested track for graduation.

Students entering their fourth year of high school will not be eligible for senior status unless they have attained eighteen credits, **or have created a realistic plan for graduation approved by the principal.** If a student does not have eighteen credits by the end of their third year, they must meet with his or her school counselor for assistance in the creation of a plan and submit it to the principal for approval prior to the start of their senior year. Students who do not have eighteen credits or an approved plan will remain classified as Third Year students.

COLLEGE COURSES/EARLY COLLEGE OPPORTUNITIES: MBHS students have access to a variety of opportunities to take courses through colleges such as CMCC, KVCC, UMA, UMF and/or UMFK. The college courses may also count for MBHS credit in addition to the college credits awarded. Students should consult with their school counselor for a full list of college course opportunities that are available.

When taken for enhancement, (not to meet a MBHS requirement) college level work may appear on a Mt. Blue High School transcript, upon request. It is not necessary to share final grades with the MBHS School Counseling Office unless HS credit is requested. **If HS credit is requested or required, an official transcript must be submitted to the School Counseling office for review.**

In order to provide consistency across all post- secondary opportunities, numerical and/or alpha grades listed on the official post- secondary transcript will be transposed by the registrar following current practice. Final grades for college level work are given honors level weight (1.05%).

COURSE LEVEL DESCRIPTION: In the primary disciplines of study (math, science, English, and social studies), courses are offered at various levels of difficulty and challenge. In selecting courses, students and parents should consider the range of levels listed for each course. Questions about selecting a course level should be directed to the student's current teacher in the specific discipline. Students are also recommended to speak with their school counselor regarding course selection.

AP (Advanced Placement) -AP courses are college level classes that prepare students to take the College Board Advanced Placement test at the conclusion of the class. A successful qualifying score on the exam may enable students to waive introductory college courses and earn credit at the college level.

Honors - Highly demanding courses designed for the very motivated student who is willing to be significantly challenged academically. These courses are the pre-AP sequence for disciplines in which Advanced Placement courses are offered.

College Preparatory (CP) - Courses designed for four-year college or university preparation, and especially in the case of math and science, to specifically study these disciplines at the collegiate level.

College Preparatory Intermediate (CPI) - Courses designed for four-year college or university preparation and/or two-year community or technical college preparation.

Applied – Foundation level courses that cover essential material in a specific discipline utilizing practical applications of the curriculum.

EARLY GRADUATION: Students requesting early graduation need to submit a plan by the end of their sophomore year. Interested students need to consult with their school counselor for more detailed information. All students, regardless of when they begin the first year of high school, will be held to the graduation requirements of the particular class of the year in which they are graduating.

EXTENDED DAY PROGRAM (EDP): The Extended Day Program (EDP) is in place to help students achieve success in their core subjects. Teachers are available to offer help in math, English, science, social studies, health and physical education. The EDP provides *free* academic support to students (9-12) in a small group setting. This program meets during most of the school year on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons from 2:30 to 4:30. Bus transportation is available through the shuttle bus. Students use this program in a variety of ways including help with homework, study skills, project completion, test preparation and completion of assessments. Teachers in the EDP work directly with classroom teachers to develop learning plans for students. Records are kept of completed work and the time a student spends in the program. This added support helps students develop confidence as well as good learning strategies to apply to their academics. Parents, teachers and students themselves may make referrals.

EXTENDED YEAR PROGRAM (EYP): EYP allows students to work with personal learning plans, designed specifically for them, towards credit recovery and standards recovery in the core classes of English, math, science, and social studies. A student is eligible to participate in EYP with a grade between 50 and 59, and/or a content standard below MPM (meets/partially meets). After successful completion of the personal learning plan, the student's grade will be changed to 60, and standards to MPM.

EXTERNAL CREDITS: Students who have an exceptional reason for taking a high school course that is offered elsewhere may request permission to do so by discussion with their school counselor. Please note that every effort will be made for core classes to be taken at the high school.

FOSTER CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION: Students from Mt. Blue High School can take advantage of the various career opportunities available at Foster Career & Technical Education, as do other high school students in Franklin County. Technical education allows the student to experience learning with a hands-on component and to use academic skills in problem solving. FCTE courses are available to students in their junior or senior year through an application process. A wide variety of classes exist from computer technology to welding. Please see the Foster Career & Technical Education course of studies for more information.

GRADING SCALE : The basis for the academic achievement mark is the teacher’s evaluation of the quality of the student’s performance in a subject. A student must achieve an overall course score of at least 60 (D-) and a Meets-Partially Meets in content standards in order to receive credit for that subject.

<u>Course Grade</u>				<u>Content Standard</u>
A+	98-100	C+	77-79	Exceeds
A	95-97	C	74-73	Meets-Exceeds
A-	90-94	C-	70-73	Meets
B+	87-89	D+	67-69	Meets-Partially Meets
B	84-86	D	64-66	Partially Meets
B-	80-83	D-	60-63	Not Met
F	59 & below			

GRADE/STANDARDS REPORTING: There are four reporting periods throughout the year: 1st quarter, semester, 3rd quarter and end of year. Current grades and standards are available to view on Powerschool throughout the school year. Parents are encouraged to access their students’ grades on a regular basis to monitor progress in classes.

HOMESCHOOL CREDIT: Homeschool courses may be transferred to Mt. Blue High School by either 1) providing an official transcript from the supervising institution of courses taken and credits earned; or 2) providing a portfolio for review to determine standards met and credit earned. Homeschool grades will be posted as pass/fail on the transcript and will not be entered into the grade point average for class standing. Students may not participate in homeschool courses while registered as a Mt. Blue High School student.

HONOR ROLL: Honor Roll is determined at the end of each ranking period. Qualifications for inclusion on the various levels of Honor Roll are as follows:

Highest Honors	All A’s in at least 5 classes No C’s, D’s, F’s or Incompletes
High Honors	A’s and B’s in at least 5 classes No D’s, F’s or Incompletes
Honors	A’s and B’s in at least 4 classes No D’s, F’s or Incompletes

INCOMPLETE GRADES: An incomplete grade may be utilized for courses when circumstances warrant. Incompletes are at the discretion of the teacher and must be completed within 2 weeks of the end of the grading period. Students may request additional time through discussion with the teacher, their school counselor, and completion of the alternate course completion form.

INDEPENDENT STUDY: Independent study is primarily offered for enrichment or extension of the existing academic program. Students may work on an individual basis with a teacher. The independent study plan must receive initial approval of the teacher, as well as approval by the parents/guardians, counselor, department head, and the principal. Students must demonstrate the motivation and commitment to individual or self-paced instruction to qualify for independent study. The principal will determine credit. Independent studies may not be used for required courses. If the required course cannot fit into the student’s schedule, the student may request an exception from the principal.

INTERNSHIPS: Students may choose to engage in learning a skill beyond the offerings at MBHS. Students are invited to talk about this opportunity of internship with Matt Reynolds (JMG) and their school counselor.

LEARNING LAB: Learning Labs are offered as a structured learning environment for all students.

LIBRARY: The high school library is filled with both print and non-print materials. The library staff is eager to help find a book, magazine, or reference material that is needed in any format that is available. Of the approximately 19,000 volumes in the library, 20% are fiction, 15% are reference works, and the remaining 65% are non-fiction items. All materials are specially chosen to support the curriculum. The MBHS library has an automated catalog and material checkout.

The library is open from 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and from 7:30 a.m. to 2:15 p.m. on Fridays. During the regular school day, students may come to the library during a learning lab with a pass, or with a class. Classroom teachers may give research passes to students who need them. Students may also use the library after the regular school day. Materials may be taken out or returned any time during library hours.

NCAA ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES: If you plan to play a college sport(s) at a Division I or II college upon graduation, be aware of the eligibility requirements (core credits) that must be earned over the four years at MBHS. See your school counselor and the Athletic Director to find out more specifics on eligibility requirements.

PLAGIARISM: The act of plagiarism is against the law. To plagiarize is “to steal and use the ideas or writings of another as one’s own and to appropriate passages or ideas as one’s own from the writings or ideas of another.” This includes the Internet. Each teacher has the right to set consequences for such action or to submit the incident to the Administration to mete out the punishment for such behavior. *The specifics of this policy are currently under review.*

SCHEDULE CHANGES: There will be an Add/Drop Period at the beginning of the school year and prior to the start of the second semester when students will be allowed to request changes to their schedules.

Course Change Requests After the Add/Drop Period: Students requesting a course change **after the add/drop period** must first speak to their counselor regarding their request to change. If the change does not involve moving to a different ability level or moving to a completely different course, the change may take place with teacher permission. If the change request involves changing ability level, moving to a completely different course, or dropping a class, please refer to the procedures available in the school counseling office from your counselor. Please note that students withdrawing from a class after a full quarter grade has been posted will receive a “WP” or “WF” on their transcript depending on whether or not they failed or passed the class for the quarter. Level changes for the same course will be noted simply as Withdrawn (W). Change requests initiated the week prior to the end of a quarter (not including finals week) will not be processed until after the grades have been closed for that particular ranking period. Students dropping full year courses mid-year will not be awarded partial credit for the class.

SPECIAL EDUCATION: Special education courses provide direct, specialized instruction of curricula modified for the unique ability levels of individual students. Courses are intended for students who qualify for special education services. Special education courses are designed to be tailored to the fullest extent possible, to the students’ varying levels of abilities. Enrollment in these courses must be determined at an IEP meeting where course descriptions will be shared.

TEACHER /PROGRAM AIDE: MBHS students may assist faculty and staff as an aide. Aide positions are available in the classroom, library, cafeteria or for custodians; in the school counseling, FCTE, main, or the health office; and the student or technology help desk. An aide position may be used to replace a learning lab. There is a signature process and protocol for all aide positions. The required paper work is available in our MBHS school counseling office. Students will earn ¼ credit for a semester of aide work. Teacher aide may only be used for one of the six required credit-bearing courses.

VIRTUAL HIGH SCHOOL: Mt. Blue High School students have the ability to participate in classes with students from all over the world via the internet through the Virtual High School program. Courses are taught by high school teachers whose schools are members of the VHS Collaborative, which includes institutions from 29 states and 23 countries. There are over 200 full semester and year-long online courses offered in core academic classes, unique electives, technical disciplines and Advanced Placement courses.

These courses are available through an application process on a limited basis. Interested students should see their school counselor for more information regarding course availability and the application process. Due to limited availability, students may take one VHS course per semester. If a course is dropped after the VHS add/drop period, the student will be ineligible for another VHS course for the duration of the school year.

COURSE SELECTION AND ACADEMIC PLANNING

Students should select courses based on their ability, interest, future plans, and admission requirements at post-secondary schools. Students should also keep in mind, as a first priority, to schedule all courses during their four years that are needed for graduation from Mt. Blue High School. Students are encouraged to explore as wide a range of course offerings as possible during their time at MBHS. When selecting courses, students should consult with their parents, teachers, academic advisors and their school counselor for assistance. Please use this handbook as a reference for information regarding courses offered at MBHS, graduation requirements, ability level descriptions, and other pertinent information about Mt. Blue High School.

Planning Your High School Program:

When selecting courses, students should tentatively outline the remainder of their high school program. Planning can insure a meaningful program that reflects the student's individual needs and increase their options upon graduation. Careful planning will also help with:

- Making sure that all graduation requirements are met
- Ensure preparation for admission to college and other post-secondary programs/training opportunities
- Developing additional interests
- Gaining as many skills as possible while in high school
- Focusing efforts in making post-secondary choices

All students at Mt. Blue High school are encouraged to explore and pursue some type of post-secondary education. Students who plan to apply to a four-year college or university are advised to follow the college preparatory curriculum outlined below. Students applying to community or technical colleges, two-year business colleges/programs, or other professional training schools need to check specific admissions requirements of those schools and programs. Community and some technical college programs fill up quickly, and admission to them can be very competitive. Students are encouraged to start the college planning process early, and consult with their school counselor regarding planning and specific college admission criteria. All students are encouraged to explore as many different educational course opportunities as their schedule will allow.

FOUR YEAR COLLEGE PREPARATORY COURSE

Most four-year colleges and universities require high school students to successfully complete a demanding high school curriculum for admission. Though the standards of admission vary from school to school, it is generally expected that students complete the following **minimum** criteria:

- Four years of College Preparatory English
- Two years of College Preparatory lab science, including chemistry
- Three or four years of College Preparatory math, including algebra I & II and geometry
- Three years of College Preparatory social studies
- At least two years of a world language (the same language for both years)
- The most challenging curriculum the student's ability will allow.
- A strong academic program **through** the senior year

Students choosing this course of study must keep in mind that academic expectations are high, course content of college preparatory courses is challenging, and workload is considerable.

COMMUNITY & TECHNICAL COLLEGE PREPARATORY COURSE

Community and technical college admissions criteria vary tremendously from one to another. Many of these schools have open admission, requiring a high school diploma or GED. However, many of the technical or community colleges have prerequisite courses for some of their programs (Algebra I, Algebra II, Geometry, Chemistry, Physics, etc), and may also be very competitive with regard to admission to the program. Students interested in pursuing a community or technical college program should meet with their school counselor prior to scheduling classes for their junior and senior years to ensure that they have the necessary course work for admission.

ART

INTRO TO VISUAL ART

Prerequisite: None

Grades: 9,10,11,12

Credit: .5

In this course students will learn about the 7 elements of art: line, shape, color, value, form, texture and space. They will make various artworks in which they show their knowledge of these elements. The artworks will show a variety of 2D and 3D techniques, materials and tools, such as: dry materials (pencil, charcoal, color pencil, oil and soft pastels), wet tools (paint, watercolor, ink, block print), collage techniques, ceramics, wood, paper maché and fabric.

STEAM

Prerequisite: none

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

Credit: .5

Did you know that science would not be so advanced today if it did not include technology, math and art? Did you know that technology is the term for all tools, inventions and innovations made by people to fulfill their wants and needs? And did you know that technology would not be so advanced today without art, science and math? STEAM stands for that relationship between science, technology, engineering, art and math. In this course, you will work with all these subjects and more. You will be working on projects in which you will learn skills from all these subjects to excel in problem-solving, innovative, and creative thinking. These are exactly the skills you'll need in your future job, which probably does not yet exist. Most projects that you will be working on will involve present-day, world problems like climate change, food production, transportation, and housing. But the most important take away will be communication of ideas and innovations. Are you a student who is curious, creative, and concerned about your future? If you are, then this is the course for you!

STEAM 2

Prerequisite: STEAM

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

Credit: .5

This course is for students who passed STEAM and would like to continue with more advanced STEAM projects. These projects will build on students' skills learned in STEAM, utilizing more advanced science connections and technical skills. Efforts will be made to connect with Foster Career and Technology Center programs such as pre-engineering and composites. Larger cooperative projects such as kayak building, furniture making, and sustainable (world) problem solving will also be offered to interested students.

VISUAL ART 2D

Prerequisite: Intro to Visual Art or STEAM

Grades: 9,10,11,12

Credit: .5

In this course students will further explore the 7 elements of art. They learn how to make a good two dimensional (flat) composition with the Principles of Design: balance, contrast, emphasis, movement, rhythm, pattern and unity/variety. Students will explore the 2D techniques from the Intro course (painting, drawing, collage making) further and explore new 2D techniques, such as photography, printmaking, video and digital art. Students also learn about various 2D artists throughout the history of art.

VISUAL ART 3D

Prerequisite: Intro to Visual Art or STEAM

Grades: 9,10,11,12

Credit: .5

In this course students will further explore the 7 elements of art. They learn how to make a good three dimensional composition (an actual object) with the Principles of Design: balance, contrast, emphasis, movement, rhythm, pattern and unity/variety. They will further explore the 3D techniques from the Intro course (clay, paper mache) and explore new 3D techniques, such as ceramics, metals (jewelry making), carving, and foundry. Students also learn about various 3D artists throughout the history of art.

BEGINNING CERAMICS

Prerequisite: Intro to Visual Art or STEAM

Grades: 9,10,11,12

Credit: .5

In this course students will focus on the beginning ceramic techniques such as: pottery making (handbuilt and throwing), sculpting with clay (additive and subtractive techniques) glazing and casting techniques. While learning these techniques students need to apply and show knowledge of the elements of art and the principles of design. Students also learn about various ceramic artists throughout the history of art.

ADVANCED CERAMICS

Prerequisite: Intro to Visual Art or STEAM and
Beginning Ceramics

Grades: 10,11,12

Credit: .5

In this course students explore more advanced ceramic techniques and they focus on two ceramic techniques of their choice. While mastering these techniques they need to apply the principles of design and they need to be able to explain their choices. Students also learn about various ceramic artists throughout the history of art.

ADVANCED ART

Prerequisite: Intro to Visual Art or STEAM and
Beginning Ceramics or Visual Art 2D or 3D

Grades: 10,11,12

Credit: .5

Advanced Art demonstrates a student's advanced ability to explore Breadth (variety), Depth (also referred to as "Concentration") and Quality. This course enables students to develop a cohesive body of work by investigating a strong underlying visual idea in 2D or 3D design that grows out of a coherent plan of action or investigation. Students will be expected to solve problems creatively by using their knowledge of elements and principles of design in this course. Students will use a range of conceptual approaches as well as technical skills in a variety of media and they will need to exhibit familiarity with traditional and contemporary approaches to art. **This course requires outside of class artwork to be finished prior to the first day of the course.** This course may be taken more than once for credit.

AP ART

Prerequisite: Intro to Visual Art or STEAM and
Beginning Ceramics or Visual Art 2D or 3D

Grades: 10, 11, 12

Credit: 1.0

The AP Art course demonstrates a student's ability to explore Breadth (variety), Depth (also referred to as "Concentration"), and Quality, in 3 distinct bodies of work. High scores on the AP exam may lead to college credits. This course enables students to develop a cohesive body of work by investigating a strong underlying visual idea in 2D or 3D design that grows out of a coherent plan of action or investigation. Students will be expected to solve problems creatively by using their knowledge of elements and principles of design in this course. Students will use a range of conceptual approaches as well as technical skills in a variety of media and they will need to exhibit familiarity with traditional and contemporary approaches to art.

This is a rigorous full year course for motivated students and requires completion of summer artwork in order to participate at the AP level.

YEARBOOK

Prerequisite: application

Grades: 10, 11, 12

Credit: 1

This course covers desktop publishing, time management, photography, accounting, fundraising and sales. This class entails hard work, team building, working with deadlines and is an important addition to any resume. The assignments working on the book and several required projects will test and expand your creative skills. The measurable outcome of the course is the publication of the MBHS yearbook, Timaron. In order to meet working world deadlines, you will be required to complete all assigned work as scheduled or no credit can be given for that work. There is also a contract that must be signed this spring by a parent and the student. There is a mandatory summer assignment, as well as out of class work during the school year. Fundraising projects are an integral part of this course and will help to build your self-confidence. Applications can be obtained in the school counseling office. **Due to specific fine arts standards, this course will not count toward the fine arts graduation requirement.**

BUSINESS INFORMATION & TECHNOLOGY

BANK TELLER TRAINING LAB

Prerequisite: MBHS Bank Application submitted to Mrs. Savage
2 Teacher Recommendations
Interview conducted by Franklin Savings Bank
Business Academy, personal finance, economics, or Business teacher recommendation

Grades: 11, 12
Credit: .5

Are you interested in an exciting career in the world of banking and finance? Do you consider yourself outgoing and friendly? Choose a unique learning experience as a student bank teller in the Mt. Blue High School Branch of Franklin Savings Bank. You will receive the training that tellers experience at the main office in Farmington. Once training is complete, you will be able to service the students and staff at Mt. Blue High School/Foster Career & Technical Education. You will be training in a real bank and handling real banking transactions! This course offers the student bank teller the opportunity to earn bank teller credentials while preparing for a career in the world of banking or finance.

COMPUTER KEYBOARDING

Prerequisite: none

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12
Credit: .5

In today's world of computers, all students will benefit from the keyboarding skills learned in Computer Keyboarding. You will develop/refine the basic techniques of touch-typing...typing without looking at the keyboard. The keyboard is an important input device; learn how to keyboard rapidly and accurately as well as how to format reports, letters, memorandums, tables, and other word processing applications.

HTML (CODING/WEBSITE DESIGN)

Prerequisite: Computer Keyboarding recommended

Grades: 10, 11, 12
Credit: .5

Would you like to build web pages from scratch or modify existing web page design programs? This class will teach you how to develop your own web pages with only a simple text editor and an Internet browser. In this class you will learn what "tags" are and how to create stunning web pages using Hypertext Markup Language. Understand how websites work, unleash your own creativity, and learn how to build your own websites! Items to be focused on are design, etiquette, and laws.

MEDICAL TERMINOLOGY I

Prerequisite: none

Grades: 11, 12
Credit: .5

Even with the fluctuations in the current economy, there will always be a need for medical personnel – get a "head start" on a promising, stable, high demand career! This course will focus on the many components of medical terms and how to break down medical terms by simply knowing the meaning of the prefix, suffix and root word. By learning the individual parts of a medical word, **you will not need to memorize hundreds of complex medical terms and their definitions.** The first introductory level course offers a quick introduction to the medical terminology language and is a great first step to **any** career in the medical profession.

MEDICAL TERMINOLOGY II
Prerequisite: Medical Terminology I

Grades: 11, 12
Credit: .5

This course is a continuation of Medical Terminology I. In this course, students will apply medical terms as they relate to basic anatomy and physiology of each body system as well as common diagnostic tests and diseases associated with each body system.

PERSONAL FINANCE
Prerequisite: none

Grades: 11, 12
Credit: .5

Do you want to make money and have money when you need it? This course is a necessity for life! You will learn life-long skills to prepare you for financial success, security, and know-how. How do I balance a checkbook? What is credit? How do I stay out of debt? How do credit cards work? What is a credit report? What are my rights and responsibilities? How do I avoid bankruptcy? How can I save if I don't have any money? What is a budget? How do I set financial goals? What are investments? What is compounding? What are stocks, bonds, and mutual funds? What insurance do I need? What about your career? These questions will be answered in this course. This course will prepare you for "life after high school." College credit through Thomas College potentially available.

POST-SECONDARY PLANNING
Prerequisite: None

Grades: 11,12
Credit: .5

This course is specifically targeted to prepare juniors and seniors for their pathway to post-secondary education. This class will include discussions around college applications, financial aid, the scholarship process, placement testing, etc. Students will use the planning time to explore more in-depth options by exploring interests, programming, college searches, writing college essays, completing scholarship applications, completing the FAFSA and understanding financial aid awards. There will also be potential for college visits during the semester based on student interest.

ENGLISH

Level descriptions can also be found on page 7.

FRESHMAN ENGLISH (Honors, CP, CPI)

Prerequisite: none

Grades: 9

Credit: 1

In this course, students will read and analyze a variety of fiction and nonfiction texts. The focus of this course is on developing students' opinions, insights, and empathy. As much as possible, real-world events and issues will be connected to the texts we read. Students will write narrative pieces, persuasive arguments, poetry, and creative pieces. Emphasis will be on developing students' critical thinking skills and their ability to express their thoughts, experiences, and opinions. **Honors level requires summer work.**

GRADE 9 HUMANITIES

Prerequisite: none

Grades: 9

Credit: 2

What is happening in the world right now and why should we care? How and why do we think and learn the way we do? Humanities takes social studies and English, mashes them up, rolls them out, and shows us how we can use those skills to help us design solutions to actual problems. This class meets for two periods and is taught by two teachers. This course fulfills both your freshman English and social studies requirements. Enrollment in this course is limited. Please don't hesitate to sign up, but know that the request may not be honored due to number restrictions. (1 English credit, 1 social studies credit).

SOPHOMORE ENGLISH (Honors, CP, CPI)

Prerequisite: Freshman English

Grades: 10

Credit: 1

Sophomore English consists of reading, writing, and critical thinking. Student reading is from different genres of multi-cultural literature. Writing, creative and analytical, is in response to the reading. Higher thinking skills are stressed throughout. Skill building includes grammar, vocabulary, note taking, public speaking, group discussion, and research. **Honors level requires summer work.**

AP LANGUAGE & COMPOSITION

Prerequisite: Sophomore English and summer work

Grades: 11

Credit: 1

This course is designed for juniors who want to read challenging non-fiction, examine the use of language closely, and compose a variety of essays and other writings. Course content will focus on non-fiction of many kinds, but will also include poems, short stories, and novels from American literature. Discussion and analysis will be frequent activities. **Students who remain enrolled in an AP class after the first quarter are expected, but not required to take the AP exam in May.**

COLLEGE WRITING (ENG101)

Prerequisite: School Counselor recommendation or B or better overall GPA

Grades: 11, 12

Credit: 1

This is an introductory college course in English that builds upon your already acquired high school-level writing skills to prepare you for the more advanced writing that you will do in your college career and beyond. It gives you extensive practice in the writing process, with emphasis on crafting texts appropriate to academic contexts. This course provides students the opportunity to earn college credit while still in high school. However, as it is part of the Bridge Academy program, space availability for non-Bridge students is limited and dependent on Bridge Academy program enrollment.

JUNIOR ENGLISH (Honors, CP, CPI)
Prerequisite: Sophomore English

Grades: 11
Credit: 1

The focus of junior English is American literature. Students respond to literature creatively and analytically through class discussion, note taking, assigned papers, journal writing, small group analysis, speeches, and special projects. Students look at a variety of themes in American literature from its beginnings to modern day through plays, short stories, novels, and films. Emphasis will be on independent and critical thinking, argumentative writing, and research. **Honors level requires summer work.**



Note regarding the Senior English Requirement: All seniors (except those enrolled in AP English, Bridge Academy or an 11/12 looped class) are required to take a one semester British Literature course, one semester Senior English Seminar course, or one semester Technical English course, as well as a semester English elective.

AP LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION

Prerequisite: Junior English and summer reading & writing

Grades: 12

Credit: 1

AP Literature and Composition is a college level English course designed to develop the student's abilities as a reader and writer. The course is both demanding and intellectually stimulating, requiring independent thinking and critical analysis. The assignments are rigorous and include extensive summer reading. **Students who remain enrolled in an AP class after the first quarter are expected, but not required to take the AP exam in May. This course meets the senior British Literature requirement.**

INTRODUCTION TO LITERATURE (ENG 102W)

Prerequisite: C or better in ENG101 or 3 or higher on AP exam

Grades: 12

Credit: 1

This course introduces the fundamentals of literary analysis through an examination of poetry, fiction, and drama. Students will sharpen their critical reading ability and learn a wide range of literary terms and concepts. They will employ this knowledge in formal essays, informal writing and class discussion. This course provides students the opportunity to earn college credit while still in high school. However, as it is part of the Bridge Academy program, space availability for non-Bridge Academy students is limited and dependent on Bridge Academy program enrollment.

BRITISH LITERATURE

Prerequisite: Junior English

Grades: 12

Credit: .5

British Literature is a survey course that looks into our heritage of English Literature with its roots in Anglo-Saxon times progressing to the modern writing of today. Writing and reading for college and post secondary learning will be stressed. *Student cannot take this course as well as Senior English Seminar.*

SENIOR ENGLISH SEMINAR

Prerequisite: Junior English

Grades: 12

Credit: .5

This course is designed to explore student interest and prepare them for life beyond secondary school. The focus of this class will be the following: career research, college essays and/or post secondary applications, job applications, public speaking, and career-based literacy. Learning will be experiential, project, and passion based. *Students cannot take this course as well as British Literature.*

TECHNICAL ENGLISH

Prerequisite: Junior English

Grades: 12

Credit: .5

This course is available to students enrolled in a full technology program. Students will read texts and complete projects and assignments related to their tech classes. This course can be taken in lieu of their senior seminar or British Literature requirement.

ENGLISH SEMESTER ELECTIVES

CHILDREN'S LIT

Prerequisites: none

Grades: 10, 11, 12

Credit: .5

Students in this course will study, analyze, critique and share various types of children's literature. An emphasis is placed on reading and discussing academic publishings which examine multiple aspects of children's literature, ages infant through middle-grade level. A wide range of topics and themes will be researched, read, and discussed. Students will complete a portfolio; study multi-cultural fairy tales and fables; and write an original piece of children's literature.

CREATIVE WRITING

Prerequisites: none

Grades: 10, 11, 12

Credit: .5

Students will write non-fiction works, poems, short stories, and journals to a variety of audiences for a variety of purposes. Writing assignments are both short and long term. Students are assigned reading to develop an "eye for the craft" and to provide models for their work. This is a workshop class. The students work closely together during all phases of the writing process. The student should already have developed an enthusiasm for the art of writing.

CREATIVE WRITING II

Prerequisites: Creative Writing

Grades: 11, 12

Credit: .5

This course is for students who have already taken Creative Writing and wish to further hone their skills. Creative Writing II explores the art of writing fiction and the lines between fiction and non-fiction. If possible, Students enrolled in this course will plan, edit, and publish a literary magazine for Mt. Blue High School.

GRAMMAR

Prerequisites: none

Grades: 10, 11, 12

Credit: .5

This course is designed students who want to write with more grammatical correctness, and who want to explore how the English language is constructed. A good deal of the coursework is individualized, allowing students to focus on their particular weaknesses. Little of this course involves worksheets. Much of it involves projects, as well as an email and sound recording/video exchange with students from a foreign country.

JOURNALISM

Prerequisites: none

Grades: 10, 11, 12

Credit: .5

Journalism is for students who want to be active interviewing people as well as telling news stories creatively through audio, video, and writing. We'll share the news we gather weekly in an online blog we design and update; we'll also parody news stories and produce satirical commentary.

PLAY PRODUCTION

Prerequisites: none

Grades: 10, 11, 12

Credit: .5

This survey course includes studying the history of drama plus reading and participating in a variety of plays. The students will study the production values of sets, costumes, make up, acting, and directing, as well as the reading and interpretation of several works such as: *Medea*, *A Streetcar Named Desire*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, *The Glass Menagerie* and/or *The Skin of our Teeth*. Students will participate in the production of a one-act play.

POPULAR CULTURE

Prerequisites: none

Grades: 10, 11, 12

Credit: .5

This course takes a rigorous look at how film, music, television, technology, art, video games, fashion, sports and food, influence our lives and how we, in turn, influence the creation of media. Students can expect research, writing, and long-term projects.

PUBLIC SPEAKING

Prerequisites: none

Grades: 10, 11, 12

Credit: .5

Students will practice researching, writing and delivering different types and styles of speeches; for example, informative, demonstration, group discussion, debate, and persuasive. They will study communication, using impromptu speeches to practice effective use of voice and body while speaking, as well as learning to control stage fright. They will hone research and organization skills as well as gaining confidence and communication skills that will last them beyond high school.

SHAKESPEARE

Prerequisites: none

Grades: 10, 11, 12

Credit: .5

This course will examine the Bard's work as literature and how it translates to film. Students are expected to have a willingness to read aloud during class, and participate in thoughtful discussion about both literature and film. While the class focuses mainly on film, some performing may be involved.

TRIP LIT

Prerequisite: none

Grades: 10*, 11, 12

Credit: .5

This class is geared toward students who have an interest in seeing the world through a lens of travel and new experiences. Content of the course will include readings concerning movement over highways, down streams, through the skies, on trails, and how individuals are changed through these personal journeys. Students can expect a rigorous reading and writing curriculum with an emphasis on how different modes of travel can bring about personal and cultural understanding.

WOMEN IN SOCIETY

Prerequisites: none

Grades: 10*,11, 12

Credit: .5

This course will focus on the experience of being a woman. We will share our stories, read some great books by women and about women, and generally focus on topics that are pertinent to women – eating disorders, media images, and feminism are a few. Come prepared to share your tale, research current topics of interest and strong women role models, read some great books, and probe your memories through writing.

WRITING FOR COLLEGE

Prerequisite: Sophomore English or permission from teacher

Grades: 11, 12

Credit: .5

This course is designed to strengthen students' formal writing skills with an emphasis on thesis driven essays, inquiry-based research, formal documentation of sources and various types of formatting including MLA and APA styles. Students will be using the writing process throughout the course to enhance their writing as well as the writing of their peers.

* (Grade 10) - Due to the reading levels and topics in this elective course, freshmen need the signature of their current English teacher if they wish to enroll for their sophomore year.



FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES

FAMILY LIFE

Prerequisite: None

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

Credit: .5

Focus in this course will provide the student the opportunity to develop skills to manage work and family responsibilities for the well-being of self and others. Topics to be addressed will be relationship skills, money management, communication skills, time management, resource management, parent readiness, and family roles and responsibilities through various stages. Open discussions will allow students to explore and express their opinions of current topics.

INTERIORS

Prerequisite: none

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

Credit: .5

Students develop a portfolio of well-decorated rooms based on the study of color, line, space design. Interiors is a project-based course that focuses on individual preferences in the area of interior design. Students will have the opportunity to express their creativity in the weekly work that leads to the completion of a five-room portfolio. Written work is mixed generously with action projects in the classroom.

NUTRITION AND FOODS

Prerequisite: none

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

Credit: .5

This course provides the opportunity to plan nutritious food choices for yourself and others. Students will develop skills in the selection, use, and preparation of fresh, preserved, and processed foods. Food preparation labs will include quick breads, pies, fruits, vegetables, meat and other protein foods, holiday foods, and special foods specific to each class (ex. foods for diabetics).

ORGANIC FARMING I

Prerequisite: none

Grades: 10, 11, 12

Credit: .5 (Fall)

This course will focus on basic organic farming responsibilities and methods in Maine during the late summer, fall and early winter. Topics will include, but are not limited to: the local farmer, raising and processing livestock (beef, dairy, sheep, goats, hogs, poultry), shelters, fencing, care requirements, basic nutrition, health care, vaccinations, livestock digestive systems (how each works), types of feeds suitable for each, gardening responsibilities for fall and winter, season extension (high tunnels, cold frames), root cellars, soil testing, cover crops, winter food storage, farm equipment safety and apple cider making.

ORGANIC FARMING II

Prerequisite: none

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

Credit: .5 (Spring)

This course will focus on basic organic farming responsibilities/methods during the late winter, spring and early summer. Topics will include but are not limited to: vegetable gardening, greenhouse usage and safety, soil preparation, mulching, composting, plant nutrition, garden planning, raised beds, container gardening, starting seedlings in the greenhouse, weed control, plant compatibility, crop rotation, plant propagation, berries and fruit trees, pest control, maple syrup making and beekeeping.

SEWING APPLICATONS

Prerequisite: none

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

Credit: .5

This course will focus on introducing and developing skills related to the operating of a sewing machine for personal and professional use. Students will explore the industrial business and the cottage industry potential both locally and nationally. Concentration will be on the integration of knowledge, skills, and practices required for a career in textiles and apparel.

SPECIALTY FOODS

Prerequisite: Nutrition & Foods

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

Credit: .5

This class will take the food preparation skills beyond the basics. We will explore and prepare international foods, specialty cookies, breads, soups, casseroles and other foods chosen by the class.



HEALTH / PHYSICAL EDUCATION

HEALTH

Prerequisite: none

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

Credit: .5

This required semester course will help develop an active sense of accountability for one's own health. The central theme will be self-responsibility for wellness. This course includes community, consumer, environmental, nutritional and personal health, as well as family life, prevention and control of disease, safety and accident prevention and substance use and abuse.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION I

Prerequisite: none

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

Credit: .5

This course will introduce students to basic fitness concepts, organized fitness activities and start them on the development of an individual fitness plan. Students will also be introduced to lifetime fitness activities and the impact they have on long-term health and well being.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION II

Prerequisite: PE I

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

Credit: .5

This course is a continuation of the fitness work started in PE I. Students will be working more intently on creating an individualized fitness plan based on the knowledge attained in PE I. This plan will incorporate lifetime activities, weight training, and fitness based exercises.

ADVANCED PHYSICAL FITNESS

Prerequisite: PE I & II

Meets 3rd Semester of PE requirement

Grades: 10, 11, 12

Credit: .5

This course is for the student who wants to acquire the knowledge to learn and demonstrate a lifelong plan of personal fitness. This course is based on the FITT principle and includes the four components of fitness (muscular strength, muscular endurance, cardio-respiratory and flexibility). This course may be taken more than once for credit with **instructor approval**.

ADVANCED STRENGTH TRAINING

Prerequisite: PE I & II

Meets 3rd Semester of PE requirement

Grades: 10, 11, 12

Credit: .5

This course is for students who are interested in advanced strength training. This course will focus on muscular strength and endurance and the student will have to keep a log of their progress. Nutrition and body composition will be closely monitored during this semester long course. Students will also be asked to research and report out on new and innovative strength training programs. This class may be taken more than once for credit with **instructor approval**.

FITNESS THROUGH SPORTS

Prerequisite: PE I & II, Advanced PE or Strength Training
or instructor approval

Grades: 10, 11, 12

Credit: .5

This is a class for students who have already met the requirements for PE and are looking for an activity-based class. We will work on achieving optimal fitness through participation in competitive sport activities. This class may be taken more than once for credit with **instructor approval**. Does not meet 3rd semester of PE requirement.



JOBS FOR MAINE GRADUATES

JMG I

Prerequisite: teacher recommendation, application/interview

Grades: 10, 11

Credit: 1

This portion of the JMG program introduces students to communication, leadership, social interaction and team building skills, as well as the chance to determine the career opportunities that best reflect their interests. Improving study skills and developing organizational skills are included as part of the course objectives. A strong emphasis is placed on the performance of community service activities. Student-led classes, a non-traditional setting and small class sizes are positive aspects for this year-long course.

JMG II

Prerequisite: teacher recommendation, application/interview

Grades: 11, 12

Credit: 1

This portion of the JMG program helps students develop and refine the skills described in JMG I. These skills, along with individual assistance, benefit students whether bound for college, the military, the job market, or considering dreams of becoming an entrepreneur. A course goal is to help seniors make a smooth transition from high school to college or work.

JMG INTERNSHIP

Prerequisite: application

Grades: 11, 12

Credit: 1

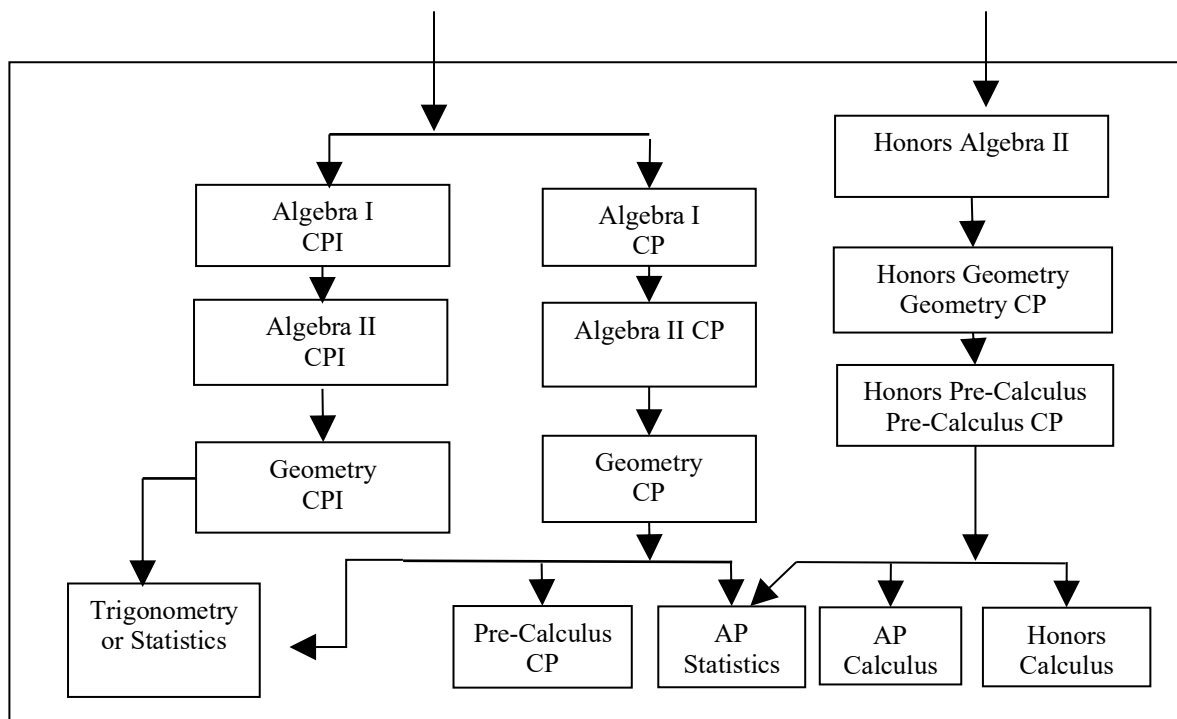
JMG offers an internship experience to students based on an application process. Applications can be obtained via Mr. Reynolds, the JMG teacher, or Mrs. Vollrath in the school counseling office.



MATHEMATICS

Middle School Math

Honors Algebra I



Only forward or lateral movement on the flow chart is acceptable. The flow chart may be altered by recommendation or permission of the Math Department.

- **Please note that a scientific calculator is required for all Math courses listed below (one that knows order of operations).**
- **Due to the pace and standards of the Honors and CP courses, it is important that students earn a 75 or above grade in order to continue successfully in the Honors and CP pathways.**

ALGEBRA I CP

Prerequisite: teacher recommendation

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

Credit: 1

A beginning algebra course that conducts a systematic investigation of the properties of the real number system. Algebraic terms, functions, polynomials, equations, inequalities and graphing are covered. Generalized problem solving techniques (**TI graphing calculator**) will be developed. Practice and effort beyond the classroom experience is required.

ALGEBRA I CPI

Prerequisite: teacher recommendation

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

Credit: 1

A beginning algebra course that will provide a combination of traditional and hands-on approaches, which allow students to see the relevance of mathematics through real-world applications. Generalized problem solving techniques will be developed (**some of which utilize TI graphing calculators**). Requires organization, efficient use of class time, good work habits, and completion of assigned tasks.

HONORS GEOMETRY
Prerequisite: Honors Algebra II

Grades: 10, 11, 12
Credit: 1

A course in formal geometry, which covers topics such as inductive and deductive reasoning. This course helps students understand that geometry describes how the world looks and how it works. Real world applications are studied from an integrated Algebra/Geometry approach. Hands-on and multi-step problem solving activities are included. This is a fast-paced course covering different concepts that require practice and effort beyond the classroom experience. **TI graphing calculators will be used.**

GEOMETRY CP
Prerequisite: Algebra I CP

Grades: 10, 11, 12
Credit: 1

This course covers the same content as Honors Geometry, except each topic is developed to a lesser degree, and the pace is not as rapid. Practice and effort beyond the classroom experience is required. **TI graphing calculators will be used.**

GEOMETRY CPI
Prerequisite: Algebra I CPI

Grades: 10, 11, 12
Credit: 1

A full year course designed to help students discover, learn, and apply geometry. Students will be challenged to make connections from concrete examples to abstract concepts. They will continue to review and use algebra concepts throughout the course. Topics include coordinate graphing, triangle relationships, angles, and 2-D and 3-D figures. Requires organization, efficient use of class time, good work habits, and completion of assigned tasks.

HONORS ALGEBRA II
Prerequisite: Honors Algebra I

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12
Credit: 1

This class is the second year of the Honors Algebra sequence. The same basic topics will be covered as in Algebra I, but in greater detail. Additionally, the following will be addressed: Irrational Numbers, Quadratic Equations, Exponential Functions and Logarithms, Imaginary Numbers, Matrices and Determinants, and Statistics. This is a fast-paced course covering different concepts that require practice and effort beyond the classroom experience. **TI graphing calculators will be used.**

ALGEBRA II CP
Prerequisite: Algebra I CP; Geometry

Grades: 10, 11, 12
Credit: 1

This course covers the same content as Honors Algebra II, but each topic is developed to a lesser degree, and the pace is not as rapid. Practice and effort beyond the classroom experience is required. **TI graphing calculators will be used.**

ALGEBRA II CPI

Prerequisite: Algebra I CPI; Geometry CPI

Grades: 10, 11, 12

Credit: 1

This class is the second year of the Algebra CPI sequence. The same basic topics will be covered as in Algebra I, but in greater detail. Topics will include: basic set theory; the real number system, algebraic operations with polynomials; theory of equations and inequalities; and problem solving with technical applications. Requires organization, efficient use of class time, good work habits, and completion of assigned tasks. **Graphing programs will be used.**

TRIGONOMETRY

Prerequisite: Algebra II CPI, Geometry CPI

Grades: 10, 11, 12

Credit: .5

This one semester mathematics course is a branch of geometry. The course is geared to students who plan to further their education in the technical field, surveying, engineering, navigation, or the physical sciences. Historical origins of some of the concepts will be interjected throughout the course. **TI Graphing Calculators will be used** as a tool to enhance the understanding of concepts and expedite calculations.

STATISTICS & PROBABILITY

Prerequisite: Algebra II CPI

Grades: 10, 11, 12

Credit: .5

This one semester mathematics course focuses on the importance of statistics and probability in our lives. Students will understand the role of statistics and probability in such area as sociology, business, ecology, economics, education, medicine, psychology, sciences, and mathematics. Analysis of data in statistics and the mathematical prediction of events in probability will be the underlying themes of the course. **The TI Graphing Calculator will be used** as a tool for analysis throughout the course.

HONORS PRE-CALCULUS

Prerequisite: Honors Algebra II, Honors Geometry

Grades: 11, 12

Credit: 1

This course is a rigorous study of advanced mathematics designed for those students who will be taking Advanced Placement Calculus at Mt. Blue High School. Linear, quadratic, exponential, logarithmic, and trigonometric functions will be investigated along with matrices, vectors and the concept of limit. This is a fast-paced course covering different concepts that require practice and effort beyond the classroom experience. **A TI-83 or TI-84 graphing calculator will be used extensively and is required for the course. Please contact the instructor if assistance in procuring a calculator is needed.**

PRE-CALCULUS CP

Prerequisite: Algebra II CP, Geometry CP

Grades: 11, 12

Credit: 1

This course is designed for students who will be taking Honors Calculus at Mt. Blue High School, calculus or other advanced mathematics in college. Focus will be made on linear, quadratic, exponential, logarithmic, and trigonometric functions along with matrices and vectors. The content and pace of the course does not prepare the student for Advanced Placement Calculus. **A TI-83 or TI-84 graphing calculator is required for the course. Please contact the instructor if assistance in procuring a calculator is needed.**

AP CALCULUS AB

Prerequisite: Honors Pre-calculus

Grades: 11, 12

Credit: 2

This two credit course, which is intended for students who have a thorough knowledge of trigonometry and elementary functions, is a yearlong course in calculus, following the AB Calculus Syllabus as published by the College Board. The aspiring math student is offered the opportunity to take a college level course, which focuses on differential and integral calculus. They can potentially earn college credit based on the results of their scores on the Calculus Advanced Placement Exam in May. **A TI-83 or TI-84 graphing calculator is required. Please contact the instructor if you need assistance in procuring a calculator. Students who remain enrolled in an AP class after the first quarter are expected, but not required, to take the AP exam in May.**

HONORS CALCULUS

Prerequisite: Pre-calculus (CP or Honors)

Grades: 11, 12

Credit: 1

This course is an advanced mathematics program, which focuses on the major concepts of function, limit, derivative and their applications. Integral calculus will also be introduced. The course provides a sound basis for those students who will require a calculus course or advanced mathematics course in college. This course does not prepare students for the Advanced Placement Exam in calculus administered by the A.P. College Board. **A TI-83 or TI-84 graphing calculator is required for the course. Please contact the instructor if assistance is needed in procuring a calculator.**

AP STATISTICS

Prerequisite: Honors Algebra II

Grades: 11, 12

Credit: 1

The purpose of the AP course in statistics is to introduce students to the major concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing, and drawing conclusions from data. The AP College Board determines the Syllabus for the course. Students are exposed to four broad conceptual themes of Exploring Data, Sampling and Experimentation, Anticipating Patterns, and Statistical Inference. Attendance of all classes and completion of all homework assignments are of paramount importance. Students can potentially earn college credit based on their scores on the AP Statistics Exam in May. **A TI-83 or TI-84 will be extensively used and is required. Please contact the instructor if assistance is needed in procuring one. Students who remain enrolled in an AP class after the first quarter are expected, but not required, to take the AP exam in May.**

MATH STANDARDS SUPPORT

Prerequisite: teacher referral

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

Credit: .5 (elective)

This semester course allows students who need more time on task to work in a small group setting with a math teacher. The student will complete practice work and assessments and strengthen basic math skills.

MUSIC

CHORUS

Prerequisite: none, although previous chorus experience is helpful

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12
Credit: .5

Chorus is a year-long course, open to all students who enjoy singing and wish to further develop singing and choral skills. The chorus has 3 mandatory concert performances during the academic year. Emphasis during rehearsals is placed upon learning proper singing techniques and choral music literature. Previous choral experience is not required.

CONCERT BAND

Prerequisite: previous band experience

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12
Credit: .5

Concert Band is a year-long course, open to students who already play a traditional band instrument and wish to continue technical and musical development. Concert band has 3 mandatory concert performances during the academic year.

ORCHESTRA

Prerequisite: previous orchestra experience

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12
Credit: .5

Orchestra is a year-long course, open to students who already play a string orchestral instrument and wish to continue technical and musical development. Orchestra has 3 mandatory concert performances during the academic year.

MUSIC APPRECIATION

Prerequisite: none

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12
Credit: .5

This course is designed for the student who is interested in studying the impact music has on society and as a unique record of humanity. Students will survey many styles of music from American culture (pop/rock/jazz, etc.) and from cultures around the world. Students will begin to develop music vocabulary, explore music concepts, and develop critical listening skills that will strengthen their ability to better understand, discuss and evaluate all kinds of music.

MUSIC THEORY

Prerequisite: Instructor approval

Grades: 10, 11, 12
Credit: 1

Music Theory is for students who wish to study, in depth, the construction of music. Students must be able to read music. Curriculum includes music composition, history, terminology and listening skills. Students planning to pursue college level courses in music education, performance, technology, recording or business are strongly urged to register for this course. This course is a rigorous college prep course for students going on to study music in college. For this reason, instructor approval is required.



Auditioned ensembles & festivals:

Members of the Franklin County Fiddlers, Jazz Band and Chamber Choir are selected by audition. Students wishing to participate in an auditioned music ensemble affiliated with Mt. Blue RSD must be members in good standing in the corresponding course (Band, Chorus, Orchestra) and must obtain the recommendation of the course teacher in order to audition. Those auditioning for participation in the fall must have been good standing members in the corresponding course the prior academic year.

Students wishing to audition for festivals such as KV, All-State, or Maine Acoustic Festival must also be members in good standing in the corresponding course (Band, Chorus, Orchestra).

Please see the Band, Chorus or Orchestra teachers for more information.



SCIENCE

EARTH SCIENCE

HONORS EARTH SCIENCE

Prerequisite: none

Grades: 9

Credit: 2

Students will work towards meeting content and science practice standards set by the department and district which include in-depth content and standards in Geology, meteorology and climatology, and astronomy. It also includes science and engineering practices and focuses heavily on the nature of science. It will also stress how theories evolve from the discovery and presentation of empirical evidence. This course has an intense focus on written and oral expression, and students will develop writing styles according to standard scientific research. Besides a variety of laboratory experiences, students are required to participate in a year-long original research project about local geologic formations, as well as being exposed to professional geologic research.

Although it does not officially have any prerequisite, this rigorous course moves at a fast pace and is for students who have demonstrated an avid interest and ability in science. It requires a summer assignment that must be completed by a specific date during the summer, or the student cannot be admitted into the class. This class meets every day.

EARTH SCIENCE CP

Prerequisite: none

Grades: 9

Credit: 1

Students will work towards meeting content and science practice standards set by the department and district, which include in-depth content and standards in geology, meteorology and climatology, and astronomy. It also includes science practices and focuses heavily on the nature of science. It will also stress how theories evolve from the discovery and presentation of empirical evidence. The course has a primary focus on written and oral expression but students may also have the opportunity to use alternate forms of assessment tailored to their individual needs. They will begin to develop writing styles according to standard scientific research. Besides a variety of classroom and laboratory experiences, students may conduct some type of original research project over the duration of the course. Students who take this course may have an interest in pursuing science after high school or in a future career.

EARTH SCIENCE CPI

Prerequisite: none

Grades: 9

Credit: 1

Students will work towards meeting content and science practice standards set by the department and district, which include in-depth content and standards in geology, meteorology and climatology, and astronomy. It also includes science practices and focuses heavily on the nature of science. It will also stress how theories evolve from the discovery and presentation of empirical evidence. The course has a primary focus on written and oral expression but students may also have the opportunity to use alternate forms of assessment tailored to their individual needs. They will begin to develop writing styles according to standard scientific research. It also provides scaffolding for complex concepts. Besides a variety of classroom and laboratory experiences, students may conduct some type of original research project over the duration of the course.

EARTH SCIENCE APPLIED

Prerequisite: none

Grades: 9

Credit: 1

Students will work towards meeting content and science practice standards set by the department and district, which include in-depth content and standards in geology, meteorology and climatology, and astronomy. It also includes science practices and focuses heavily on the nature of science. It will also stress how theories evolve from the discovery and presentation of empirical evidence. The course uses a combination of written, oral, and additional alternative forms of assessments. It also provides significant scaffolding for complex concepts. Besides a variety of classroom and laboratory experiences, students may conduct some type of original research project over the duration of the course specifically centered around local features or issues.

BIOLOGY

AP BIOLOGY

Prerequisite: CP Biology, CP Chemistry

Grades: 12

Credit: 1

AP Biology is designed to offer students a solid foundation in introductory college-level biology and is taught at an accelerated pace. The class will meet every other day for 1 credit. A summer assignment is used to review basic principles of biology and chemistry. Your score on the AP Biology exam can lead to either an introductory biology credit or an elective credit depending on the requirements of the college being attended. The topics will include ecology, cells, genetics, evolution, microbiology, botany, zoology and human biology.

HONORS BIOLOGY

Prerequisite: recommendation of earth science teacher

Grades: 10, 11, 12

Credit: 2

This is a fast paced rigorous course. The text, labs and independent research are central to the course. Students should be capable of extensive writing, critical evaluation of evidence and independent study. Strong oral communication skills are also essential for success in this class. The topics will include ecology, cells, genetics, evolution, microbiology, botany, zoology and human biology. This course meets every day all year.

There is a summer research project that is required.

BIOLOGY CP

Prerequisite: none

Grades: 10, 11, 12

Credit: 1.5

This course is a college preparatory class designed for students who are planning to attend college and either major in science or plan to take science classes in college. This course meets every day for one semester and every other day for the other semester.

Students should be capable of extensive writing, critical evaluation of evidence and independent study. Strong oral communication skills are also essential for success in this class. There will be a traditional sequence of study based on the text and labs. The topics will include ecology, cells, genetics, evolution, microbiology, botany, zoology and human biology.

BIOLOGY CPI
Prerequisite: none

Grades: 10, 11, 12
Credit: 1

This course uses a text that is geared towards students considering 2-year college or a career immediately following high school. Topics include ecology, cells, genetics, evolution and classification. Experiential learning, problem solving, project-based learning, written and oral communication skills and development of critical thinking skills will be emphasized. The human condition will be an ongoing theme throughout the course. This course counts as a lab class. CPI Biology meets every other day for the full year.

APPLIED BIOLOGY
Prerequisite: none

Grades: 10, 11, 12
Credit: 1

This course is geared to students transitioning directly into the workforce or military service after graduation. Topics include cells, evolution, classification, animal and plant studies, genetics, diseases, and the environment. Experiential learning, problem solving, project-based learning and community awareness will be stressed. Students will be shown how biology applies to their everyday lives. This course counts as a lab class.

CHEMISTRY

HONORS CHEMISTRY
Prerequisite: Algebra I

Grades: 11, 12
Credit: 2

This course is taught at an accelerated level and is designed for students interested in working at a challenging pace. The course covers the basic principles of chemistry along with reaction energy, kinetics, equilibrium, and oxidation-reduction reactions. Students will:

- Learn how to *construct a valid explanation and engage in arguments using evidence*.
- Understand how to *obtain, evaluate, and communicate data* to others.
- Understand that all matter is made of atoms and will be able to identify and predict the physical properties and structure.
- Understand why atoms bond and the different ways this is accomplished.
- Understand that in all reactions mass/energy is conserved and can be used to predict outcomes.

CHEMISTRY CP
Prerequisite: Algebra I

Grades: 11, 12
Credit: 1.5

This course will cover the basic concepts of chemistry, which include the language of chemistry, measurement, problem solving, chemical reactions, atomic structure, bonding, matter and solutions. Students will:

- Learn how to *construct a valid explanation and engage in arguments using evidence*.
- Understand how to *obtain, evaluate, and communicate data* to others.
- Understand that all matter is made of atoms and will be able to identify and predict the physical properties and structure.
- Understand why atoms bond and the different ways this is accomplished.
- Understand that in all reactions mass/energy is conserved and can be used to predict outcomes.

FUNDAMENTALS OF CHEMISTRY (CHY100)

Prerequisite: none

Grades: 11, 12

Credit: 1

This introductory college chemistry course considers the basic principles and concepts of chemistry. Laboratory exercises introduce the student to basic laboratory techniques and illustrate the concepts introduced in lecture. This course is designed as an elective for non-science majors or as an introductory course for those who have not studied chemistry and plan to take other science courses. This course provides students the opportunity to earn college credit while still in high school. However, as it is part of the Bridge Academy program, space availability for non-Bridge Academy students is limited and dependent on Bridge Academy program enrollment.

CHEMISTRY CPI

Prerequisite: Algebra I

Grades: 11, 12

Credit: 1

Topics will include measurement, problem solving, chemical reactions, atomic structure, bonding, matter and solutions. This course also counts as a lab. Students will:

- Learn how to *construct a valid explanation and engage in arguments using evidence*.
- Understand how to *obtain, evaluate, and communicate data* to others.
- Understand that all matter is made of atoms and will be able to identify and predict the physical properties and structure.
- Understand why atoms bond and the different ways this is accomplished.
- Understand that in all reactions mass/energy is conserved and can be used to predict outcomes.

CHEMISTRY

Prerequisite: Algebra I

Grades: 11, 12

Credit: .5

This course is to accommodate all students who do not choose to take a full year in chemistry. This course is recommended for students who need to complete assessments in chemistry to graduate, or need an introduction to chemistry as a background for tech classes or who do not plan to major or minor in a science field in college. Students will:

- Learn how to *construct a valid explanation and engage in arguments using evidence*.
- Understand how to *obtain, evaluate, and communicate data* to others.
- Understand that all matter is made of atoms and will be able to identify and predict the physical properties and structure.
- Understand why atoms bond and the different ways this is accomplished.

PHYSICS

AP PHYSICS I

Prerequisite: Algebra II

Grades: 12

Credit: 2

AP Physics I is the equivalent of a first semester college course in algebra-based physics. It is taught over a full academic year to enable students to develop a deep understanding of the content and to focus on applying their knowledge through inquiry labs. The course covers Newtonian mechanics, work, energy, and power; mechanical waves and sound; and introduces electrical circuits. Scientific calculator required. **Students who remain enrolled in an AP class after the first quarter are expected, but not required, to take the AP exam in May.**

PHYSICS CP

Prerequisite: Algebra II

Grades: 12

Credit: 1.5

This course supports students' future success in college science and technical courses by focusing on technical problem solving. Physics explores the relationship of matter and energy in our world. Students will be expected to demonstrate proficiency in five standards using science and engineering practices. The standards are Force & Motion, Mechanical Systems, Heat, Waves, and Electricity & Magnetism. This course will include lab and project activities. Personal calculators are recommended.

BRIDGE ACADEMY PHYSICS

12

Prerequisite: none

Grades:

Credit: 1

This is an introductory college course in physics for non-science majors. This course provides students the opportunity to earn college credit while still in high school. Integrated laboratory experiences with Foster CTE programs will be provided. Students will be expected to demonstrate proficiency in five standards using science and engineering practices. The standards are: Force & Motion, Mechanical Systems, Heat, Waves, and Electricity & Magnetism.

PHYSICS

Prerequisite: none

Grades: 11, 12

Credit: .5

This course supports students who need to meet standards in physics to graduate, need an introduction to physics as background for tech school courses, or who do not plan on majoring in a science field in college. It is not recommended for students planning on a science major or minor in college. Students will be expected to demonstrate proficiency in five standards using science and engineering practices. The standards are Force & Motion, Mechanical Systems, Heat, Waves, and Electricity & Magnetism.

SCIENCE ELECTIVES

ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY

Prerequisite: none

Grades: 12

Credit: 1

This course in anatomy and physiology is designed especially for students who intend to pursue a career in biology, medicine, or some related field. Emphasis will be placed on human anatomy. Lab work will be included in the program. Dissections of rats and fetal pigs will be used to study muscular, nervous, and circulatory systems.

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

Prerequisite: Earth Science & Biology

Grades: 11, 12

Credit: 1

This ecology course emphasizes field studies in and around Mt. Blue Campus. It includes forestry, aquatic and wildlife biology, soil science and environmental science as fields of study. It is a multidisciplinary science that integrates earth science, biology, chemistry and physics to identify, analyze and evaluate the risks associated with environmental problems. This course is highly recommended for students that plan to pursue environmental and natural resource careers.

INTRO TO MARINE SCIENCE (OCEANOGRAPHY)

Prerequisite: Earth Science & Biology

Grades: 11, 12

Credit .5

This course is designed to allow students a more in-depth look at the properties of the ocean. Since Maine is a coastal state, individuals who live here, or any other coastal community, will be called upon to make difficult choices concerning the management of resources in the oceans adjacent to the region. Biological organisms depend on the physical characteristics of the ocean for survival, and global climate is closely tied to ocean circulation. This course will focus heavily on the physical properties of the ocean (waves, tides, currents, ocean water characteristics, coastal processes, makeup of the sea floor, etc.) with some biological interactions.

Students will be asked to address current topics about the ocean, and examine current research that is being conducted in the ocean, with a focus on the Gulf of Maine. They will also be asked to design and conduct simple laboratory experiments or models that help illustrate concepts pertaining to different aspects of the ocean environment.

SOCIAL STUDIES

Level descriptions can also be found on page 7.

GRADE 9 HUMANITIES

Prerequisite: none

Grades: 9

Credit: 2

What is happening in the world right now? Why should we care? Where does it show up in the books we read? In the music we hear? In the movies we watch? On the Internet we use? Humanities takes social science and English and puts them together in the ultimate learning-to-think model. This class meets for two periods and is taught by two teachers. This course fulfills *both* your Freshman English and Social Studies requirements. Enrollment in this course is limited. Please don't hesitate to sign up, but know that the request may not be honored due to number restrictions. (1 English credit, 1 Social Studies credit).

HONORS GRADE 9 SOCIAL STUDIES

Prerequisite: none

Grades: 9

Credit: 1

This honors level course will focus on world geography and contemporary world issues. Student will use the Five Themes of Geography to study the United States and world by looking at different regions. The course will also focus on more complex geographic issues impacting the world today and in the past. This course requires that students read and write at a high level and have a willingness to participate in class discussions. There will also be an emphasis on understanding digital citizenship and how to analyze and interpret information from a variety of mediums. Projects, presentations, papers, and debates will comprise a large portion of the grade.

GRADE 9 SOCIAL STUDIES (CP, CPI)

Prerequisite: none

Grades: 9

Credit: 1

Students will gain an understanding of tools and skills needed to succeed in social studies. Students will use the Five Themes of Geography and the Components of Culture to learn about the United States and other parts of the world. There will be an additional current geographic issues component, where students will look at global, national, and state topics. There will also be an emphasis on understanding digital citizenship and how to analyze and interpret information from a variety of mediums.

APPLIED GRADE 9 SOCIAL STUDIES

Prerequisite: Teacher referral

Grades: 9

Credit: 1

Students will gain an understanding of tools and skills needed for future success in social studies and beyond. The course will have a strong geography component focusing on the Five Themes of Geography and the Components of Culture. Students will use these themes to study the geography of the United States and world. Included in this course is a current geographic issues portion focusing on local, national, and global topics. This course is designed to be applicable to the students' daily life and future goals. Most of the work will be done in class with the guidance of the instructor. There will be emphasis placed on improving reading and writing skills while learning the content.

AP EUROPEAN HISTORY

Prerequisite: none

Grade: 10, 11, 12

Credit: 1

This course is a college-level course covering the political, economic, religious, social, intellectual, and artistic heritage of Europe from 1450 to present. This is a lecture heavy course with extensive textbook and primary source reading. The course is fast moving and works to prepare students for the Advanced Placement exam in the spring. Students should expect to work at a steady, challenging pace. **Summer reading and homework is required before the course begins. Students who remain enrolled in an AP class after the first quarter are expected, but not required, to take the AP exam in May.** *This course may be taken as a replacement for Grade 10 Social Studies or as an elective if the Grade 10 Social Studies credit has already been achieved.*

HONORS EUROPEAN HISTORY

Prerequisite: none

Grade: 10, 11, 12

Credit: 1

The focus of this course revolves around the historical thinking skills used to connect major historical eras, enduring themes, turning points, events, consequences, and people in the history of the world. Students will actively practice and use academic skills to develop their understanding of the content presented in this course. Content areas include the development of European society and the beginnings of the modern globalized era. In this course, we will analyze the fundamentals of our own democratic ideas and government. This honors level course will require challenging reading assignments, high level writing skills, and a willingness for classroom participation. This course meets all of the requirements for 10th grade social studies.

EUROPEAN EXPERIENCE

Prerequisite: none

Grades: 10, 11, 12

Credit: 1

The focus of this course revolves around a hands-on experience using historical thinking skills to connect major historical eras, enduring themes, turning points, events, consequences, and people in the history of the world. Students will be doing many hands-on activities and participating in debates and discussions. Often the class will meet in a large group and then break into smaller groups to work on projects to develop their understanding on the content presented in this course. Content areas include the development of European society and the beginnings of the modern globalized era. This course meets all of the requirements for 10th grade social studies.

GRADE 10 SOCIAL STUDIES (CP, CPI)

Prerequisite: none

Grades: 10, 11, 12

Credit: 1

The focus of this course revolves around the historical thinking skills used to connect major historical eras, enduring themes, turning points, events, consequences, and people in the history of the world. Student will actively practice and use academic skills to develop their understanding of the content presented in this course. Content areas include a snapshot of ancient civilizations, the development of European society and the beginnings of the modern globalized era.

APPLIED GRADE 10 SOCIAL STUDIES

Prerequisite: Teacher referral

Grades: 10, 11, 12

Credit: 1

The focus of this course revolves around the historical thinking skills used to connect major historical eras, enduring themes, turning points, events, consequences, and people in the history of the world. Student will actively practice academic skills to develop their understanding of the content presented in this course. Content areas include a snapshot of ancient civilizations, the development of European society and the beginnings of the modern globalized era. This course is designed to be applicable to the students' daily life and future goals. Most of the work will be done in class with the guidance of the instructor.

AP US HISTORY

Prerequisite: summer reading

Grades: 11, 12

Credit: 1

Advanced Placement US History is a college-level course focusing on major events, issues, and concepts in American history from Exploration to the present times. As with college courses, much independent student work and nightly assignments are required, as the course moves at a brisk pace. In addition to learning significant facts and their importance, students should expect varied and challenging outside readings, and demanding writing assignments. The course will be fast-moving in order to cover material and prepare students for the Advanced Placement exam in the spring, and students should expect to work at a steady, challenging pace. **Summer reading is required before the course begins. Students who remain enrolled in an AP class after the first quarter are expected, but not required, to take the AP exam in May.**

HONORS US HISTORY

Prerequisite: none

Grades: 11, 12

Credit: 1

This honors level course will focus on the major events, issues, and concepts of American History. Independent student work and nightly assignments are required, as the course moves at a steady pace. The main focus of the course will be from the Reconstruction Era to the present. The emphasis will be on economic cycles, political issues, social and cultural change, and the emergence of the United States as a world power.

US HISTORY (CP, CPI)

Prerequisite: none

Grades: 11, 12

Credit: 1

This course will cover the major events in US History during the time period of Reconstruction to the present. Emphasis will be placed on historical context and the relationships between events of the time period under consideration and those events that are current in nature. Historical figures will also be a major source of material as their unique exploits and personal traits will be examined. Literacy and writing skills will be a focus of this particular offering.

US HISTORY I (HTY103)

Prerequisite: C or better in ENG 101 or simultaneously

Grades: 11, 12

Credit: 1

This is an introductory college course covering United States History from the exploration of America to 1877. The development of democracy, growth of the West, slavery and sectionalism, the Civil War and Reconstruction are all topics discussed. This course provides students the opportunity to earn college credit while still in high school. However, as it is part of the Bridge Academy program, space availability for non-Bridge Academy students is limited and dependent on Bridge Academy program enrollment.

US HISTORY II (HTY104)

Prerequisite: C or better in ENG 101 or simultaneously

Grades: 12

Credit: 1

From 1877 to recent years. The making of modern America, industrialism, imperialism and other topics. This course provides students the opportunity to earn college credit while still in high school. However, as it is part of the Bridge Academy program, space availability for non-Bridge Academy students is limited and dependent on Bridge Academy program enrollment.

APPLIED US HISTORY

Prerequisite: Teacher referral

Grades: 11, 12

Credit: 1

This course will cover and apply the major events in US History during the period of Reconstruction to the present. Special emphasis will be placed on relating the past to the present. There will also be emphasis placed on literacy skills. This course is designed to be applicable to the students' daily life and future goals. Most of the work will be done in class with the guidance of the instructor.

HONORS ECONOMICS

Prerequisite: none

Grades: 12

Credit: .5

This honors level course is designed to provide economic education that will be useful post graduation. It is designed to give students many opportunities for project-based learning including experiences in the community. Student input and initiative will be used to build learner-specific projects and will take into account students' economic interests for the future. This course will focus on functional and personal economic standards that are associated with major financial decisions including buying houses, cars, and student loans.

ECONOMICS

Prerequisite: none

Grades: 12

Credit: .5

This required semester course is designed to give students many opportunities for project-based learning including experiences in the community. Student input and initiative will be used to build learner-specific projects and will take into account students' economic interests for the future. This course will focus on functional and personal economic standards that are associated with major financial decisions including buying houses, cars, and student loans.

APPLIED CONSUMER ECONOMICS

Prerequisite: Teacher referral

Grades: 12

Credit: .5

This required semester course is designed to provide economic education that will be useful post graduation. Guest speakers, discussions, and hands-on activities are designed to help students make financial decisions they will likely encounter in the future. These decisions will include financial implications of career choices, applying for loans, small business ownership, and major purchases such as automobiles and houses. Much of the work will be done in-class with the guidance of the instructor.

SOCIAL STUDIES ELECTIVES

CULINARY ANTHROPOLOGY

Prerequisite: none

Grades: 11, 12

Credit: .5

Students will examine the role of food in historical and contemporary societies from a variety of perspectives and gain a holistic view of the impact of food and nutrition on world civilization.

GOVERNMENT

Prerequisite: none

Grades: 11, 12

Credit: .5

This elective course will use a thematic approach to explore current events and the history of the United States' politics, laws, and government. Students should be prepared to participate in debates, research topics, and keep up with current events. Learn about the government and the world you are in so you can be an active participant in it.

MODERN CRIMINOLOGY

Prerequisite: none

Grades: 10, 11, 12

Credit: .5

Modern Criminology takes a look at how our world has changed since 9/11. Crime and terrorism have taken center stage since 9/11 and our need to understand the changes has created a different culture and even a new language. From Homeland Security to the TSA, safety has become a very valuable commodity. Guest speakers and community members will help students gain insight into this ever-changing balance of freedom, privacy and security. Students will be expected to take part in discussions and participate in projects in and out of the classroom.

PSYCHOLOGY & HUMAN NATURE

Prerequisite: none

Grades: 11, 12

Credit: .5

This elective will use the fields of psychology and philosophy to investigate the question: What does it mean to be human? To answer this question, students will examine how philosophers, scientists, theologians, and psychologists have answered fundamental human inquiries. To shed some light upon the overarching question and other inquiries, texts and readings will be drawn from a diverse set of fields, namely, history, science, philosophy, psychology, and religious teachings.

WORLD LANGUAGES

ASL NOVICE A Prerequisite: None

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12
Credit: 1

This introductory course to American Sign Language (ASL) stresses the development of expressive skill, receptive skill, and cultural awareness through a communication approach. Includes visual readiness skills, vocabulary, culture, and grammar used for meeting communication needs. Upon completion of this course, students will be able to participate in simple conversations using expressive ASL skills, fingerspelling, basic vocabulary, grammar, facial markers, non-manual signals to engage in common interactions with Deaf people. Can ask and answer basic questions, initiate and respond to simple statements and generally maintain a face-to-face conversation. Students will have opportunities to apply language-learning skills to interactions with the Deaf community and learn to appreciate the linguistic and cultural diversity of Deaf people and behave with respect and understanding. Proficiency target level: Novice Mid/B. For beginners.

ASL NOVICE B Prerequisite: ASL Novice A or teacher referral

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12
Credit: 1

Continues work of ASL Novice A, further developing all skills. Primary emphasis is on the student's active communication in ASL. Includes grammar and culture information. Novice B is designed to help the students build their receptive skills, learn vocabulary through context, and develop strategies for figuring out the meaning and to build upon that foundation. Upon completion of ASL Novice B students will be able to handle successfully a limited number of interactive, task-oriented and social situations. Can ask and answer higher level questions, initiate and respond to simple statements and generally maintain a face-to-face conversation. Will continue to apply language-learning skills outside the language classroom and can act with respect and a better understanding of Deaf people and ASL, with an appreciation for their linguistic and cultural diversity. Proficiency target level: Novice High/Intermediate Low.

ASL INTERMEDIATE Prerequisite: ASL Novice B or teacher referral

Grades: 10, 11, 12
Credit: 1

Continues the work of ASL Novice B, reviewing, expanding, and perfecting expressive skill, structure, and vocabulary for the purpose of active communication. Upon completion of this course, students will be able to narrate and describe events in paragraph form, using connected discourse, apply expressive language-learning skill and be able to converse with ease and confidence when dealing with most routine tasks and social situations. Follow ASL linguistic and grammar rules, and apply them semantically. Discuss and explore the linguistic and cultural diversity within the Deaf World; e.g., various clubs and organizations (local to national level), accessibility issues and the controversial issues related to Deaf educational approaches. Proficiency target level: Intermediate Mid.

FRENCH NOVICE A

Prerequisite: none

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

Credit: 1

This introductory course in French will provide students the resources to be able to communicate using familiar words and phrases. This course stresses good pronunciation habits as well as development of interpretive, presentational and interpersonal skills. In addition, basic language structures and cultural aspects will also be covered.

FRENCH NOVICE B

Prerequisite: Novice A

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

Credit: 1

Students will further develop interpretive, presentational and interpersonal skills. Students will be able to communicate using phrases and simple sentences. Exposure to French culture and basic language structures are also a component of this course.

FRENCH NOVICE HONORS

Prerequisite: Novice A or teacher referral

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

Credit: 1

Students will further develop interpretive, presentational and interpersonal skills. Students will be able to communicate using phrases and simple sentences. Exposure to French culture and basic language structures are also a component of this course. French Novice Honors is an advanced and challenging course for the motivated and talented student interested in working at a faster pace.

FRENCH INTERMEDIATE

Prerequisite: Novice B or Novice Honors or teacher referral

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

Credit: 1

The goal of this course is to go into more depth with respect to developing the students' interpretive, presentational and interpersonal skills. Students will be able to communicate using a series of simple sentences, handle short social interactions, and be able to understand main topics/ideas of what is being said/read on familiar topics. Continued exposure to French culture and language structure is also a component of this course.

FRENCH INTERMEDIATE HONORS

Prerequisite: Novice Honors, Intermediate or teacher referral

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

Credit: 1

The goal of this course is to go into more depth with respect to developing the students' interpretive, presentational and interpersonal skills. Students will be able to communicate using connective sentences, handle short social interactions, and be able to understand main topics/ideas of what is being said/read on a wide variety of familiar topics and personal interests or studies. Continued exposure to French culture and language structure is also a component of this course. French Intermediate Honors is an advanced and challenging course for the motivated and talented student interested in working at a faster pace.

FRENCH PRE ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP)

Prerequisite: Intermediate Honors or teacher referral

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

Credit: 1

This course will provide an increased emphasis on improving all proficiency skills using authentic sources, along with continued study of the structures in various time frames of the French language. There is emphasis on advanced structures and grammar through use of primary source materials: novels and plays, newspapers, blogs, podcasts and radio and TV streaming. Growth of vocabulary and idiomatic expressions are a major component of the course. This is an advanced course for the motivated and talented student interested in working at a faster pace and will prepare students for the AP French course.

FRENCH ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP)

Prerequisite: Pre AP or teacher referral

Grades: 11, 12

Credit: 1

This course is an advanced study of the French Language with an emphasis on preparation for the Advanced Placement (AP) French exam in the Spring. There will be a strong emphasis on the three modes of communication: interpretive, presentational and interpersonal along with an in-depth practice of language structure in context to convey meaning. Students should expect to do a lot of reading and writing in French. The course is conducted in French. French culture and literature, both historical and contemporary, are an integral part of the course. **Students who remain enrolled in an AP class after the first quarter are expected, but not required, to take the AP exam in May.**

SPANISH NOVICE A

Prerequisite: none

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

Credit: 1

This introductory course in Spanish will provide students the resources to be able to communicate using familiar words and phrases. This course stresses good pronunciation habits as well as development of interpretive, presentational and interpersonal skills. In addition, basic language structures and cultural aspects will also be covered.

SPANISH NOVICE B

Prerequisite: Novice A

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

Credit: 1

Students will further develop interpretive, presentational and interpersonal skills. Students will be able to communicate using phrases and simple sentences. Exposure to Spanish culture and basic language structures are also a component of this course.

SPANISH NOVICE HONORS

Prerequisite: Novice A or teacher referral

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

Credit: 1

Students will further develop interpretive, presentational and interpersonal skills. Students will be able to communicate using phrases and simple sentences. Exposure to Spanish culture and basic language structures are also a component of this course. Spanish Novice Honors is an advanced and challenging course for the motivated and talented student interested in working at a faster pace.

SPANISH INTERMEDIATE

Prerequisite: Novice B or Novice Honors or teacher referral

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

Credit: 1

The goal of this course is to go into more depth with respect to developing the students' interpretive, presentational and interpersonal skills. Students will be able to communicate using a series of simple sentences, handle short social interactions, and be able to understand main topics/ideas of what is being said/read on familiar topics. Continued exposure to Spanish culture and language structure is also a component of this course.

SPANISH INTERMEDIATE HONORS

Prerequisite: Novice Honors or teacher referral

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

Credit: 1

The goal of this course is to go into more depth with respect to developing the students' interpretive, presentational and interpersonal skills. Students will be able to communicate using connective sentences, handle short social interactions, and be able to understand main topics/ideas of what is being said/read on a wide variety of familiar topics and personal interests or studies. Continued exposure to Spanish culture and language structure is also a component of this course. Spanish Intermediate Honors is an advanced and challenging course for the motivated and talented student interested in working at a faster pace.

SPANISH PRE ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP)

Prerequisite: Intermediate Honors or teacher referral

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

Credit: 1

This course will provide an increased emphasis on improving all proficiency skills using authentic sources, along with continued study of the structures in various time frames of the Spanish language. There is emphasis on advanced structures and grammar through use of primary source materials: novels and plays, newspapers, blogs, podcasts and radio and TV streaming. Growth of vocabulary and idiomatic expressions are a major component of the course. This is an advanced course for the motivated and talented student interested in working at a faster pace and will prepare students for the AP Spanish course.

SPANISH ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP)

Prerequisite: Pre AP or teacher referral

Grades: 11, 12

Credit: 1

This course is an advanced study of the Spanish Language with an emphasis on preparation for the Advanced Placement (AP) Spanish exam in the Spring. There will be a strong emphasis on the three modes of communication: interpretive, presentational and interpersonal along with an in-depth practice of language structure in context to convey meaning. Students should expect to do a lot of reading and writing in Spanish. The course is conducted in Spanish. Spanish culture and literature, both historical and contemporary, are an integral part of the course. **Students who remain enrolled in an AP class after the first quarter are expected, but not required, to take the AP exam in May.**

APPENDIX

Courses meeting the Visual & Performing Arts requirement:

All Art classes
All Music classes
FCTE Commercial Arts & Photography
FCTE Digital Video & Film
Play Production

Courses meeting the Career & Educational Development requirement:

All Family & Consumer Science classes
All FCTE Programs
Employability Skills
General Trades
JMG courses
Yearbook