

Kwajalein Junior/Senior High School Course Descriptions

2010/2011



KRS

Education: Kwajalein Jr/Sr High School

APO AP 96555

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Message to Students

Dear Student,

As a member of the Kwajalein Junior-Senior High School student body, you are critical part of the family that is comprised of students, parents, faculty and staff who team together to reach for high achievement as well as the memories that come from attending a premier high school.

As a student, one of your foremost responsibilities is to choose a course of study which best suits your needs as you look to your life after high school. The purpose of this course description guide is to provide you information on all our course offerings to assist you and your parents in matching your educational needs and interests with the courses we offer at this time. Please read through the enclosed material carefully and discuss with your parents the classes you feel will best suit your needs (as well as our graduation requirements).

I am confident the coming school year will be a great success, and that you will be an achieving, participating, part of our educational community. You have many opportunities before you which will prepare you for any opportunity you wish to pursue following graduation, if you choose wisely and apply yourself daily!

If you have questions, please don't hesitate to ask. That's why we're here. Your success as a student and young adult is our number one goal!

Kindest Regards,

Al Robinson
KHS Principal

KWAJALEIN JR/SR HIGH SCHOOL
2010-2011

Graduation Requirements

Students must earn the following credits in grades 9 through 12:

English	4 credits
Science	2 credits
Math	2 credits
World History	1 credit
U.S. History	2 credits
Govt./Econ.	1 credit
Physical Education	1.5 credits
Health	.5 credit
Computer	.5 credit
Total required course credits	14.5 credits
Total elective course credits	9.5 credits
Total credits needed for graduation	24 credits

A total of 24 credits are required for graduation. Students who do not meet graduation requirements will not participate in graduation ceremonies.

College Entrance Requirements

College entrance requirements are usually dependent upon the individual college/university and the selected course of study. Students should discuss this with their counselor when planning class schedules.

Students planning to enter a four (4) year college or university need to adhere to the following guides:

Minimum expectation:

English	4 years
Math	3 years
Social Studies	3 years
Science	3 years
Foreign Language	2 years of one language
Computer	1 semester

Preferred program:

English	4 years
Writing	1 semester
Social Studies	4 years
Math	4 years
Science	4 years, one AP
Foreign Language	3 or 4 years, one language
Fine Arts	1 or 2 years
Computer	computer proficiency

Preparation for the following tests:

SAT for most schools, ACT for some Midwestern schools.

SAT II (2 tests) needed for selective schools. One should be Math I or II, and the second can be History, Science, etc.

Guidance Services

The chief objective of the counseling and guidance service is to assist students with any problems that may arise; educational, vocational, or personal in nature. All students should feel free to see the counselor concerning any problem or questions that they may have.

Guidance activities include the following: (1) individual and group counseling, (2) administration and interpretation of standardized testing program, (3) assisting students in planning their class schedules and career goals, (4) informing students about the school program and alternatives after leaving high school, (5) placement service for employment, trade school, colleges and armed services, and (6) program planning and scheduling.

Students are expected to make appointments through the guidance office. The Counselor is available before and after school and during free periods.

Withdrawal from a Course

Students in grades 9-12 may withdraw from a class through the sixth week of classes. An emergency withdrawal from a class after the sixth week will require teacher, principal, and parental permission. A low grade will not constitute an emergency. Withdrawals completed within the deadline will not be noted on the transcript.

Course Changes

Student initiated course changes must be completed by the end of the second week of a semester. These changes will require signatures from a parent and from affected teachers. Course changes that are initiated by teachers, the counselor, or administrators should not be completed without consulting the affected teachers. Many of the course changes will involve section changes for other courses.

Correspondence Courses

As per school policy, Kwajalein High School will accept credit for successful completion of correspondence courses from selected accredited schools.

Grades and credits are awarded by the correspondence school. These will be entered on the student's transcripts and will be computed into the GPA. It is the student's and parents' responsibility to initiate and to pay for correspondence courses, and to have the courses pre-approved by the school administration.

University Courses

KHS accepts credit earned from an accredited university or college. Three college semester credits equal .5 credit (one semester credit) at KHS. The student must make prior arrangements with the principal or the counselor.

In all cases, it is the student's responsibility to seek pre-approval from the counselor for each course and to obtain the necessary paperwork for registration, grades and credits. All expenses will be the responsibility of the student.

No Credit for Courses Taken in 7th and 8th Grades

Seventh and eighth grade students who take courses that are credit courses for high school students will not receive high school credit. They will not be able to use such courses for partial completion of requirements for graduation.

Retaking a Course for a Higher Grade

A student, who retakes a course previously completed at KHS, will not receive additional credits. A few exceptions to this may be available in the industrial arts, fine arts, and performing arts departments. Band would be one example of such an exception. If the

grade is higher than the previous grade, it will replace the previous grade in the following way. The previous course will be erased from the transcript and the new course and grade will be entered during the semester(s) it was taken. Grades and credits of transfer students will not be erased from the transcript.

AP Course Expectation

An AP classes is considered a year long commitment. Students may earn college credit upon successful completion of the AP exam given during the first two weeks of May. Per school policy, students enrolled in an AP class are expected to take this exam and are responsible for its cost.

Free Period Expectation

Any student that receives at least one “F” grade on a report card or a progress report will lose privileges to have an “open” period on their schedule. Any student that receives a grade of “F” and has an “open” period on their schedule will be moved to a monitored study hall in the school library. Students in grade 11 and 12 can earn their “open” period back by receiving a grade of C- or above on the next progress report or report card.

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

TITLE OF COURSE: JUNIOR HIGH READING

Grade Level: 7 & 8
Length of Course: 2 semesters

Brief Description of Course:

Junior High Reading is a reading class assigned to non-band students. Class activities will focus on enhancing students' reading skills and analysis of literature.

TITLE OF COURSE: ENGLISH 7

Grade Level: 7
Length of Course: 2 semesters

Brief Description of Course:

The primary purpose of 7th grade English is to establish a foundation for critical analysis of literature and to compose coherent, logical paragraphs leading to formal, multiple paragraph essay construction. Additionally, students will continue to develop speech and discussion techniques, grammar, listening, and organizational skills, and vocabulary. To accomplish this, students will read from a variety of literary selections (see reading list), analyze these works, develop original theses, and share their ideas in formal compositions, class discussions, and oral presentations.

Reading Choices (minimum 4): *The Lottery*, *Rose, Walkabout*, *Hound of Baskervilles*, *Dragonsong*, *Brian's Song*, *The Light in the Forest*, *The Call of the Wild*, *Nothing But the Truth*, and *Downriver*

TITLE OF COURSE: ENGLISH 8

Grade Level: 8
Length of Course: 2 semesters

Brief Description of Course:

The primary purpose of 8th grade English is to build on the foundation established in the 7th grade. Students will heighten their critical literary analysis and formal essay composition skills as they read more challenging texts and compose with greater sophistication. Additionally, students will continue to develop speech and discussion techniques, grammar, listening, and organizational skills, and vocabulary. To accomplish this, students will read from a variety of literary selections (see reading list), analyze these works, develop original theses, and share their ideas in formal compositions, class discussions, and oral presentations.

Reading Choices (minimum 4): *Of Mice and Men*, *And Then There Were None*, *The Old Man and the Sea*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Diary of Anne Frank*, *Flowers for Algernon*, *The Giver*, *The True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle*, *The Outsiders*, and *Silas Marner*

TITLE OF COURSE: ENGLISH 9
Grade Level: 9
Length of Course: 2 semesters
Credits: .5 per semester

Brief Description of Course:

The primary purpose of 9th grade English is to strengthen students' critical literary analysis and written expression skills. To accomplish this, students will read from an extensive selection spanning all literary genres (see reading list), analyze these works, develop original thesis statements, and share these ideas in formal compositions (persuasive, reflective, and literary analysis), class discussions, and oral presentations. Students will also produce at least one formal research paper. In addition, students will continue to develop their grammar, mechanics, organization, listening, oral communication, and vocabulary skills.

Reading Choices (minimum 4):

Romeo and Juliet, The Hobbit, Animal Farm, All Quiet on the Western Front, Great Expectations, On the Beach, Ender's Game, Fahrenheit 451, A Separate Peace, Night, Rebecca

TITLE OF COURSE: ENGLISH 10
Grade Level: 10
Length of Course: 2 semesters
Credits: .5 per semester

Brief Description of Course:

The primary purpose of 10th grade English is to build on the foundation established in the 9th grade for composing literary, persuasive, and reflective formal essays, and to produce an original research paper. Additionally, students will utilize proper writing conventions appropriate to their learning level. To accomplish this, students will actively read from an extensive selection spanning all literary genres (see reading list), analyze these works, develop original theses, and share their ideas in formal compositions (persuasive, reflective, and literary analysis), class discussions, and oral presentations.

Reading Choices (minimum 6): *Frankenstein, Fallen Angels, The Joy Luck Club, Black Elk Speaks, Watership Down, A Lesson Before Dying, Julius Caesar, Macbeth, To Kill a Mockingbird, Antigone, For Whom the Bell Tolls*

TITLE OF COURSE: ENGLISH 11
Grade Level: 11
Length of Course: 2 semesters
Credits: .5 per semester

Brief Description of Course:

The primary purpose of 11th grade English is to continue developing analytical thinking and writing skills wherein students will compose several multiple paragraph literary analyses, comparison and contrast essays, time-restricted impromptu essays, and successful completion of one research project. Additionally, students will utilize proper writing conventions appropriate to their learning level. To accomplish this, students will read from an extensive selection of American Literature spanning all literary genres (see reading list) and complete comprehensive grammar and mechanics assessments.

Reading Choices (minimum 5): *Catcher in the Rye, The Bean Trees, I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings, The Great Gatsby, Pilgrim at Tinker Creek, Death of a Salesman, A Raisin in the Sun, The Crucible, The Bluest Eye, Their Eyes are Watching God, The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*

TITLE OF COURSE: ENGLISH 11 HONORS

Grade Level: 11
Length of Course: 2 semesters
Credits: .5 per semester

Brief Description of Course:

The primary purpose of 11th grade Honors English is to provide an opportunity for accelerated students to expand their critical thinking and writing skills by focusing on more challenging American Literature material. Due to the rigorous nature of this course, students are expected to perform at a higher level in writing, reading, and discussion. Students must read a minimum of 6 novels (see reading list) in preparation for AP Literature in the 12th grade.

In order to enter this class, the department recommends students fulfill two of the following three requirements:

1. Maintained at least a C in 10th Grade Honors English or at least a B in each semester of 10th Grade English
2. Received a recommendation from the current English teacher
3. Scored in the 85th percentile on the ITBS, ITED (or equivalent for transfer students).

Reading Choices: (minimum of 6)

The Great Gatsby, The Grapes of Wrath, Death of a Salesman, As I Lay Dying, Catcher in the Rye, A Raisin in the Sun, Slaughterhouse Five, The Crucible, One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest, The Bluest Eye, The Scarlet Letter, Their Eyes are Watching God, The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn

TITLE OF COURSE: ENGLISH 12

Grade Level: 12
Length of Course: 2 semesters
Credits: .5 per semester

Brief Description of Course:

The primary purpose of 12th grade English is to build on the foundation established in 11th grade English and to continue developing analytical thinking and writing skills to greater depth of exploration. Students will compose several multiple paragraph literary analyses, comparison and contrast essays, time-restricted impromptu essays, successful completion of two research projects, and personal narratives. To accomplish this, students will read from an extensive selection spanning all literary genres (see reading list) and complete comprehensive grammar and mechanics assessments.

Reading Choices (minimum 6):

1984, Things Fall Apart, Lord of the Flies, The Stranger; and Hamlet or Othello, Beowulf, Balzac and the Little Chinese Seamstress, Angela's Ashes

TITLE OF COURSE: AP LITERATURE 12

Grade Level: 12
 Length of Course: 2 semesters
 Credits: .5 per semester

Brief Description of Course:

The purpose of this course is to prepare students for the AP Literature exam in May. In order to score well on the exam (3 or higher), students must adhere to a strict reading list as suggested by the College Board. Additionally, students must compose bi-monthly impromptu essays to prepare for the exam following all proper writing conventions. Also, students must complete two annotated literary research papers throughout the year. Students need to understand and demonstrate thorough knowledge of all literary and poetic devices commonly used in classic literature. It is understood that AP Literature is a year-long commitment and cannot be dropped or downgraded to regular English 12 status. The AP Literature exam is given during the first two weeks of May. Per school policy, students enrolled in AP Literature are required to take this exam and are responsible for its cost.

Reading List (all):

Heart of Darkness, Othello, Lord of the Flies, Crime and Punishment, Pride and Prejudice, One Hundred Years of Solitude, Things Fall Apart, 1984

*Reading lists will be adjusted regularly in compliance with AP curriculum

TITLE OF COURSE: AP LANGUAGE & COMPOSITION

Grade Level: 11 & 12
 Length of Course: 2 semesters
 Credits: .5 per semester

Brief Description of Course:

AP Language and Composition engages students in a college-level study of rhetoric. AP Language students will study a variety of texts – ranging from fiction novels, plays, non-fiction essays, literary criticisms, scientific essays, political speeches, as well as print advertisements and commercials – in order to analyze how authors form arguments and persuade their audiences. Texts will also align with the students' study of US History II, in order to establish a deeper understanding of the historical and social importance of the arguments and writings. As students study these arguments, students will learn how to apply the basic principles of rhetoric to their own writing in order to refine their argumentative abilities. Throughout the year, heavy emphasis will also be placed on the study of writing conventions and usage rules to improve student expression and fluency. It is understood that students who enroll in AP Language will remain in the class for the entire year, as the class cannot be dropped. Likewise, all students enrolled in AP Language are expected to take the AP Language exam in the second week of May.

Reading List:

Students will read various writings and pieces by: Frederick Douglas, Abraham Lincoln, Oscar Wilde, Maxine Hong Kingston, W.E.B. Du Bois, William F. Buckley, Harold Bloom, F. Scott Fitzgerald, Jamaica Kincaid, William Faulkner, John Updike, Virginia Woolf, Steven Pinker, David Foster Wallace, and Thomas Friedman.

*Reading lists will be adjusted regularly in compliance with AP curriculum

TITLE OF COURSE: CREATIVE WRITING

Grade Level: 10-12
Length of Course: 1 semester
Credits: .5 per semester

Brief Description of Course:

This course will introduce the crafts of fiction, nonfiction, script and poetry writing. Students will study the methods and works of various authors, demonstrating understanding through explication and analysis. Students will be expected to participate through discussion and sharing and will be required to write poetry, short fiction pieces, and a dramatic script. One of these pieces will be included in a school-wide literary magazine that will be produced by this class. Students will participate in all aspects of the production of this publication including the collecting, reviewing, revising, and editing of student writing; the presentation and assembly of pages; and the distribution of magazine at the end of the semester.

SOCIAL STUDIES DEPARTMENT

TITLE OF COURSE: WORLD GEOGRAPHY

Grade Level: 7
Length of Course: 2 semesters

Brief Description of Course:

World Geography provides facts and information regarding map and globe skills, reading skills, and thinking skills. Students are introduced to the physical and human world around them, which helps them develop the means to examine their world. Students will study the world's continents, as well as complete a unit on the Marshall Islands.

TITLE OF COURSE: WORLD HISTORY I

Grade Level: 8
Length of Course: 2 semesters

Students will explore the origins, development, and contributions of civilization in Europe, Asia, Africa, the Americas, and Oceania. These topics will be examined: Ancient China, Mesopotamia, and Egypt; Ancient Greece and Rome; Medieval Europe; Pre-Columbian America; European Renaissance, Reformation, and Age of Discovery. Several main themes will be emphasized, including continuity and change, political and social systems, religious and value systems, economics and technology, diversity, impact of the individual and global interaction.

TITLE OF COURSE: WORLD HISTORY II

Grade Level: 9
Length of Course: 2 semesters
Credits: .5 per semester

Brief Description of Course:

Students will better understand how today's complex world came to be; how events that took place hundreds of years ago (and possibly thousands of miles away) can have a powerful impact on our lives. Several main themes will be emphasized, including continuity and change, political and social systems, religious and value systems, economics and technology, diversity, impact of the individual and global interaction. The course will cover material from the Renaissance and Reformation (1300-1600) through the end of the twentieth century (time permitting).

TITLE OF COURSE: U.S. HISTORY I

Grade Level: 10
Length of Course: 2 semesters
Credits: .5 per semester

Brief Description of Course:

Students will explore the development of the U.S. from its beginnings through Reconstruction. Several main themes will be emphasized, including continuity and change, political and social developments, religious and value systems, economics and technology, diversity, impact of the individual and global interaction. Throughout the course, the importance of studying history from the multiple perspectives involved will be stressed.

TITLE OF COURSE: U.S. HISTORY II

Grade Level: 11
Length of Course: 2 semesters
Credits: .5 per semester

Brief Description of Course:

As a continuation of U.S. History I, this course will cover some of the major people, places, dates, and events that are significant in terms of the political, social, and economic development of the U.S. from Westward Expansion through the Vietnam Era. A broad goal is to have students see beyond themselves and better understand issues of national significance so as to make informed, reasoned choices on questions that will affect their future and the nation.

TITLE OF COURSE: GOVERNMENT

Grade Level: 12
Length of Course: 1 semester
Credits: .5 per semester

Brief Description of Course:

This semester course is a survey of American Government, the Constitution, and comparative study of other forms of government. Special emphasis is placed on the meaning and application of the six basic principles (popular sovereignty, limited government,

separation of powers, checks and balances, judicial review, and federalism) that make up the foundation of the American system of government. A long-term goal is for students to be active and effective participants in the democratic process.

TITLE OF COURSE: INTRODUCTION TO ECONOMICS

Grade Level: 12
Length of Course: 1 semester
Credits: .5 per semester

Brief Description of Course:

Economics is the study of how individuals and nations choose to allocate scarce resources to satisfy unlimited human wants. This course is designed to give students an understanding of the principles of economics that apply to the functions of individual decision-makers, both consumers and producers, within the larger economic system. Fundamental economic concepts, such as supply and demand, will be used to analyze a market economy. A central focus of the course is how to reason carefully about economic activity.

TITLE OF COURSE: PSYCHOLOGY

Grade Level: 11-12 *This is an upper – level course. A student in grade 10 may be admitted with the prior approval of the instructor and school administration.
Length of Course: 1 semester
Credits: .5 per semester

Brief Description of Course:

This semester course is a general introduction to Psychology, the scientific study of behavior and mental processes. The course will begin with tracing the development of psychology as a science and then survey some of the major principles, concepts, and theories that make up its core. Conducting research, biology and behavior, sensation and perception, and human development are but a few of the topics that will be covered. At course's end, students will have increased their knowledge regarding the workings of the brain, mind and behavior, leading to a better understanding of themselves, those around them, and the role of psychology in promoting human welfare.

TITLE OF COURSE: INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY

Grade Level: 11-12 *This is an upper-level course. A student in grade 10 may be admitted with the prior approval of the instructor and school administration.
Length of Course: 1 semester
Credits: .5 per semester

Brief Description of Course:

This semester course is a general introduction to Sociology, the scientific study of human society and behavior in social settings. The course will introduce students to the disciplinary perspective that, in order to understand the actions of individuals (and our

own experiences), one has to understand the social context in which they take place. Three main theoretical perspectives (functionalism, conflict theory, and symbolic interactionism) will be investigated in order to better understand and explain the interdependence between the individual and society.

SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

TITLE OF COURSE: EARTH SCIENCE

Grade Level: 7
Length of Course: 2 semesters

Brief Description of Course:

Earth Science is the study of the earth and the universe around it. It consists of directing the student's awareness and understanding to the processes that formed the earth and the universe. Major topics of study include geology, oceanography, meteorology, and astronomy, with a focus on what we know about the natural world around us as well as the methods used to gain that knowledge.

TITLE OF COURSE: PHYSICAL SCIENCE

Grade Level: 8
Length of Course: 2 semesters

Brief Description of Course:

This course is designed to introduce students to the basic ideas of physics and chemistry. Topics include scientific measurement, physical and chemical change, atoms and molecules, phases of matter, motion and forces, forces in matter, energy and work, and sound and light. Lab work, activities, and student projects are an important part of the course.

TITLE OF COURSE: BIOLOGY

Grade Level: 9-12
Length of Course: 2 semesters
Credits: .5 per semester

Brief Description of Course:

Biology investigates the structure and function of living organisms and their interactions with the environment and other living organisms. The course surveys the cellular basis for life, biochemical processes, the principles of heredity, classification systems, environmentally sound practices and bioethics. Lab work is emphasized in the course and students may be asked to participate in the dissection of animal specimens.

TITLE OF COURSE: AP CHEMISTRY – LECTURE & LAB
Grade Level: 11-12
Length of Course: 2 semesters
Credits: .5 per semester
Recommendation: Highly recommended Chemistry & Algebra I

Brief Description of Course:

Advanced Placement Chemistry parallels a college-level introductory chemistry course for science majors. This class is intended for the serious student who wishes to obtain a strong background in chemistry. It prepares students to take the AP Chemistry examination in May for possible college credit. The course includes laboratory work, lecture, outside reading, class discussions, and extensive problem solving. Topics of study include the following: chemical nomenclature, quantum mechanics, atomic structure, periodicity, states of matter, thermodynamics, equilibrium, acids-bases-salts, electrochemistry, kinetics, solution chemistry, nuclear chemistry, organic chemistry, and biochemistry. AP Chemistry is a double-period class that will be offered every other year. Students may take AP Chemistry after successfully completing Chemistry I. Exceptionally talented students who have already demonstrated a strong work ethic in other classes may take AP Chemistry as their first chemistry course, pending teacher approval.

TITLE OF COURSE: PHYSICS
Grade Level: 11-12
Length of Course: 2 semesters
Credits: .5 per semester
Recommendation: Algebra II (completed with a B or better)

Brief Description of Course:

Physics is the study of the relationship between matter and energy. Areas of exploration include mechanics, heat, waves, light, electricity, and a brief overview of modern physics. A solid math background is strongly recommended. Physics principles will be explored and verified through lab activities. The course is designed to teach students how to think and explain, using words as well as mathematics. Students should be well prepared upon completion for college level physics coursework.

MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT

The mathematics department offers a range of year long sequential courses. The nature of mathematics is such that satisfactory completion of specified prerequisites is necessary for appropriate placement and continued success. Thus, when selecting a course, students and parents are advised to follow department recommendations.

TITLE OF COURSE: MATH 7-8
Length of Course: 2 semesters

Brief Description of Course:

This course is designed for students who have successfully completed elementary mathematics but are not yet prepared for Pre-Algebra. The goal of the course is concept building in arithmetic. Therefore, calculators are not used in this course. The

class begins with a thorough review of arithmetic topics, yet focuses not only on mathematical skill building but also on learning concepts which will be presented with more depth at the Pre-Algebra level. In addition, students work on problems designed to promote mathematical reasoning and problem solving. Major topics include basic arithmetic, place value, fractions, decimals, percentages, ratios, basic geometry, basic algebra, measurement, order of operations (including exponents and square roots), elementary probability and statistics, signed integers, and problem solving.

TITLE OF COURSE: ESSENTIAL MATH

Length of Course: 2 semesters

Credits: .5 per semester

Brief Description of Course:

This course is designed for senior high school students who have successfully completed middle school mathematics but are not yet prepared for Pre-Algebra. The goal of the course is concept building in arithmetic. Therefore, calculators are not used in this course. The class begins with a thorough review of arithmetic topics, yet focuses not only on mathematic skill building but also on learning concepts which will be presented with more depth at the Pre-Algebra level. In addition, students work on problems designed to promote mathematical reasoning and problem solving. Major topics include basic arithmetic, place value, fractions, decimals, percentages, ratios, basic geometry, basic algebra, measurement, order of operations (including exponents and square roots), elementary probability and statistics, signed integers, and problem solving.

TITLE OF COURSE: PRE-ALGEBRA

Length of Course: 2 semesters

Credits: .5 per semester

Recommendation: "C" or better in Math 7-8 (7th graders should have the approval of the math department)

Brief Description of Course:

Pre-Algebra is a course designed to firmly ground students in middle school mathematics topics and to provide a broad introduction to algebraic concepts. The course is similar in scope and sequence to an accelerated Pre-Algebra course, but accommodates students from a wide range of skills and backgrounds. It is assumed that students enrolled in Pre-Algebra have already mastered the topics covered in Math 7-8 and are able to compute accurately without a calculator. Calculators are used sparingly in the classroom setting only and never on homework or exams. The student will then extend his knowledge of math in the areas of variables, solving equations and inequalities using transformations, positive and negative exponents, scientific notation, graphing and geometry. A great deal of emphasis will be given to word problem applications in these areas.

TITLE OF COURSE: **ALGEBRA I**
Length of Course: 2 semesters
Credits: .5 per semester
Recommendation: "C" or better in Pre-Algebra

Brief Description of Course:

First year Algebra continues the Pre-Algebra transition from arithmetic to higher levels of abstraction. Thus it is recommended that students enrolled in Algebra I have mastered the topics covered in Pre-Algebra at a "C" or better mastery level. Extended emphasis is placed on the language of algebra and the order of operations used to evaluate, simplify, and solve sophisticated algebraic expressions and equations. Some of the major topics include, but are not limited to, solving linear and quadratic equations and inequalities, factoring, operations with algebraic fractions and radical expressions, solving systems of linear equations, graphs of linear equations, and an introduction to functions and relations. Applications of algebraic techniques in solving real world situations are a constantly recurring theme. When appropriate, technology is used to motivate concepts, gain insights, and enhance student learning. Calculators are not used in the classroom or on homework until 2nd quarter.

TITLE OF COURSE: **GEOMETRY**
Length of Course: 2 semesters
Credits: .5 per semester
Recommendation: "C" or better in Algebra I

Brief Description of Course:

This course is designed for students who have successfully completed Algebra I at a "C" or better mastery level, as students are expected to use both general problem solving techniques as well as algebraic methods to solve geometric problems. Emphasis is placed on two and three dimensional figures, reasoning, coordinate, and transformational geometry as well as using models to solve problems. Students are encouraged to develop reasoning skills to aid problem solving and to express their conclusions in a clear, coherent manner. This course also introduces students to the deductive method including using paragraph proofs, two-column proofs, coordinate proofs, and verbal arguments in order to prove theorems or justify reasoning. A gradual development of using proofs is encouraged. Additionally, students will study advanced area, surface area, volume, and similarity. The course concludes with an introductory unit on right triangle trigonometry which includes an introduction to the unit circle. Calculators are used when appropriate, although students are encouraged to determine exact solutions to problems before approximating with calculators. When appropriate, technology is used to motivate concepts, gain insights, and enhance student learning.

TITLE OF COURSE: **ALGEBRA II / TRIGONOMETRY**
Length of Course: 2 semesters
Credits: .5 per semester
Recommendation: "C" or better in Algebra I and in Geometry

Brief Description of Course:

This advanced, accelerated course emphasizes an analytical and abstract approach to algebra. It extends concepts, skills, and techniques mastered in Algebra I and

Geometry. Thus it is recommended that students enrolled in this course have successfully completed Algebra I and Geometry at a “C” or better mastery level. Topics include, but are not limited to, real and complex algebraic expressions, equations, inequalities; functions including quadratic, exponential, logarithmic, and natural logarithmic; and analytic geometry with circles, parabolas, ellipses and hyperbolas. Time is spent on trigonometric functions, triangle trigonometry, circular functions, basic identities, and polar coordinates. Applications of algebraic and trigonometric techniques in solving real world situations are a constantly recurring theme. When appropriate, technology is used to motivate concepts, gain insights, and enhance student learning.

TITLE OF COURSE: PRE-CALCULUS

Length of Course: 2 semesters

Credits: .5 per semester

Recommendation: “C” or better in Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II/Trigonometry

Brief Description of Course:

Pre-Calculus provides students with additional advanced work in algebra and trigonometric topics, extending and broadening skills learned in Algebra II/Trigonometry. It also introduces the students to topics found in introductory college level mathematics courses and prepares the students for the study of Calculus. There is a strong emphasis on applications. The use of technology will be used throughout the course; however, the students must be able to prove their answers analytically. Students must have successfully completed Algebra II/Trigonometry with a recommended grade of a C or better, in order to enroll in this course.

TITLE OF COURSE: CALCULUS / AP CALCULUS

Length of Course: 2 semesters

Credits: .5 per semester

Recommendation: “C” or better in Pre-Calculus

Brief Description of Course:

Calculus is designed for students who have successfully completed Pre-Calculus, with a recommended grade of a C or better. This course follows all of the objectives included in the Calculus AB Course Description / Topic Outline as it appears at the College Board AP Central. This is a challenging and rigorous course and requires a great deal of commitment from the students. This course emphasizes the connections between the analytical and graphical approaches of limits, derivatives, and integrals. Students enrolled in Calculus have the option of taking the AP Calculus exam. It is given during the first two weeks of May. If they elect to take this exam, per school policy, they are responsible for its cost.

**Students may choose to upgrade Calculus to AP Calculus in the first two weeks of school with the understanding that AP Calculus is a year long commitment, cannot be dropped or downgraded to regular Calculus status, and will involve additional assignments and test questions. Students in AP Calculus can also expect assignments over the holiday breaks. Per school policy, students enrolled in AP Calculus are required to take this exam and are responsible for its cost.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION / HEALTH DEPARTMENT

TITLE OF COURSE: **HEALTH/PE 7-8**

Grade Level: 7 & 8

Length of Course: 2 semesters

Brief Description of Course:

Health/PE 7-8 class uses an integrated set of planned, sequential curriculum designed to teach students about the physical, emotional, mental, and social development of the human body. Students will be taught the knowledge, attitudes and skills necessary to practice healthy behaviors now and in the future. They will learn to take responsibility for their own thoughts, feelings and actions through classroom discussions, role-playing and hands-on projects. Students will have the opportunity to learn life long fitness as well as explore many different types of activities to suit the needs and interests of each individual.

TITLE OF COURSE: **PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

Grade Level: 9-12

Length of Course: 1 semester

Credits: .5 per semester

Brief Description of Course:

Each semester, students will concentrate on team and individual sports ranging from flag football, indoor and outdoor soccer, floor hockey, softball, basketball, bowling, jogging, life-long fitness and swimming while concentrating on weight lifting and aerobic activity. The class will participate in cardiovascular activity and weight lifting three days a week and participate in a variety of activities the other two days. Our objective in this class is to discover activities and exercises that will help guide you to life-long activity all while having fun.

TITLE OF COURSE: **HS HEALTH**

Grade Level: 9-12

Length of Course: 1 semester

Credits: .5 per semester

Brief Description of Course:

High School Health class uses an integrated set of planned, sequential curriculum designed to teach students about the physical, emotional, social, mental, and spiritual development of the human body. Students will be taught the knowledge, attitudes and skills necessary to practice healthy behaviors now and in the future. They will learn to take responsibility for their own thoughts, feelings, and actions through readings, classroom discussions, role-playing and hands-on projects

JUNIOR HIGH EXPLORATORY CYCLES

TITLE OF COURSE: KEYBOARDING 7

Grade Level: 7

Length of Course: 1 quarter

Brief Description of Course:

The main course goal is mastery of the lettered keys. Microsoft Word, Excel, and PowerPoint are also explored to prepare students for using the available technology to be successful in school.

TITLE OF COURSE: EXPLORATORY WOODS 7

Grade Level: 7

Length of Course: 1 quarter

Brief Description of Course:

This is a course to introduce the junior high student to some basic technology skills of everyday life. The course consists of woodworking, home repair, and bicycle repair. Each section will introduce the student to basic safety and procedures, tools, materials, and the strengths and limitations of tools and materials. Safety and attention to detail will be stressed.

TITLE OF COURSE: EXPLORATORY SPANISH 7

Grade Level: 7

Length of Course: 1 Semester

Brief Description of Course:

The course will introduce basic speaking and listening skills in Spanish. Students will learn to read and write selected words and phrases. They will explore the cultures of Spanish speaking peoples and the geography of Spanish speaking countries.

TITLE OF COURSE: EXPLORATORY FRENCH 8

Grade Level: 8

Length of Course: 1 semester

Brief Description of Course:

The course will introduce basic French vocabulary and develop listening skills in French. Students will learn to pronounce selected words and memorize meanings in English. Throughout the course, French culture will be presented to accompany the weekly units of study.

TITLE OF COURSE: EXPLORATORY CYCLE 8 –ART

Grade Level: 8

Length of Course: 1 quarter

Brief Description of Course:

This is an exploratory class that will be educational and enjoyable. Students will have the opportunity to work with several types of media in creating stylized artwork through

drawing, painting, sculpture, print-making, design, and collage. Each project will be centered on the Art Elements and Principles of Design and will be connected with a particular cultural and geographical focus. Students will be introduced to various genres and artistic styles from around the world in order to encourage appreciation of not only the artwork of others, but also their own.

TITLE OF COURSE: EXPLORATORY CYCLE 8 –FOODS & SEWING

Grade Level: 8
Length of Course: 1 quarter

Brief Description of Course:

Cycle 8 Foods & Sewing will introduce students to the basics of the kitchen and hand-sewing. In the kitchen students will learn about nutrition, proper measuring, kitchen safety and then prepare simple foods together. Homework on week-ends will include cooking at home for friends and/or family. For sewing students will learn four basic hand-sewing techniques and create a final project involving a personal design and a button.

COMPUTER SCIENCE

TITLE OF COURSE: COMPUTER APPLICATIONS

Grade Level: 9-12
Length of Course: 1 semester
Credits: .5 per semester

Brief Description of Course:

Computer Applications provides the students with the basic understanding of computer hardware and software and expands upon the students' knowledge of the applications in Microsoft Office: Word, Excel, and PowerPoint. An emphasis is placed on developing the skills needed to create polished documents efficiently. Students are also introduced to databases using Microsoft Access, and WebPages using MS FrontPage and writing in HTML code.

TITLE OF COURSE: COMPUTER APPLICATIONS II - MULTIMEDIA

Grade Level: 9-12
Length of Course: 1 semester
Credits: .5 per semester
Pre-Requisite: Computer Applications

Brief Description of Course:

In Computer Applications II-Multimedia students will explore various media formats and Multimedia concepts. Students will create and edit multiple forms of presentations including text, graphics, sound, video, and animation. The course is computer-based and students will complete a variety of independent and group projects.

TITLE OF COURSE: **AP COMPUTER SCIENCE**
Grade Level: 10-12
Length of Course: 2 semesters
Credits: .5 per semester
Pre-Requisite: Minimum of an A or B grade in Algebra II, recommended

Visual Basic and Multimedia

Brief Description of Course:

AP Computer Science is a bona fide college-level computer science course following the AP syllabus set forth by the Education Testing Service. The course provides a thorough introduction into the concepts and practices of object-oriented programming. The programming language currently employed is JAVA, but the concepts of OOP can apply to C++, Perl, and most other high level languages. Major topics include a study of using objects and implementing classes, constructing algorithms, decision statements and iteration, and arrays. Emphasis will also be placed on good programming style and developing software as part of a team.

Like all AP classes, it is understood that AP Computer Science is a year long commitment and allows the student to sit for the AP Computer Science Exam which is given during the first two weeks of May, and may earn successful student college credit. Per school policy, students enrolled in AP Computer Science are required to take this exam and are responsible for its cost.

FOREIGN LANGUAGE

TITLE OF COURSE: **FRENCH I**
Grade Level: 9-12
Length of Course: 2 semesters
Credits: .5 per semester
Recommendation: Grade of "C" or better in English

Brief Description of Course:

French I is a basic introduction to the language. Vocabulary and grammar skills will be combined with modeled pronunciation skills to reach a basic level of communication. The present tense of the three basic groups of verbs will be presented. An introduction of the past tense will be done near the end of the year. Throughout the year, French culture is also presented by means of lecture, slides, videos, songs, and food. Daily class participation is expected since the emphasis is on communication. Homework is given almost daily and can consist of short written exercises or preparation for a quiz or test.

TITLE OF COURSE: FRENCH II

Grade Level: 10-12
Length of Course: 2 semesters
Credits: .5 per semester
Pre-Requisite: French I

Brief Description of Course:

Material presented in French I will be reviewed and expanded. Grammar and writing skills become more focused to effectuate developed communication skills. Throughout the year, French culture is also presented by means of lecture, slides, videos, songs, and food. Daily class participation is essential for success. Homework is given several times a week and can consist of written exercises or preparation for a quiz or test.

TITLE OF COURSE: FRENCH III

Grade Level: 10-12
Length of Course: 2 semesters
Credits: .5 per semester
Pre-Requisite: French II

Brief Description of Course:

A general review of basic skills will be conducted early in the year. In addition to grammar units, other units involving works of French will be studied to increase acquired vocabulary and grammar skills. Written and oral communication skills will be developed through weekly-directed composition or speeches during the second semester. The increased use of French language skills, both oral and written, is essential for success in this class. This class is scheduled at the same time as French IV. French III and French IV are both parts of a two-year curriculum. Part A is taught even years; Part B is taught odd years.

TITLE OF COURSE: FRENCH IV

Grade Level: 11-12
Length of Course: 2 semesters
Credits: .5 per semester
Pre-Requisite: French III

Brief Description of Course:

Written language skills will be increased by means of long compositions throughout the year. See course description for French III. This class is scheduled at the same time as French III.

TITLE OF COURSE: SPANISH I

Grade Level: 9-12
Length of Course: 2 semesters
Credits: .5 per semester

Brief Description of Course:

This class is designed as a basic introduction to the Spanish language. Speaking, listening, reading, and writing skills will be emphasized in order to begin to develop proficiency in the target language. The cultures of Spanish-speaking peoples will also be introduced.

TITLE OF COURSE: SPANISH II

Grade Level: 10-12
Length of Course: 2 semesters
Credits: .5 per semester
Pre-Requisite: Spanish I

Brief Description of Course:

Material presented in Level I will be reviewed. Speaking, listening, reading, and writing skills will be become more developed with an overall emphasis on communication in Spanish. Oral presentations will be required along with written work. The study of the cultures of Spain and Latin American will continue.

TITLE OF COURSE: SPANISH III

Grade Level: 10-12
Length of Course: 2 semesters
Credits: .5 per semester
Pre-Requisite: Spanish II

Brief Description of Course:

Previously learned skills will be reviewed and will serve as a foundation for a more intense study of the Spanish language. Students will read selected literary works such as short stories, letters, poetry, and possibly a short novel and plays. Oral presentations and short papers will be required. Practical Spanish for everyday situations and for traveling will also be emphasized. The study of Hispanic cultures will continue.

TITLE OF COURSE: SPANISH IV

Grade Level: 10-12
Length of Course: 2 semesters
Credits: .5 per semester
Pre-Requisite: Spanish III

Brief Description of Course:

Spanish III and Spanish IV are a combined class (see description for Spanish III for more information). The curriculum for Spanish III/IV will alternate every other year.

COMMUNICATIONS MEDIA

TITLE OF COURSE: EKATAK (YEARBOOK)

Grade Level: 10-12

Length of Course: 2 semesters

Credits: .5 per semester

Brief Description of Course:

This class is designed to provide time for learning necessary skills and for putting together the yearbook. Substantial time is also needed after school and on some weekends to cover yearbook events and to meet publishing deadlines. Layout, design, graphics, photography, and Desktop Publishing (Aldus/Adobe) are emphasized. Approval of instructor is required.

FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES

TITLE OF COURSE: CREATIVE COOKING

Grade Level: 9-12

Length of Course: 1 semester

Credits: .5 per semester

Brief Description of Course:

Students will expand on their nutrition understanding and cooking skills in this class. They will learn more about My Pyramid and find ways to change poor eating habits. Students will practice proper kitchen safety and sanitation, demonstrate good kitchen skills and prepare creative cooking labs for the class and others. Then using these new skills they will plan and produce a complete meal. A “food-related” career will be researched to learn ways of utilizing their skills in the work world.

TITLE OF COURSE: FABRICS ‘N FASHION

Grade Level: 9-12

Length of Course: 1 semester

Brief Description of Course:

Students will expand their basic sewing skills in this class and become familiar with various textile products. They will learn a variety of textile care symbols and understand how to read a pattern. Through the use of simple hand-sewing stitches and the sewing machine students will create some fun, personal sewing projects. A “textile-related” career will be researched to learn ways of utilizing their skills in the work world.

INDUSTRIAL ARTS

TITLE OF COURSE: **WOODS I**
Grade Level: 9-12
Length of Course: 1 semester
Credits: .5 per semester

Brief Description of Course:

This is a course to develop basic woodworking skills and understanding, including more advanced machine safety and operation, processes, and procedures. The student will create a project, which will introduce the tools and procedures available in the modern wood shop and their safe use.

TITLE OF COURSE: **WOODS II**
Grade Level: 10-12
Length of Course: 2 semesters
Credits: .5 per semester
Pre-Requisite: Woods I

Brief Description of Course:

This is a course to develop advanced woodworking skills and understanding, including refresher training on machine safety and operation, processes, and procedures. The student will craft a project, which will introduce the tools, equipment, and procedures available in the modern advanced wood shop and their safe use. Machine adjustment, tool sharpening, and complex joinery are included.

TITLE OF COURSE: **ADVANCED WOODWORKING**
Grade Level: 11-12
Length of Course: 1 or 2 semesters
Credits: .5 per semester
Pre-Requisite: Woods II or approval of instructor

This is a class designed to develop the highest levels of woodworking skills. The student will receive refresher training on basic and advanced woodworking skills, in conjunction with the Woods II students, after which they will work independently to craft a complex and detailed, student-selected, project. Additional advanced instruction will be given at specific intervals, including design and creation of jigs and fixtures, advanced wood lathe techniques, and tool making/tool modification.

VOCATIONAL DEPARTMENT

TITLE OF COURSE: WORK STUDY / INTERNSHIP

Grade Level: 11-12
Length of Course: One or two periods per day
Credits: .5 per semester – per period

Brief Description of Course:

This program is for juniors and seniors to learn about different careers by holding a part-time job off campus two periods per day, earning school credit. Work study provides an opportunity for high school students to apply the knowledge, skills and attitudes acquired in course work to real-life situations through a school-community partnership arrangement. Students gain expertise, talent and resources from various community organizations. Performance on the job will be emphasized.

THE ARTS

TITLE OF COURSE: INTRODUCTION TO DRAMA

Grade Level: 10-12
Length of Course: 1 semester
Credits: .5 per semester

Brief Description of Course:

This course will introduce the creative process of acting. Students will be required to prepare various memorized in-class performances and one public performance. Units of study may include technical aspects of theater, performance styles, improvisation, ensemble work, and individual performances.

TITLE OF COURSE: ART

Grade Level: 9-12
Length of Course: 1 or 2 semesters
Credits: .5 per semester

Brief Description of Course:

This course is hoped to be an enjoyable, yet educational and challenging experience for students of all skill levels. It covers a variety of interesting and different art techniques, media, and cultural styles from around the world in congruence with the art elements and principles of design. Students should be able to make better connections with art in relation to their everyday lives and form an appreciation for self-expression and the artistic expressions of others.

TITLE OF COURSE: JUNIOR HIGH BAND

Grade Level: 7-8
Length of Course: 2 semesters

Brief Description of Course:

Fundamentals, rudiments, and musical terms commonly used in the study and performance of music are stressed. Because ensemble skills are developed throughout the year, it is expected that students will commit to both semesters. Four concerts a year are performed.

TITLE OF COURSE: JUNIOR HIGH CHOIR

Grade Level: 7-8
Length of Course: 2 semesters

Brief Description of Course:

Junior Choir interprets various musical styles, including current popular music, develops vocal technique, maintains and extends the level of music in the choir. There are four to six performances during the year. Because ensemble skills are developed throughout the year, it is expected that students will commit to both semesters. Rehearsals are during lunch, twice a week. Junior Choir may be combined with Mixed Ensemble, based on enrollment and balance.

TITLE OF COURSE: CONCERT BAND

Grade Level: 9-12
Length of Course: 2 semesters
Credits: .5 per semester

Brief Description of Course:

Factors stressed include knowledge of music fundamentals, fluency of technique, pleasing tonal quality, intelligent interpretation, and willingness to share the responsibility of maintaining a standard of excellence in the organization. Because ensemble skills are developed throughout the year, it is expected that students will commit to both semesters. There are six to eight performances a year.

TITLE OF COURSE: HIGH SCHOOL CHOIR

Grade Level: 9-12
Length of Course: 2 semesters
Credits: .25 per semester

Brief Description of Course:

This is a four-part vocal ensemble, studying advanced techniques and various styles, including current popular music. Rehearsals are during lunch, twice a week. Because ensemble skills are developed throughout the year, it is expected that students will commit to both semesters. Four to six concerts are performed a year. Mixed Ensemble may be combined with Junior Choir, based on enrollment and balance.

TITLE OF COURSE: STAGE BAND

Grade Level: 9-12
Length of Course: 2 semesters
Credits: Non-credit

Brief Description of Course:

Popular music styles, including jazz and rock, interpretation, technique, and improvisation are studied. Rehearsals are Wednesdays and Fridays from 3:10 to 3:50. Five concerts a year are performed.

OFFICE/ TEACHER AIDE

TITLE OF COURSE: OFFICE/TEACHER AIDE

Grade Level: 11-12
Length of Course: 1 or 2 semesters
Credits: .25 per semester

Brief Description of Course:

The teachers or administrators design this experience for those students who indicate a desire to assist with clerical tasks and other appropriate tasks as delegated to them. Only students who are otherwise fully scheduled will be approved to serve as office/teacher aides. Fully scheduled for purposes here shall mean scheduled into a minimum of five (5) classes. All students placed as an office/teacher aide must have approval of the school counselor and/or the principal.

STUDY SKILLS

TITLE OF COURSE: STUDY SKILLS

Grade Level: 7-12
Length of Course: 1 semester
Credits: .5 per semester

Brief Description of Course:

This class is designed to teach students the skills necessary to experience personal and academic success. Students will learn to apply study skills and learning strategies to effectively complete assignments, conduct research, produce long-term projects, write essays/papers, develop vocabulary, and prepare for exams/tests. These hands-on study skills and strategies will focus on organization, time management, test-taking, note-taking, active listening, and textbook comprehension and use. This class requires teacher and/or counselor recommendation.