

PLAINFIELD HIGH SCHOOL

Guidance Department

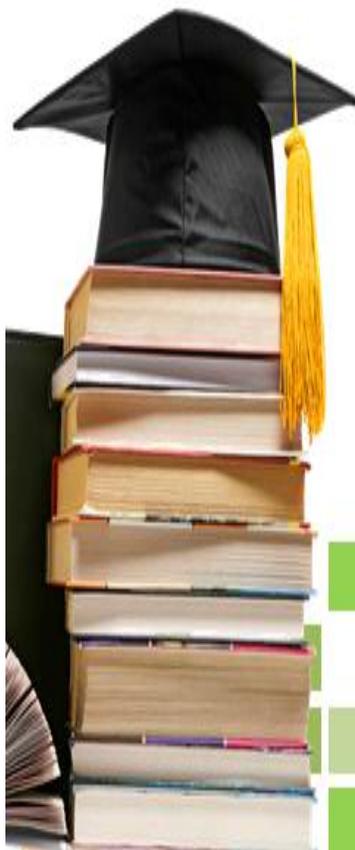
950 Park Avenue

Plainfield, NJ 07060

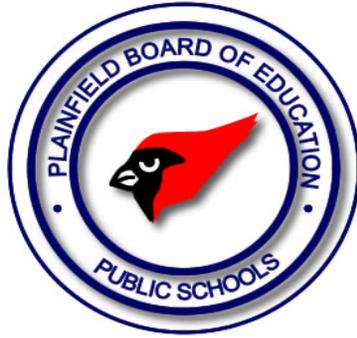


2015 - 2016

Course Catalog



Plainfield Public Schools



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Plainfield High School



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Vice Principal - Grade 12, Guidance

Yvonne Sheard
Supervisor of Athletics, Health/PE

Dear Plainfield High School Students,

Welcome to the 2015-2016 edition of the Course Catalog. At the heart of our school is the commitment to our students and to our Tradition of Excellence. Our Mission Statement reminds us that:

“Plainfield High School will do whatever it takes to prepare our students to become productive citizens with 21st century skills.”

We ask that you keep our mission in mind as you plan your program for next year. Seek out the advice of fellow student leaders, your parents/guardians, your teachers, your guidance counselor and other support staff. Think about what areas you want to continue to study and what areas you would like to study for the first time.

There are some changes this year. We have added new courses in some areas and modified courses in other areas in order to meet the needs of all students. We are continuously looking for ways to further meet our mission and at the core of work is our commitment to the personalization of your experience at Plainfield High School.

We look forward to making your educational journey a memorable one.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Gina Ogburn-Thompson
Vice Principal



The Mission Of Plainfield High School Is To Prepare Our Students To Become Productive Citizens With 21st-Century Skills.”
Plainfield High School is a Middle States Accredited Public School

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2015 – 2016 GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

English	Mathematics	History	Science	Physical Education/Health
English I	Algebra I	U.S. History I	Biology	P.E./Health 9
English II	Geometry	U.S. History II	Chemistry	P.E./Health 10
English III	Algebra II	World History	Urban Ecology/Environmental Science	P.E./Health 11
English IV	Pre-Calculus		Physics (Optional)	P.E./Health 12

ADDITIONAL COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Language	Elective	Elective	Elective	Free Electives
Language I	Fine or Performing Arts	Practical Art	Personal Finance or Economics	Each department has free electives
Language II				

TESTING AND EVALUATION GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Student's year of entry into 9 th Grade	2010 & 2011 (Classes of 2014 & 2015)	2012 and on (Class of 2016, and on)
N.J. Department of Education Required Assessments	N.J. HSPA (11 th Grade)	Beginning in 2014-2015 PARCC Exam* (9 th , 10 th , 11 th)

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

All students in the state of New Jersey are required to complete a minimum of four core English courses for graduation. Students are offered honors courses at each level and may take Advanced Placement English their senior year for ten credits. They may move from one level to the other as their interest and achievement in English courses warrant.

Several electives are offered throughout the student's high school experience. Teachers design lessons that address the Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts (ELA) of the four strand areas: Reading, Writing, Speaking and Listening, and Language.

Any student enrolled in an Honors level class must maintain a minimum of a B average throughout the year in order to continue in the Honors sequence. If after two consecutive marking periods, a student fails to maintain a B average, he/she will be placed in a lower level class for the remainder of the academic year.

English I

Prerequisites: None

10 credits

Grade Level: 9

English I provides an introduction to various genres of literary forms and satisfies the 9th grade English requirement. The course strengthens reading skills necessary for comprehension, interpretation, discrimination, and enjoyment. Students also focus on several different areas of writing that form the basis for a writing portfolio. Emphasis is placed on applying the conventions of Standard English language, including the use of proper grammar, the selection of appropriate vocabulary, and the application of various literary devices. Students learn the fundamentals of writing a research paper.

English I Honors

Prerequisites: Teacher/Counselor Recommendation

10 credits (weighted)

Grade Level: 9

English I Honors exposes ninth graders who have consistently demonstrated high levels of proficiency and/or marked creativity in the area of language arts to a variety of literary genres for interpretation, analysis and enjoyment and meets the ninth grade English requirement. In addition to studying grammar, composition, and literature, students in this course concentrate on the history and development of language, stylistics, and literary criticism. Students are expected to read independently beyond the titles studied in class to extend and compare/contrast works by genres, themes, and/or authors.

English II

Prerequisites: English I or English I Honors

10 credits

Grade Level: 10

Building upon the competencies developed in English I courses, English II fulfills the 10th grade English requirement. Concentrated instruction is given in oral and written communication competencies and in reading skills necessary for comprehension, discrimination, and enjoyment. Individual abilities and needs are addressed. The curriculum focuses on American literature from Colonial times through the Twenty-first Century as it reflects historical, literary, and philosophical trends.

English II Honors

Prerequisites: English I Honors, or English I Standard with a grade of at least 90% and Teacher Recommendation

10 credits (weighted)

Grade Level: 10

English II Honors is designed to meet the special needs of gifted tenth graders who have consistently demonstrated high levels of proficiency and/or marked creativity in the area of language arts and meets the 10th grade English requirement. In addition to reinforcing their skills, students in this course continue the examination

of language history and development, stylistics and literary criticism. They are given the opportunity to develop analytical and evaluative skills. This course includes an in-depth preparation for advanced college credit courses and SATs. The curriculum focuses on American literature from Colonial times through the Twenty-first Century as it reflects historical, literary, and philosophical trends.

English III

Prerequisites: English II or English II Honors

10 credits

Grade Level: 11

Building upon the competencies developed in English I and II courses, English III satisfies the 11th grade English requirement. Instruction and practice are focused on reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills. Special emphasis is placed on representative literary genre. The curriculum focuses on World Literature—past and present, from the Ancient Middle East through contemporary literature, history, and arts of different cultures from around the world.

English III Honors

Prerequisites: English II Honors or English II with a grade of at least 90 and/or teacher recommendation.

10 credits (weighted)

Grade Level: 11

This course meets the needs of eleventh graders who have demonstrated a mastery of language arts skills and satisfies the 11th grade English requirement. The course engages students in an intensive study of World Literature. The course emphasizes critical analysis and evaluation of historical and cultural influences on literary works and philosophies, and interpretations of themes that cross literary eras and writers. Students will be required to complete research and outside reading.

English IV

Prerequisites: English III or English III Honors.

5 credits

Grade Level: 12

English IV meets the needs of students who have demonstrated mastery of language and satisfies the 12th grade English requirement. This course focuses on the development of the English language and various genres of British literature from the Anglo-Saxon period through the present and continues to cultivate writing skills. Students will refine skills tested by the SATs and other college entrance examinations.

English IV Honors

Prerequisites: English III Honors, or English III Standard with a grade of at least 90% and Teacher Recommendation.

5 credits (weighted)

Grade Level: 12

This course is intended to meet the needs of 12th graders who have demonstrated a mastery of the basic language arts skills and satisfies the 12th grade English requirement. Students will refine skills tested by the SATs and other college entrance examinations. In order to develop critical reading and writing skills, students in this course engage in an intensive study of the development of the English language and various genres of British literature from the Anglo-Saxon period through the present. The course emphasizes critical analysis, evaluation, and research of historical and cultural influences on literary works and philosophies, and interpretations of themes that transcend literary eras and writers.

Advanced Placement (AP) English Language and Composition III

Prerequisites: English III Honors, Teacher Recommendation, and Writing Sample.

5 credits (weighted-college credit)

Grade Level: 11

The AP English Language and Composition course is designed to help students become skilled readers of prose written in a variety of rhetorical contexts and become skilled writers who compose for a variety of purposes. Both writing and reading tasks should make students aware of the interactions among a writer's purposes, audience expectations and subjects. In addition, generic conventions and

the resources of language contribute to effectiveness in writing will be taught. This college course provides students with opportunities to write about a variety of subjects and demonstrate an awareness of audience and purpose. The overarching objective is to enable students to write effectively and confidently in their college courses across the curriculum and in their professional and personal lives. Emphasis is placed on expository, analytical, and argumentative writing that forms the basis of academic and professional communication, as well as the personal and reflective writing that fosters the ability to write in any context. Enrolled students must maintain a grade of C or higher each marking period to remain in the course and are required to take the Advanced Placement Language and Composition Examination.

Advanced Placement (AP) English Literature and Composition IV

Prerequisites: English III Honors, Teacher Recommendation, and Writing Sample.

5 credits (weighted-college credit)

Grade Level: 12

The AP English Literature and Composition course engages students in the careful reading and critical analysis of imaginative literature. Through the close reading of selected texts, students deepen their understanding of the ways writers use language to provide both meaning and pleasure for their readers. As they read, students consider a work's structure, style and themes, as well as such smaller-scale elements as the use of figurative language, imagery, symbolism and tone.

SAT Prep

Prerequisites: English II or English II Honors, Teacher/Counselor recommendation

2.5 credits

Grade Level: 10, 11, 12

This course is designed for tenth, eleventh and first-semester twelfth graders who desire to achieve high scores on the verbal section of the SAT Reasoning Test (SAT). Students learn test-taking strategies and the components of the latest edition of the SAT. They practice tests and review their own responses and those of their peers.

Public Speaking

Prerequisites: English II or English II Honors

5 credits

Grade Level: 11, 12

Public Speaking focuses on the elements of speech (articulation, intensity, juncture, and rate), the kinds of speeches (persuasive, informative, inspirational, and others), and speech writing. Students examine and discuss such well-known speeches as Susan B. Anthony's "On Women's Right to Vote," Napoleon Bonaparte's "Farewell to the Old Guard," George Bush's "Speech to Congress after September 11," Jimmy Carter's "Tribute to Hubert Humphrey," Winston Churchill's "Blood, Sweat, and Tears," Edouard Daladier's "Nazis' Aim is Slavery," Frederick Douglass's "The Hypocrisy of American Slavery," William Faulkner's "On Accepting the Nobel Prize," Lou Gehrig's "Farewell to Yankee Fans," Patrick Henry's "Liberty or Death," Chief Joseph's "On Surrender to US Army," Robert Kennedy's "On the Death of Martin Luther King," and Abraham Lincoln's "The Gettysburg Address."

Yearbook

Prerequisites: English II or English II Honors

5 credits

Grade Level: 11, 12

Students learn through doing in this intense course that teaches various phases of journalistic production. The ultimate responsibility of the course involves the production of the school yearbook. The following skills are emphasized: advertising, proofreading, art work, public relations, editing, sales, layout, thematic development, photography, yearbook delivery.

Journalism

Credits: 5

Prerequisites: Completion of English 9 & 10th

This Journalism course will encompass all of the introductory, yet crucial elements of responsible reporting, including intellectualizing, editing, and media coverage. Via the exploration of professional, critical writing and coverage of ethical issues, students will be able to appropriately address, discuss, and demonstrate both objective and subjective journalism. The course will also differentiate between hard news reporting and opinion-based writing. Additionally, students will improve skills

relating to grammar, composition, investigation, and interview techniques. The course will use current events to allow students to build a journalistic foundation via literary and world sources. Furthermore this course will further strengthen (as in all the English courses offered), general study skills, particularly analytical reading, expository writing, and oral communications comparable to what they will be expected to produce in a college level course.

Rutgers University-Rutgers Early College Humanities Course (REaCH)

Credits: 5 credits, 3 college level credits

Prerequisites: Elective for 11th and 12th grade students with a 2.3 grade point average (GPA).

To address the increasingly urgent issue of preparing students for career and college readiness, Rutgers University created a high- quality early college program for students to take free college courses while in high school. The Rutgers Early College Humanities Course (REaCH) is designed for students to experience first-hand what college is about while engaging in thought provoking discussions and college level assignments. The course will strengthen their reading, writing and critical thinking skills and provide cultural knowledge and background that is vital for their success in college. The academic units consist of fiction, drama, poetry, short stories, essay writing, art history and philosophy.

SOCIAL STUDIES DEPARTMENT

The Social Studies department addresses the state of New Jersey's course requirements and a broad range of social and behavioral science, history, geography and law courses. New Jersey requires three years of history as part of the graduation requirements. Through social studies courses, students are exposed to and participate in multicultural experiences, gender equity awareness, an understanding of the heritage of New Jersey and of the nation, global perspectives, and economic and geographic literacy.

World History

Prerequisites: None

5 credits

Grade Level: 9

World History is the 9th grade course, the first in a three-year required course sequence in social studies that surveys world history, geography, traditions and political institutions that have shaped our world. Students are involved in a broad spectrum of activities, investigation of the cultural, social and historic background of the contemporary world.

United States History I

Prerequisites: World History

Co-requisite: English II

5 credits

Grade Level: 10

United States History is the second in a three-year required course sequence in social studies, designed to help students become knowledgeable citizens and thoughtful voters through a study of the past and present problems of American democracy. The first half surveys the important historical events that occurred from the colonial period until the late nineteenth or early twentieth centuries with emphasis on African-American and Latino studies. The second half concentrates on important political, social and cultural events from 1900 to the present. In addition, the United States' position in the international community is studied. There is a continued emphasis on African-American and Latino interests. US History integrates study of the Constitution and civic responsibilities for encouraging good citizenship. A mandatory research paper and challenging problem-solving and

critical analysis strategies are emphasized in compliance with the New Jersey Core Content Standards.

United States History Honors

Prerequisites: Department test and teacher recommendation

5 credits (weighted)

Grade Level: 9

This course accomplishes the same as United States History but is accelerated to prepare students for college level work. This course provides students with an opportunity to expand their reading, writing and analytical skills in social studies and meet the requirement of three years of social science. A mandatory research paper and challenging problem-solving and critical analysis strategies are emphasized in compliance with the New Jersey Core Content Standards.

United States History II

Prerequisites: World History and US History 1

Co-requisite: English III

5 credits

Grade Level: 11

United States History is the second in a three-year required course sequence in social studies, designed to help students become knowledgeable citizens and thoughtful voters through a study of the past and present problems of American democracy. The first half surveys the important historical events that occurred from the colonial period until the late nineteenth or early twentieth centuries with emphasis on African-American and Latino studies. The second half concentrates on important political, social and cultural events from 1900 to the present. In addition, the United States' position in the international community is studied. There is a continued emphasis on African-American and Latino interests. US History integrates study of the Constitution and civic responsibilities for encouraging good citizenship. A mandatory research paper and challenging problem-solving and critical analysis strategies are emphasized in compliance with the New Jersey Core Content Standards.

Advanced Placement (AP) United States History

Prerequisites: Passing score on department test and teacher recommendation.

5 credits (weighted-College Credit)

Grade Level: 10, 11 or 12

This course accomplishes the same as United States History but is accelerated to prepare students for college level work. This course provides students with an opportunity to expand their reading, writing and analytical skills in social studies and meet the requirement of three years of social science. A mandatory research paper and challenging problem-solving and critical analysis strategies are emphasized in compliance with the New Jersey Core Content Standards.

World History Honors

Prerequisites: Passing grade on a social studies department test.

5 credits (weighted)

Grade Level: 9

This course provides accelerated studies at the secondary level and prepares students for college level work. The course is built around several themes that emphasize such ideas as the impact of intellectual developments and technological advances and the emergence of the modern world. These themes provide a framework to make comparisons over time and across cultures.

American Government

Prerequisites: World History and US History I and II

2.5 credits

Grade Level: 12

American Government is a half year requirement available to twelfth grade students. This course offers for analysis certain perspectives on government and politics in the United States. The course includes both the study of general concepts used to interpret U.S. politics and the analysis of specific examples. The following topics are discussed: constitutional underpinnings of United States Government; political beliefs and behaviors, political parties, interest groups, and mass media; institutions of National Government; public policy; civil rights and civil liberties. This course requires substantial research.

African-American History

Prerequisites: U.S. History and World History (can be taken concurrently with Economics/American Government).

5 credits

Grade Level: 11, 12

African-American History is an elective available to eligible students who have successfully completed the basic requirements for history. It is for students who want a deeper perspective of African American History and traditions. Students read a variety of books and supplemental materials and actively participate in thoughtful discussions in seminar format. Students explore the early civilizations of Africa, the Diaspora and the effects of the early transatlantic slave trade on American people. In-depth discussions focus on the developments of rich traditions and culture. Students also explore the historical struggle for full freedom and equality of various African American communities.

Latino Perspective

Prerequisites: U.S. History

5 credits

Grade Level: 10, 11, 12

Latino Perspective is an elective course that focuses on the history and heritage of people and cultures that emerged from civilizations of the original inhabitants of the western hemisphere and the people and cultures of Europe and Africa. The course is designed to help expose students to the rich cultural history of Latin America. Latino Perspective is structured to encourage social participation with respect for and appreciation of the cultural diversity of the Plainfield community. Students should consider taking his course concurrently with Latino Literature through the English Department.

Air Force JR ROTC

Leadership Education

Leadership Education is comprised of four courses: Citizenship, Character and Air Force tradition; Communication, Awareness, and Leadership; Life Skills and Career Opportunities; and Principles of Management. We teach four years of blended courses where the curriculum plan insures if a cadet takes all four years of JROTC he/she will be exposed to all of the material in these courses.

Aerospace Science

There are currently seven aerospace science courses that can be taught at Plainfield high school. They include: A journey into aviation history; The Science of Flight; Exploring Space; Management of the Cadet corps; Survival; and AFJROTC Honors Senior Project. The curriculum plan is to rotate through these courses so if a cadet takes four years of AFJROTC they will not repeat any course.

Drill and Ceremonies

The Drill and Ceremonies course provides an in-depth introduction to drill and ceremonies. The course concentrates on the elements of military drill, and describes individual and group precision movements, procedures for saluting, drill, ceremonies, reviews, parades, and development of the command voice. Students are provided detailed instruction on ceremonial performances and protocol for civilian and military events and have the opportunity to personally learn drill. Though each class will follow an established lesson plan, most of the work is to be hands-on. Instructors are provided AFM 36-2203 to teach the Drill and Ceremonies course. In addition, instructors may order the Army Field Manual 3-21.5 and the Interservice Cross-Index.

Wellness Program

Wellness is an official and integral part of the Air Force Junior ROTC program. HQ AFJROTC has mandated that cadets take the Presidential Fitness assessment at the beginning and end of each year (semester for those on Block schedule). One day each week (20% of our curriculum) is dedicated to the wellness program. Our goal is to have cadets show improvement by the end of course assessment. Weekly routines include a warm-up/stretching period, a period of strenuous exercise such as floor exercises, and/or a strenuous cardio work out, this is followed by a cool down /stretching period.

Leadership Education I (ROTC)

Prerequisites: None

5 credits

Grade Level: 9 - 12

This is the recommended first Aerospace Science course for all new cadets. It is an aviation history course focusing on the development of flight throughout the centuries. It starts with ancient civilizations, then progresses through time to modern day. The emphasis is on civilian and military contributions to aviation; the development, modernization, and transformation of the Air Force; and a brief astronomical and space exploration history. It is interspersed with concise overviews of the principles of flight to include basic aeronautics, aircraft motion and control, flight power, and rockets. Throughout the course, there are readings, videos, hands on activities, and in-text and student workbook exercises to guide in the reinforcement of the materials.

Leadership Education II (ROTC)

Prerequisites: ROTC I

5 credits

Grade Level: 10 -12

This course designed to acquaint the student with the aerospace environment, the human requirements of flight, principles of aircraft flight, and principles of navigation. The course begins with a discussion of the atmosphere and weather. After developing an understanding of the environment, how that environment affects flight is introduced. Discussions include the forces of lift, drag, thrust, and weight. Students also learn basic navigation including map reading, course plotting, and the effects of wind. The portion on the Human Requirements of Flight is a survey course on human physiology. Discussed here are the human circulatory system, the effects of acceleration and deceleration, and protective equipment.

Leadership Education III (ROTC)

Prerequisites: ROTC I and ROTC II

5 credits

Grade Level: 11-12

This is a customized course about the world's cultures. The course is specifically created for the US Army, Marine Corps, Navy, and Air Force Junior ROTC programs. It introduces students to the world's cultures through the study of world affairs, regional studies, and cultural awareness. The course delves into history, geography, religions, languages, culture, political systems, economics, social issues, environmental concerns, and human rights. It looks at major events and significant figures that have shaped each region. Throughout the course, there are readings, video segments, hands-on activities, other optional activities, technology enrichment, and assessments to guide in the reinforcement of the materials. 21st century skills as defined by the Partnership for 21st Century Skills are integrated into the course. These include learning and innovation (thinking) skills—critical thinking and problem solving, creativity and innovation, and communication and collaboration; information, media and technology skills—information literacy, media literacy, and ICT (information, communications and technology) literacy; and life and career skills— flexibility and adaptability, initiative and self-direction, social and cross-cultural skills, productivity and accountability, and leadership and responsibility.

Leadership Education IV (ROTC)

Prerequisites: ROTC I, ROTC II, ROTC III

5 credits

Grade Level: 12

Seniors complete their ROTC training and prepare for post-secondary education either in the air force or university.

This course includes the latest information available in space science and space exploration. The course begins with the study of the space environment from the earliest days of interest in astronomy and early ideas of the heavens, through the Renaissance, and on into modern astronomy. It provides an in-depth study of the Earth, Sun, stars, Moon, and solar system, including the terrestrial and the outer planets. It discusses issues critical to travel in the upper atmosphere such as orbits and trajectories unmanned satellites, and space probes. It investigates the importance of entering space and discusses manned and unmanned space flights,

focusing on concepts surrounding spaceflight, space vehicles, launch systems, and space missions. The section on manned spaceflight focuses on the Space Shuttle, space stations and beyond, covering milestones in the endeavor to land on the Moon and to safely orbit humans and crafts for temporary and prolonged periods. The course covers the human aspect of spaceflight, focusing on the human experience in space. It also examines the latest advances in space technology, including robotics in space, the Mars Rover, and commercial uses of space.

Peer Leadership

Prerequisites: Interview and appointment by Peer Leadership Chairperson

5 credits

Grade Level: 12

Seniors are interviewed and trained to participate in this course where they demonstrate leadership skills using the Princeton Peer Group Connection curriculum. Seniors work with ninth graders on various activities to develop meaningful relationships between the newcomers and veteran high school students, to help teenagers cope with the universal, everyday problems and pressures of becoming adults and to reinforce healthy values in students while promoting critical thinking.

United States Ethnic Studies

Credits: 5

Prerequisite(s): Completion of World History and United States History I

United States Ethnic Studies examines racialized communities within the United States, with emphasis in the history and contemporary forms of modern colonization and racial slavery, as well as the multiple responses, unearthed histories, and alternative practices, theories, and imaginaries found in communities of color, their artists, theoreticians, activists, and intellectuals. This course provides students the possibility of focusing on one or more issues, problems, intellectual approaches, or themes. Most central among these issues and themes stand sexuality, gender, migration, policy, education, literature, culture, spirituality, religion, comparative racial formations, and law. They are often connected with different histories of colonization, segregation, slavery, genocide, persecution, internment, and other forms of systematic dehumanization, on the one hand, and with struggles for social justice, liberation, and decolonization on the other.

SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

The science department offers a wide range of courses that afford all students the opportunity to become scientifically and technologically literate. Successful completion of three years (15 credits) of science courses is required for graduation. All students are encouraged to study more than the minimum. Any student enrolled in an honors class must maintain a minimum of a B average throughout the year in order to continue in the honors sequence.

Biology

Prerequisites: Urban Ecology/Environmental Science

5 credits

Grade Level: 10

This college-preparatory, core-required course introduces students to the major biological concepts such as the following: 1) cell biology; 2) genetics; 3) taxonomy; 4) ecology; 5) botany; and 6) biochemistry. Emphasis is placed on scientific inquiry and processes. In addition, emphasis is placed on comparative anatomy and physiology of both body structure and functions between organisms of various structures. Students extensively use the microscope, and learn dissection techniques. The Science Department follows guidelines suggested by the National Association of Biology Teachers in the use of animals in Science Classes. Alternative learning experiences are provided for students who do not wish to participate in activities involving animals, e.g., dissections.

Honors Biology

Prerequisites: Teacher recommendation

5 credits (weighted)

Grade Level: 9

Honors Biology approaches the study of life with a heavy reliance on laboratory activities that emphasize the nature of biological inquiry and the importance of careful observation. The course uses an ecological theme but devotes much time to all major branches of biological science, including cell study, biochemistry and metabolism, heredity, and the physiology of plants and animals. The ability to analyze data collected in laboratory investigations is stressed, and math competency is necessary. Some lab activities will include computer involvement. Honors Biology includes a research project and is designed for those who are considering following a career in science and who are successful in mathematics.

Advanced Placement Biology

Prerequisites: At least B average in Biology and Chemistry and/or a teacher recommendation. Successful completion of one full year of high school Urban Ecology/Environmental Science, Physics, or equivalent

5 credits (weighted-college credit)

Grade Level: 11, 12

This program, for 11th and 12th graders, provides the student with a deep understanding of eight major themes in biology: 1) Science as a Process 2) Evolution 3) Energy Transfer 4) Continuity and Change 5) Relationship of Structure to Function 6) Regulation 7) Interdependence in Nature and 8) Science, Technology and Society. The course is lab activity-centered, with blocks of time devoted for laboratory work, and includes twenty-six distinct laboratory activities, including the twelve that are required by the College Board AP committee. All labs are designed to enhance learning experiences and prepare the students for college level biology courses.

Chemistry

Prerequisites: Successful completion of Biology

5 credits

Grade Level: 10, 11, 12

This course involves study of the composition, structure, and changes in matter and introduces the student to the fundamental principles of chemistry. The laboratory experiments emphasize these concepts and utilize the mathematics and problem-solving techniques of Algebra I. This course is for 10th, 11th or 12th graders.

Honors Chemistry

Prerequisites: At least a B average in Honors Biology and Algebra I or II

5 credits (weighted)

Grade Level: 10, 11

This course focuses on the study of the composition, structure, and changes in matter. It is recommended to students who are especially interested and/or competent in science and/or who are thinking about or planning a career in science or a science-related field. The ability to use arithmetic principles and the utilization of the problem-solving techniques of Algebra I is essential. This course is primarily for 10th graders.

Advanced Placement Chemistry

Prerequisites: At least a B average in Algebra II and/or teacher recommendation; enrollment in or completion of Physics

5 credits (weighted – college credit)

Grade Level: 11, 12

The course provides juniors and seniors with a strong background in the principles of chemistry to serve as a basis for continuing the study of science or engineering. It is a preparation for a student who is planning to take the Advanced Placement Test, and it closely follows the Advanced Placement in Chemistry outline. Topics include atomic theory, chemical bonding, phases of matter, solutions, types of reactions, equilibrium, reaction kinetics, electrochemistry, and thermodynamics. The laboratory part of the course offers an introduction to qualitative and quantitative analysis, utilizing equipment and apparatus used on the college level.

Physics

Prerequisites: Successful completion of Geometry and enrollment in or completion of Algebra II

5 credits

Grade Level: 11, 12

Students study the science of energy, mechanics, magnetism, and the relationship between matter and energy. This course is recommended for those who intend to major in engineering or science in college.

Honors Physics

Prerequisites: Minimum grade B in previous science courses and at least a B in Geometry Honors and/or teacher recommendation

5 credits (weighted)

Grade Level: 11, 12

This course presents an enriched study of the science of energy and the relationship between matter and energy, and it builds on the scientific skills developed in Honors Biology and Honors Chemistry. It is a mathematics-oriented course which is designed for students who intend to major in the physical or medical sciences, including those with aspirations as scientific researchers or with interest in engineering.

Physiology and Fitness

Prerequisites: Successful completion of 8th grade Science

5 credits

Grade Level: 9, 10

This elective provides freshmen and sophomores with a strong science foundation that emphasizes preparation for further specialized study or direct entrance into a related career. The course integrates technology, content, and process skills, current research, and active, student-centered learning. Opportunities include athletic training, exercise physiology, and fitness management. The sport management option is designed to meet the needs of the popular and growing field of management of sports facilities and programs. Graduates may choose to pursue their interests in a four-year institute of higher education or prepare for entry-level positions in sport/fitness organizations or collegiate sports programs.

Allied Health I

(Anatomy and Physiology)

Prerequisites: At least a B in Biology and successful completion of one full year of Urban Ecology/Environmental Science

5 credits

Grade Level: 11, 12

Anatomy and physiology (A&P) is a course designed for juniors interested in entering the health career profession focusing on the study of the structure and function of the human body. This Allied Health I, two semester course sequence, offers a comprehensive study of the anatomy of the human body at the cell, tissue, and organ system levels of organization with emphasis on the processes which maintain homeostasis. The first semester A&P I topics include introduction to anatomical terminology, chemistry of the cell, cell structure & functions, cell metabolism, tissues, the integumentary system, the skeletal system, the muscular system, the nervous system, and the special senses. The second semester, A&P II topics include endocrine system, blood, cardiovascular system, the lymphatic system and immunity, the respiratory system, the digestive system, nutrition and metabolism, the urinary system, the reproductive system, and development and inheritance. The course is taught through class discussions, specimen manipulation, laboratory experiences, compute simulations, and dissection of preserved mammalian specimens is required.

Allied Health II

(Medical Assisting and Medical Terminology and Coding)

Prerequisites: At least a B in Biology and Honors Chemistry, and successful completion of one full year of Urban Ecology/Environmental Science and/or Physics
5 credits

Grade Level: 12

This course provides an orientation to health care services and delivery. This course delivers an interdisciplinary perspective, with a focus on process skills to include critical thinking, ethical reasoning, effective communication, and self-directed learning abilities. The Allied Health II, two semester course sequence offers an introduction to Medical Terminology, Coding, and Administrative Medical Assistant. The first semester, Medical Terminology and Coding, covers the basic knowledge and understanding of medical language and terminology used by health care professionals everywhere. Students analyze individual word parts, such as prefixes, suffixes, and word roots, basic medical language, and disease terms. They learn the basic components of medical terminology as it relates to each body system. Also, they gain knowledge of coding guidelines (ICD-9 and CPT), as implemented in the coding industry for diseases, disorders and medical procedures.

The second semester, Administrative Medical Assistant, introduces the basic theory concerning the multidisciplinary aspects of patient care, with special focus on issues and skills encountered in a medical office.

Upon completion of this course, students are qualified to take the optional National Medical Assistant and Medical Coding certification examinations.

Urban Ecology/Environmental Science

Prerequisite: None

5 credits

Grade Level: 9 - 12

Urban Ecology/Environmental Science is a multidisciplinary course that draws from all the sciences, as well as other disciplines. This is an inquiry-based course integrated with demonstrations, critical thinking, and problem solving activities to enable students to gain a better understanding of the relationship between humans and the world in which we live. The essential themes of the course

include: Introduction to Environmental Science, Ecology, Populations, Air, Water and Land, Mineral and Energy Resources, and Our Health and Our Future.

Forensic Science

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Biology and/or Chemistry

5 credits

Grade Level: 11, 12

Forensic science is the application of science to criminal and civil laws. Subject matter addressed in this course will focus on forensic science branches that are enforced by police agencies in a criminal justice system. Historical cases that lead to the development of principles and techniques needed to identify physical evidence will be examined through case studies and laboratory activities. Laboratory investigations will follow crime laboratory procedures for analysis and dissemination of results. Students will explore special forensic science services and ranges of careers related to forensic science. This course will also introduce students to institutions of higher learning that offer formal training in forensic science or closely related fields.

Anatomy and Physiology I

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Biology

5 credits

Anatomy and Physiology I is also designed to provide an in depth study of the human body with an emphasis on the interrelationships between form and function at the gross and microscopic levels of organization. The essential principles that will be presented include: basic anatomical and directional terminology, principles of cell biology and a survey of all body systems. Given the breadth of knowledge available on this topic, it is common to get overwhelmed by details. However, as the course progresses, students should integrate all parts into the whole, reflecting on the unifying themes of homeostasis, structure relating to functions, and evolution.

Anatomy and Physiology II

Prerequisite: Anatomy & Physiology I

5 credits

Anatomy and Physiology II is a continuation of the Anatomy and Physiology I course focusing on different body systems that were not covered in the first course. This course is designed to provide an in depth study of the human body with an emphasis on the interrelationships between form and function at the gross and microscopic levels of organization. The essential principles that will be presented include: review of basic anatomical, directional and medical terminology, principles of cell biology and a detailed examination of several important body systems. Given the breadth of knowledge available on these topics, it is common to get overwhelmed by details. However, as the course progresses, students should integrate all parts into the whole, reflecting on the unifying themes of homeostasis, structure relating to functions, and evolution.

Community Health

Prerequisite: Priority to students enrolled in Allied Health & Science Academy or recommendation from Program Administrator

5 credits

This course will introduce and explore some of the many aspects of public and community health in the USA. Health care delivery systems, insurance options, epidemiology, disease, and trends in health care will be emphasized. Specific concerns of maternal/infant/child, adolescents, young adults, adults, minorities, mental health, and elders will be discussed. Students will review dangers of tobacco, drugs and alcohol, and discuss recent trends and prevention methods. Environmental concerns involving health and safety will be discussed, as well. Community agency field trips will be provided to enrich the curriculum. Throughout this course, emphasis will be placed on the students understanding many ways that they can make a difference as health care providers in their own communities.

Fundamentals of Health and Wellness

Prerequisite: Priority to students enrolled in Allied Health & Science Academy or recommendation from Program Administrator

5 credits

Fundamentals of Health and Disease is intended to provide the student with a better understanding and appreciation for the human body in both health and disease as well as a framework for comprehending its clinical application.

The most common clinical conditions likely to be seen by allied health practitioners will be investigated. Classification, symptoms, and terminology associated with disease and wellness are presented as a foundation for providing an orientation to treatment, diagnosis and prognosis.

The student will learn the basic concepts concerning the causes and effects of many diseases. The course will ultimately serve to impart a better understanding of the problems faced by human patients, and to lay solid scientific foundations for a future medical career.

Medical Math

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra I, priority to students enrolled in Allied Health & Science Academy or recommendation from Program Administrator

5 credits

This course will provide a review of basic mathematical calculations and will instruct the learner on how to convert equivalents from one system to another and accurately mix and measure drugs. Emphasis will be placed on how these techniques are used in the administration of medications for patient use. The course will provide students the opportunity to develop understandings and a command of mathematics in an environment that provides both affective and intellectual growth.

Medical Terminology

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Biology, priority to students enrolled in Allied Health & Science Academy or recommendation from Program Administrator
5 credits

The Medical Terminology course is designed to be equivalent to a college level health sciences class. This course is based on the study of terminology and concepts which apply to the body systems, anatomical structure, physiologic processes, medical procedures, and the pathologic mechanisms of disease. Through the provision of specialized terminology students will be expected to communicate in an accurate, articulate, and concise manner in a variety of different contexts involving medical subject matter. Through the development of a basic knowledge in medical terminology it is hoped that students will also gain an appreciation for the meaning, classification, and application of the course material to a broader understanding of medical science.

Dynamics of Health Care

Prerequisite: Priority to students enrolled in Allied Health & Science Academy or recommendation from Program Administrator
5 credits

Dynamics of Health Care in Society is an orientation to health care and delivery, from an interdisciplinary perspective, with a focus on process skills to include critical thinking, ethical reasoning, effective communication, and self-directed learning abilities. The professional competencies stress application to general issues and topics common to all health care providers. Emphasis is placed on the role of the health care practitioner as both provider and consumer of health care services.

Emergency and Clinical Care

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Biology and Anatomy & Physiology, priority to students enrolled in Allied Health & Science Academy or recommendation from Program Administrator
5 credits

Emergency and Clinical Care is a course that describes how to respond to emergencies before medical help arrives. The course is designed to give the student the knowledge of how to recognize and respond to an emergency. The intent of the course is to help the student feel more confident in his/her ability to

act appropriately in the event of an emergency. Students are prepared to 1) obtain a patient medical history, 2) take and record vital signs relative to medical/dental treatment, and 3) acquire cardiopulmonary resuscitation certification.

MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT

All students are required to complete three years of mathematics to satisfy the state of New Jersey graduation requirements. Courses that can be used to satisfy these requirements are Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II. To support the needs of diverse learners, the courses Algebra I Applications, Geometry Applications, and Algebra II Applications were developed. These courses are paired with the students required courses. The Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II sequence is followed by Pre-Calculus or Probability, Statistics and Data Analysis. At the honors level the sequence continues with Pre-Calculus, Calculus and AP Calculus.

In addition to the above courses of study, the mathematics department offers the elective courses, PSAT/SAT Preparation (10th, 11th, and 12th grade students).

Algebra I

Prerequisites: Algebra Prognosis Test score and middle school recommendation.
10 credits
Grade Level: 9

Algebra I is the first course in the standard high school mathematics sequence. Students learn to represent relationships using numbers, variables, expressions, equations, and formulas and they use equations and inequalities to solve problems. They collect, organize, and analyze data and learn to translate among graphs, tables, and symbolic statements. Algebra 1 focuses on understanding mathematical principles and concepts, and communicating mathematical thinking.

Algebra 1 Honors

Prerequisites: Algebra Prognosis Test score and middle school recommendation.
10 credits (weighted)
Grade Level: 9

Algebra I Honors is open to ninth-grade students who exhibit exceptional ability and a strong interest in mathematics. Students will cover the standard Algebra 1 topics more in depth with various extensions to the topics.

Geometry

Prerequisites: Algebra I

10 credits

Grade Level: 10

Geometry is the second course in the high school mathematics sequence. Students learn properties of plane (two-dimensional) and solid (three-dimensional) figures along with properties of the coordinate plane, and use those properties to find various quantities, including length, area, perimeter, volume, and angle measurements. They apply geometric concepts to solve everyday problems, and learn to communicate and justify their mathematical thinking.

Geometry Advanced

Prerequisites: Grade of 80 or better in Algebra I or departmental recommendation

10 credits

Grade Level: 10

Geometry Advanced covers the Geometry standards in depth with various extensions to the topics. They also apply geometric concepts to solve everyday problems, and learn to communicate and justify their mathematical thinking.

Geometry Honors

Prerequisites: Grade of 90 or better in Algebra I or departmental recommendation.

10 credits

Grade Level: 10

Geometry Honors is open to tenth-grade students who exhibit exceptional ability and a strong interest in mathematics. In addition to the standard geometry topics, students learn to use logical arguments to justify conjectures about geometric relationships. The focus of geometry honors is to develop an understanding of Euclidean geometry as an axiomatic-deductive system.

Algebra II

Prerequisites: Algebra I and Geometry

10 credits

Grade Level: 11

Algebra II is the third course in the high school mathematics sequence. The focus of Algebra II is an extensive study of functions, their graphs, and transformations on the coordinate plane. Students study linear equations and inequalities, nonlinear functions, and systems of linear and nonlinear functions. Conics are introduced, with emphasis on the relationship between graphs and equations of conic sections.

Algebra II Advanced

Prerequisites: Grade of 88 in Geometry Advanced or departmental recommendation

10 credits

Grade Level: 11

Algebra II Advanced covers the Algebra II standards in depth with various extensions to the topics. In addition, students study linear equations and inequalities, nonlinear functions, and systems of linear and nonlinear functions. Conics are introduced, with emphasis on the relationship between graphs and equations of conic sections.

Algebra II Honors

Prerequisites: Grade of 93 or better in Geometry Honors or department recommendation

10 credits

Grade Level: 11

Algebra II Honors is the third course in the high school honors mathematics sequence. This course, along with Geometry Honors, is offered to students in their sophomore year. Students examine linear and nonlinear functions and their graphs, and use functions and inequalities to solve a variety of real-world application problems. Complex (imaginary) numbers are introduced, and students learn to perform operations on complex and irrational numbers.

PSAT/SAT Math

Prerequisites: Algebra I

2.5 credits

Grade Level: 10, 11, 12

PSAT/SAT is an elective mathematics course open to sophomores, juniors and seniors. Student's review and practice skills from all areas of mathematics, with emphasis on non-routine problems. Along with mathematics content, students learn problem-solving techniques and test-taking strategies.

Pre-Calculus

Prerequisites: Algebra I, Geometry and Algebra II and department recommendation.

5 credits

Grade Level: 11, 12

In pre-calculus students study functions: linear, polynomial, exponential, rational, and trigonometric. There is a strong emphasis on graphs of functions, and on the use of graphing technology.

Pre-Calculus Honors

Prerequisites: Algebra II Honors and department recommendation.

5 credits (weighted)

Grade Level: 11, 12

Pre-Calculus Honors is the fourth course in the high school mathematics honors sequence. In pre-calculus students study functions: linear, polynomial, exponential, rational, and trigonometric. Additional topics include vectors, polar coordinates and complex numbers, and sequences and series. There is a strong emphasis on graphs of functions, and on the use of graphing technology.

Calculus

Prerequisites: Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, Pre-Calculus and teacher recommendation.

5 credits

Grade Level: 12

The topics in Calculus include elementary functions, differential calculus, and integral calculus.

Calculus Honors

Prerequisites: Pre-Calculus Honors

5 credits (weighted)

Grade Level: 11

Calculus Honors is the fifth course in the high school mathematics honors sequence designed to prepare the students for AP Calculus. The topics in Calculus include elementary functions, differential calculus, and integral calculus.

AP Calculus

Prerequisites: Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, Pre-Calculus and teacher recommendation.

5 credits (weighted-college credit)

Grade Level: 11, 12

AP Calculus AB is the final course in the high school mathematics sequence. The Advanced Placement (AP) Calculus curriculum is designed to prepare students for the AP Calculus AB examination. Study is focused in three broad areas: functions and analytic geometry, differential calculus, and integral calculus. Students are expected to represent physical situations in graphical, numerical, and symbolic forms. They use modeling, technology, and pencil-and-paper methods to solve a variety of problems.

Probability, Statistics and Data Analysis

Prerequisites: Algebra 1 and Geometry

5 credits

Grade Level: 11, 12

In this course students analyze data using measures of central tendency, apply probability in real situations and use simulations to estimate probabilities. They determine expected values using the law of large numbers. Students test hypotheses and make inferences by evaluating arguments based upon knowledge of sampling and data analysis.

Consumer Mathematics

Prerequisites: Algebra I

2.5 credits

Grade Level: 11, 12

In this course students will focus on math skills needed to survive as an intelligent consumer in today's society. Topics will include the mathematics of personal income, and related expenses, purchasing various types of insurance, housing, unit pricing, discounts and mark-ups, banking, budgeting, investments, taxes, travel and fitness

WORLD LANGUAGES

New Jersey hosts a growing economy oriented toward agriculture, industry, finance, education, and research - an economy that demands contact and interaction with the global marketplace. For New Jersey students, the need to function competently in more than one language has become increasingly important. A second language is essential in order to participate fully in the economic, political, and social life of a state with more than 100 ethnic groups, and where more than 150 different languages are spoken. In the twenty-first century, students must be able to participate in culturally appropriate ways in face-to-face interaction with members of other cultures. Only by preparing students with an education comparable to the best schools around the world offer - one that includes the study of world languages - can the goal of leaving no child behind be achieved. The New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards for World Languages envision all of New Jersey's students being prepared for the demands of an interdependent world by teaching world languages for communication; heightening students' linguistic and cultural awareness of their local, state, and world community; encouraging interdisciplinary and workplace readiness connections that may involve business and community members as mentors and models; and preparing students for using (a) world language(s) in whatever career choices they make. Please note it is recommended that students must successfully complete a minimum of two years of the same language in order to meet graduation requirements.

French

Students begin by acquiring the basic skills of listening comprehension, speaking, reading, and writing, while increasing their knowledge of French vocabulary, structure, and pronunciation. As the levels advance, students become more capable of functioning effectively in French: obtaining information from spoken and written messages, communicating orally and in writing, and using more advanced structural concepts and vocabulary. At each level, students learn about the French culture and are encouraged to make connections to the French-speaking world. Ultimately, students gain a better understanding of the structure and vocabulary of their own language.

The courses must be taken in the following sequence: (1) French I, (2) French II, (3) French III, and (4) AP French.

FRENCH COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

French I

Prerequisites: None

Grade level: 9, 10, 11, or 12

5 credits

This course enables students to develop the ability to comprehend, speak, read and write everyday basic French. Simple conversations, grammatical concepts, short readings, writing exercises and cultural information are used to attain these goals.

French II

Prerequisites: French I or middle school placement

Grade level: 9, 10, 11, or 12

5 credits

This course is a continuation of French I. Emphasis is placed on more complex grammatical structures. The focus is on improving speaking, writing and listening skills. Short literacy readings are introduced.

French II Honors

Prerequisites: B average or higher in Spanish I and teacher recommendation

Grade level: 10, 11, or 12

5 credits

This course is a continuation of French I with emphasis on additional vocabulary and grammar skills. Cultural information is infused through audiovisual and printed materials. Written essays and short stories are used to challenge the students. This course is recommended for those students who have demonstrated strong language skills in French I.

French III

Prerequisites: French II.

Grade level: 10, 11, or 12

5 credits

The focus of this course is on acquiring proficiency in oral skills. Grammatical concepts are reinforced through composition writing, summaries and creative

writing projects. Short literacy readings are used to encourage class discussion and to develop critical thinking skills.

AP French

Prerequisites: At least a B average in French III

Grade level: 11 or 12

5 credits (weighted-college credit)

This course encompasses reading from outstanding writers, contemporary and classical. There is a review of grammar, further development of vocabulary, conversations and discussions in French, cultural awareness and the writing of compositions on topics related to the course.

French IV (Honors)

Prerequisites: At least a B average in French III

Grade level: 11 or 12

5 credits (weighted)

This course encompasses reading from outstanding writers, contemporary and classical. There is a review of grammar, further development of vocabulary, conversations and discussions in French, cultural awareness and the writing of compositions on topics related to the course.

SPANISH

Students begin by acquiring the basic skills of listening comprehension, speaking, reading, and writing, while increasing their knowledge of Spanish vocabulary, structure, and pronunciation. As the levels advance, students become more capable of functioning effectively in Spanish, obtaining information from spoken and written messages, communicating orally and in writing, and using more advanced structural concepts and vocabulary. At each level, students learn about the Latino culture and are encouraged to make connections to the Spanish-speaking world. Ultimately, all students gain a better understanding of the structure and vocabulary of the Spanish language.

*Courses must be taken in the following sequence for non-Spanish speakers: (1) Spanish I, (2) Spanish II, (3) Spanish III, (4) Spanish IV or AP Spanish.

*Courses must be taken in the following sequence for students who are orally proficient but lack the corresponding literacy skills for Spanish-speaking students: (1) Spanish III, (2) Spanish IV, and (3) AP Spanish.

*Courses must be taken in the following sequence for any student who is orally proficient and possesses the corresponding Spanish literacy skills: (1) Spanish III Honors, (2) Spanish IV or AP Spanish.

Spanish I

Prerequisites: None.

Grade level: 9, 10, 11, or 12

5 credits

This course is designed to develop the ability to comprehend, speak, read, and write everyday basic Spanish. Dialogue learning, grammatical points, short readings, writing exercises and cultural information are used to attain these goals. This course is for non-Spanish speakers only.

SPANISH II

Prerequisites: Spanish I

Grade level: 10, 11, or 12

5 credits

This course is a continuation of Spanish I with emphasis on additional vocabulary and grammar skills. Short readings are studied in the target language. Cultural information is infused through audiovisual and printed materials. This course is for non-native speakers of Spanish only.

SPANISH II Honors

Prerequisites: B average or higher in Spanish I and teacher recommendation

Grade level: 10, 11, or 12

5 credits

This course is a continuation of Spanish I with emphasis on additional vocabulary and grammar skills. Cultural information is infused through audiovisual and printed materials. Written essays and short stories are used to challenge the students. This course is recommended for those students who have demonstrated strong language skills in Spanish I. This course is for non-native speakers of Spanish only.

SPANISH III Honors

Prerequisites: B average or higher in Spanish II or oral proficiency placement

Grade level: 9, 10, 11, or 12

5 credits

Spanish III places increased dependence upon the student to understand spoken and written Spanish. Continued emphasis is placed on the reading of short selections and exploring content and grammar through written and oral responses in Spanish. Additional grammatical principles are presented. With successful completion of this course, the student may be eligible to take AP Spanish. This course is the entry level for those students who have oral proficiency in Spanish without the complimentary literacy skills.

Spanish Language Arts I

Prerequisites: A average or higher in Spanish II Honors or literacy proficiency placement

Grade level: 9, 10, 11, or 12

5 credits

Spanish Language Arts I places increased dependence upon the student to understand spoken and written Spanish. Emphasis is placed on the reading of longer selections and exploring content and grammar through written and oral responses in Spanish. Additional grammatical principles are presented. This course will be taught primarily in Spanish. With successful completion of this course, the student may be eligible to take AP Spanish. This course is the entry level for those students who have oral fluency and are literate in Spanish. It will follow the 9th grade language arts curriculum.

Spanish Language Arts II

Prerequisites: Spanish Language Arts I

Grade level: 10, 11, or 12

5 credits

In Spanish Language Arts, a higher degree of teacher-student and student-teacher communication in speaking, reading, writing and listening is emphasized. More complex grammatical structures are presented. Emphasis is placed on the reading

of stories, vocabulary enhancement, and writing essays. This course will be taught almost exclusively in Spanish. It will follow the 10th grade language arts curriculum.

AP Spanish Language

Prerequisites: B average or higher in Spanish Language Arts I, Spanish III Honors or Spanish Language Arts II.

Grade level: 10, 11, or 12

5 credits (weighted-college credit)

AP Spanish Language is a full-year course designed as a continuation of Spanish at a college level. Students receive an opportunity to improve their reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills at an advanced level. Students read and discuss excerpts from literary works of Spanish and Latino authors. The emphasis of this course is reading and writing proficiency at the advanced level, with a focus on correct verb usage, grammatical accuracy, and essay writing. This course will be taught exclusively in Spanish and follows the AP curriculum. Students will also be required to take the AP examination.

Spanish I (Modified)

Prerequisites: Special Needs students only

Grade level: 9, 10 or 11

5 credits

Modified Spanish introduces the Spanish language at a modified pace, providing additional time for mastery of basic skill development for the Special Needs student. Strategies for developing listening, speaking, reading, grammatical points and writing skills are used, with emphasis on aural-oral proficiencies through differentiated instruction.

Spanish II (Modified)

Prerequisites: Special Needs students only and Spanish I (Modified)

Grade level: 10, 11, or 12

5 credits

This course is a continuation of Modified Spanish I with emphasis on additional vocabulary and grammar skills. Comprehension of speaking, reading, and writing skills are augmented. Short readings are studied in the target language. Cultural information is infused through audiovisual and printed materials. This course is designed for Special Needs students only.

Spanish Literacy I

Prerequisites: Placement test and interrupted education

Grade level: 9

5 credits

Spanish Literacy I is native language literacy support for students who have not attained grade level skills in their native language because of significant interrupted education. In this class students continue to develop their native language literacy skills through multilevel and cross curricula instruction. Students in Spanish Literacy concurrently take Math I. This course can count as a World Language credit for graduation.

Spanish Literacy II

Prerequisites: Placement test and interrupted education

Grade level: 9

5 credits

Spanish Literacy II is native language literacy support for students who have not attained grade level skills in their native language because of interrupted education. In this class students continue to develop their native language literacy skills through multilevel and cross curricula instruction. This is a continuation of Spanish Literacy I for those who after one year are still below grade level. It is also for those students with less severe interruptions. This course can count as a World Language credit for graduation.

VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS

The Visual and Performing Arts Department is dedicated in ensuring that all students receive a balanced education. We believe that creativity is a special endowment, resident in all and is capable of being developed.

Thus, PHS's Visual and Performing Arts Department is committed to the following core objectives:

1. To equip students with an understanding of the nature and purpose of the arts.
2. To foster an appreciation and respect for the arts.
3. To empower students with the specific knowledge and technical skill needed to effectively create and perform works of art.
4. To impart the necessary tools for critically interpreting, analyzing, and assessing works of art.
5. To expose students to professional artists and their respective works of art.

Instrumental Music Courses

Percussion Ensemble

Prerequisites: Prior experience in instrumental music is recommended, not required.

5 credits

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

Students develop basic music reading and playing techniques through a year-long study of the wide variety of percussion instruments. This performance and skill-based class includes marching, concert, jazz, and chamber music. Additionally, since the percussion techniques course is a part of the Concert Band, students perform during the school year for community activities, school functions, district and state contests, and other special events. This class is open to all students in grades 9 through 12 who play or are interested in learning to play instruments in the percussion family of musical instruments.

Wind Ensemble

Prerequisites: Audition and Director Recommendation.

10 credits (weighted)

Grade Level: 10, 11, 12

The PHS Wind Ensemble is a highly select group performing the finest in band literature. Proper instrumental technique, ear-training skills, music theory, and appropriate rehearsal/performance disciplines are taught and maintained within the group throughout the course of study. This performance-based class includes medium-to-difficult concert literature, solo and ensemble, and marching band music. Students selected must be available for public performances, solo and ensemble adjudicated events, and district/state contests. Students are introduced to and adjust to the demands of advanced instrumental technique while playing advanced literature in preparation for their instrumental leadership in the junior/senior years. Enrollment is by audition and director recommendation.

Jazz Ensemble

Prerequisites: Audition and Director Recommendation.

10 credits (weighted)

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

Students with advanced experience on the saxophone, trombone, trumpet, guitar, piano, bass, percussion, drum set, or vocals arts are welcome to enroll this course. Students learn advanced improvisational techniques, various styles of jazz, and play advanced literature of Jazz Big Bands. Students selected must be available for public performances, solo and ensemble adjudicated events, district/state contests, community and school functions, and other special performances.

Beginner Band

Prerequisites: None

5 credits

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

Students will learn basic music reading and playing techniques through a yearlong study of one of the following instruments: flute, oboe, bassoon, clarinet, alto saxophone, tenor saxophone, trumpet, French horn, trombone, baritone horn, or tuba. This course will concentrate on the basic fundamentals of instrumental music (scales, tone, rhythm, etc.). This class is open to all students in grades 9 through 12

who play or are interested in learning to play one of the above brass wind instruments.

Concert Band

Prerequisites: Audition and Director Recommendation

5 credits

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

Students will develop basic music reading and playing techniques through a yearlong study of one of the following instruments: flute, oboe, bassoon, clarinet, alto saxophone, tenor saxophone, trumpet, French horn, trombone, baritone horn, or tuba. This performance and skill-based class will include marching, concert, jazz, and chamber music. This course will concentrate on the basic fundamentals of instrumental music (scales, tone, rhythm, etc.). Additionally, the brass wind techniques course is a part of the Concert Band and will perform during the school year for community activities, school functions, district and state contests, and other special performances. This class is open to all students in grades 9 through 12 who play or are interested in learning to play one of the above brass wind instruments.

Dance Courses

Beginner Dance Level I (Ballet, Jazz, and Modern)

Prerequisites: None

5 credits

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

Students who have a desire and interest in dance are encouraged to participate in this class. Prior experience in dance is not necessary. Classes include warm-ups, and dance technique in each genre of dance—ballet, jazz and modern, dance history and critique. Students are required to participate in improvisational and creative movement classes. Students have the opportunity to perform before a live audience.

Intermediate Dance Level II

Prerequisites: Prior dance experience is a must: Beginner Dance Level I or teacher approval.

5 credits

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

Students who have a desire and interest to continue their dance education at a higher level are encouraged to participate in this class. Students must have prior dance experience. Classes include warm-ups, and dance technique in each genre of dance-ballet, jazz, modern, social dancing, dance history, and critique. Students learn various choreographic routines and can participate in school performances.

Dance Ensemble

Prerequisites: audition only or teacher approval.

10 credits

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

This class is by audition only or teacher approval. Students continue their serious study of modern, jazz and ballet dance techniques. Students learn dance styles from around the world, thereby allowing them to incorporate these styles into their original choreography. Students perform critiques on their own videotaped performances and give verbal and written critique of their peers. Teacher-directed choreography enables students to have solo, duet, trio and larger ensemble dance experience. Students are required to participate in all school performances, which include the following: winter dance concert, black history dance concert, school production and spring dance concert.

Theater Dance

Prerequisites: None

5 credits

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

This class is open to all students, who learn dance techniques in all forms of jazz dance. Narrative through movement and aspect of dance are analyzed after studying videos of Broadway shows such as *Chicago*, *Cabaret*, *West Side Story* and *A Chorus Line*. Through careful observation of dance movements, levels, pace, and partnering, students learn identifying elements of several choreographers' work.

Based on teacher-selected pieces of music, students create their own choreography as part of a final assessment piece of the class.

Vocal Music Courses

Chorus/Audition Class

Prerequisite: Beginning Chorus and audition

10 credits (weighted)

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

Students who have experience singing and who are chosen through the audition process study advanced music in this class. Two, three and four part harmonies are part of musical selections performed in regional competitions, in-district schools and in high school performances. Students study and practice singing, reflecting the written dynamic markings of the piece. Students experience musical selections that highlight expressive singing as well as various keys and tempos. Students widen their understanding of diverse musical repertoire. Students prepare audition material for use in applications for further study.

Beginning Chorus

Prerequisite: None

5 credits

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

This class is for interested students with and without prior experience in vocal music. Students hear a variety of global music so as to be familiar with a diversity of musical experiences. Students learn how to sight-read new music. An emphasis is placed upon how to project one's voice, and to sing with expression and articulation. Listening and then critiquing individual performances is essential to incremental growth in this class. Use of a musical vocabulary is part of the critique process.

Chorus Advanced

Prerequisite: None

5 credits

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

This class is for interested students with prior experience in vocal music. Students hear a variety of global music so as to be familiar with a diversity of musical experiences. Students learn how to sight-read new music. An emphasis is placed upon how to project one's voice, and to sing with expression and articulation. Listening and then critiquing individual performances is essential to incremental growth in this class. Use of a musical vocabulary is part of the critique process.

Music Theory

Prerequisite: The ability to read basic music notation.

5 credits

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

In this class students study the fundamentals of writing music, including the construction of scales and chords. As the course progresses, the basics of four-part writing are taught so students can write their own music.

Music Appreciation

Prerequisite: None

5 credits

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

In this class students study the fundamentals of basic music. Students are exposed to musical selections that highlight expressive singing as well as various keys and tempos. Students widen their understanding of diverse musical repertoire.

Theater Courses

Introduction to Acting

Prerequisites: None

5 credits

Grade Level: 10, 11

This course is designed to accommodate any student interested in exploring the craft of acting. Students are introduced to the fundamentals of the craft, the

philosophies of renowned acting teachers (such as Konstantin Stanislavsky, Stella Adler, Sanford Meisner, Uta Hagen, and Michael Chekhov), and a basic terminology of the theater. The primary goal of the class is to arouse and sustain an appreciation for the craft of acting and respect for actors/actresses.

Acting I

Prerequisites: Introduction to Acting

5 credits

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

This course is designed for students who possess talent, dedication, and interest in the craft of acting. Students will build upon previous knowledge gained in Introduction to Acting, focusing on the continued development of the actor's core assets: voice, body, and imagination. The means for honing such skills are as follows: routine and rigorous speech, voice, movement, acting workshops, theater festivals, assemblies, and the annual PHS theater production. Students enrolled in this course can expect to exit the class with a firm understanding of how to support immense raw talent with proven techniques.

Visual Arts Courses

Introduction to Visual Arts

Prerequisites: none

5 credits

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

This course provides an excellent base for all art electives. In this class, students explore a variety of drawing and painting materials, techniques, and topics, including figure drawing, still life, and compositional design. Students are introduced to various materials including pencil, colored pencils, markers, charcoal, inks, pastels, acrylic paint, watercolor, canvas boards, etc. Students study Art History relative to each assignment. This class is open to all students and does not require previous art experience.

Intermediate Visual Arts

Prerequisites: none

5 credits

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

In this course, students will develop a foundation of the elements and principles of design in both two dimensional and three dimensional formats. There is a focus on black and white design and value building and progresses into an in-depth study of color theory. The ability to see the complexity and simplicity of patterns and colors in everyday objects is required in order to capture and redesign these images in student artwork. This course also develops the application of problem-solving skills through the use of a variety of media and examines color and design in Art History.

Introduction to Ceramics

Prerequisites: none

5 credits

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

This course addresses a broad interpretation of sculptural issues in depth and space. These include mass, volume, form, plane, light, and texture. Such elements and concepts are articulated through additive, subtractive, and/or fabrication processes. Students learn a variety of approaches to representation, abstraction and expression in three dimensional designs. They will explore the use of clay, hand building in ceramics, plaster, foam core, found objects, wire, and paper mache. The course also reinforces and broadens students' understanding of the principles of design, elements of art, and three-dimensional forms in Art History.

Studio Art Portfolio

Prerequisites: Previous art class taken and portfolio submitted.

10 credits weighted

Grade Level: 11, 12

Students with a serious interest in developing their portfolio to include works of art in a variety of media are encouraged to take this class. Students develop specific technical skills and begin to develop a personal style in their work. There is a major emphasis on critical thinking, problem solving and communicating personal ideas relating to the world and community through art. Students compete in regional competitions as well as exhibit their work in school and public venues. Digital

portfolios of all completed pieces are constructed for student record. Acceptance to this class is determined through portfolio review by teacher.

Advanced Placement (AP) Studio Art

Prerequisites: Application process, previous art class taken and portfolio submitted.
5 credits (weighted college credit)

Grade Level: 11, 12

The AP Studio Art course is offered as a chance for the visually gifted to excel and receive recognition on a national scale. This course has a variety of enriching possibilities to offer to different students. The students will be creating a college art portfolio that will potentially enable them to receive college credit. This course is a part of the National College Board Advanced Placement Program (AP) and is a collaborative effort between motivated students; dedicated teachers; and committed high schools, colleges and universities. Since its inception in 1955, the program has enabled millions of students to take college-level courses and exams, and to earn college credit or placement, while still in high school. The AP Studio Art course is designed for serious students who are interested in a practical experience of art. It is important to note that AP Studio Art is not based on a written exam; instead, students submit portfolios for evaluation and review at the end of the school year.

CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

Career and Technical Education programs are designed to prepare students for high-skill, high-wage, and high-demand careers in the real world. Labor market data indicates that 65 percent of jobs in today's work force are classified as "skilled and technical." Jobs in this classification require training beyond high school but do not necessarily require a four-year degree.

Choosing Career and Technical Education courses means that a student can be on the way to a new career or a better position in a selected field immediately upon graduation.

The CTE programs combine educational opportunities with preparing for a career. The classroom experience provides students with skills that enable them to walk out of the classroom and into the work force.

CTE courses also build critical thinking and communication skills valued by employers. Students learn these skills while they participate using hands-on technical training equipment that will be used in the work world.

All CTE courses satisfy the practical arts course requirement for graduation.

Accounting I

Prerequisites: None

Credits: 5.0

Grade Level: 10, 11, 12

Accounting I introduces sophomores, juniors, and seniors to basic accounting principles used worldwide and required for all business careers. Students learn the complete accounting cycle for a sole proprietorship, partnership and corporation. Specifically, students analyze, make journal entries, and learn about the career opportunities that are available in the accounting profession. Text/workbooks and computer applications are used in the course.

Accounting II

Prerequisites: Accounting I

Credits: 5.0

Grade Level: 11, 12

The fundamental concepts and principles of accounting are presented in a business environment that enables juniors and seniors to understand accounting as it is applied in serving not only the business world, but all of society. Focus is on preparing students for entry into business-related college programs where accounting is a requirement.

Introduction to Business

Prerequisites: None

Credits: 5.0

Grade Level: 10, 11, 12

Introduction to Business teaches sophomores, juniors, and seniors the basics of business. Materials cover topics including, but not limited to the various forms of ownership, economic systems, business ethics, social responsibility, personal finance and employability skills. The major focus of this course is to prepare students to function as contributing members of society.

Business Management and Organization

Prerequisites: None

Credits: 5.0

Grade Level: 10, 11, 12

Business Organization and Management is structured for sophomores, juniors, and seniors who intend either to operate a small business or to pursue business management as it applies to marketing, merchandising, finance, production and government regulations. A Junior Achievement program may be incorporated into the curriculum.

Personal Finance

Prerequisites: None

Credits: 5.0

Grade Level: 10, 11, 12

Students develop financial skills to make wise life decisions through hands-on activities in this elective. The course covers topics such as banking services, credit use, insurance issues, purchasing and financing a car, housing choices, budgeting, using technology and the internet for personal organization and consumer rights and responsibilities.

Business Law

Prerequisites: None

Credits: 5.0

Grade Level: 10, 11, 12

This course is designed to help sophomores, juniors, and seniors become aware of their rights, duties, and responsibilities as citizens and workers in the American society. The practical application of law in the business world is demonstrated in such areas as negotiable instruments, consumer and business contracts, classification of business-related crimes, and consumer protection agencies. Special attention is given to the following topics: Legal notes and checks, leases, and property and installment contracts.

Economics

Prerequisites: None

2.5 credits

Grade Level: 10, 11, 12

Economics is a half year requirement available to twelfth grade students. Students will further their analytical skills by studying investment in the market system theories, problems of scarcity, operation of business, investment banking and the budgetary process. Students pursue independent research on economic topics that are teacher-selected and student-elected. Satisfactory completion of the course provides students an adequate foundation for understanding major economic principles and basic knowledge for informed personal investment decisions.

Marketing I

Prerequisites: None

Credits 5.0

Grade Level: 10, 11, 12

This course develops skills in the process of developing, promoting, and distributing products to consumer and business to business markets. Sophomores, juniors, and seniors learn the basic principles of how products and services are marketed from standpoint of producers, and also learn implications of these activities in their role as consumers, including why people buy, and the differences between wants and needs. Emphasis is placed on collaborative student interaction and on effective business communication. Specific study topics include basic economics, international trade, (including accepted business practices in other cultures worldwide) advertising, ethical practices, sales processes, and marketing career orientations. A term assignment involves the development of a marketing plan for a new product and interpersonal relationships regarding customer service positions.

Marketing II

Prerequisites: Marketing I

Credits: 5.0

Grade Level: 11, 12

As a continuation of the Marketing I course, this offering provides juniors and seniors additional fundamental learning and continues into more advanced marketing topics, increasing use of computer and other media-based technologies. Additional analyses of career development opportunities are more closely analyzed. Course content includes distribution, pricing strategies, marketing research, finance, and entrepreneurship. A capstone project entails the development and marketing of a new business.

Sports & Entertaining Marketing

Prerequisites: None

Credits: 5.0

Grade Level: 10, 11, 12

Sports and Entertainment Marketing is an exceptional and innovative course designed for students with an interest in the sports and/or entertainment industry. This course stresses the utilization of fundamental marketing concepts and will include an orientation to the sports and entertainment industry. This course will dissect marketing strategies along with topics in pricing, branding/licensing, endorsements, promotions, and marketing research. The course will develop critical thinking, decision making, and communication skills through real world applications. Students will be prepared to handle specific tasks associated with either industry. Sports and Entertainment Marketing offers students an edge if pursuing marketing or sports management degrees on the collegiate level.

Middlesex Vocational Program

Prerequisites: Application process

Credits: 20.0

Grade Level: 11, 12

This Career and Technical Education program permits students the opportunity to study a variety of traditional vocational-technical programs including, but not limited to, automotive technology, building trades, communications, public safety, cosmetology, culinary arts, and human services.

Within the program, students will be required to complete all high school graduation requirements, the state testing and assessment program, as well as their technical major.

Union County Vocational Program

Prerequisites: Application process

Credits: 20.0

Grade Level: 11, 12

This Career and Technical Education program permits students the opportunity to study a variety of traditional vocational-technical programs including, but not limited to, automotive technology, building trades, communications, public safety,

cosmetology, culinary arts, and human services.

Within the program, students will be required to complete all high school graduation requirements, the state testing and assessment program, as well as their technical major.

Introduction to Computer Applications

Prerequisites: None

Credits: 5.0

Grade Level: 9

This course is designed to teach 9th graders, who possess minimal keyboarding skills, to increase their speed and accuracy. In addition, students use word processing programs to format letters, reports, memoranda, and other functions of basic programs. After successful completion of touch keyboarding, students learn how to effectively use the following Microsoft products: Word, Excel, Access, and PowerPoint. IC3 certification is offered to certify individuals in broad computing and internet knowledge and skills.

MOUS I - Microsoft Office User Specialist

Prerequisites: None, but Introduction to Computer Applications recommended.

Credits: 5.0

Grade Level: 10, 11, 12

This program measures and validates users' skills on the applications of Microsoft Word and Microsoft Excel software programs. This course prepares sophomores, juniors, and seniors to take certification exams. MOUS is a recognized standard for mastery of a Microsoft Office application, i.e., MS Word, MS Excel. Microsoft provides a list of competencies required for certification on one or more exams and gives users a competitive edge in employment opportunities. MOUS I prepares students for certification in *Word and Excel*.

MOUS II - Microsoft Office User Specialist

Prerequisites: Introduction to Computer Applications highly recommended.

Credits: 5.0

Grade Level: 10, 11, 12

This program measures and validates user's skills on the applications of Microsoft Access and Microsoft PowerPoint software programs. This course prepares sophomores, juniors, and seniors to learn and take certification exams. MOUS is a recognized standard for mastery of a Microsoft Office application, i.e., MS Access, MS PowerPoint. Microsoft provides a list of the competencies required for certification on one or more exams and gives users a competitive edge in employment opportunities. MOUS II prepares students for certification in Access and PowerPoint.

Family Living

Prerequisites: None

Credits: 5.0

Grade Level: 10, 11, 12

Family Living is designed to help sophomores, juniors, and seniors gain an understanding of themselves and others. Through study and discussion, students examine present relationships and prepare for future family relationships. Among the topics considered are: self-awareness, decision-making, marriage readiness, marriage security, money management, home acquisition, parenting, and resources for meeting family needs. Family Living helps students gain an appreciation for the role of the family in society, family membership and adulthood. Students are required to keep a portfolio of work.

Parenting

Prerequisites: None

Credits: 5.0

Grade Level: 10, 11, 12

Parenting class is designed to provide students with the life skills to make appropriate decisions when it comes to pregnancy and parenting. The curriculum covers a wide variety of parenting issues such as: teen pregnancy and parenting, prenatal development, signs and symptoms of pregnancy, and the physical and emotional changes that occur during each stage of pregnancy, including the stages of labor and birth. Upon completion of the course, students will understand the physical, economic, emotional, social, and intellectual responsibilities of parenthood and be able to describe effective parenting strategies and identify resources for assisting with parenting.

Healthy Decisions

Requisitions: 10th, 11th, 12th Grade Elective

Credits: 5

The Healthy Decisions elective course is developed from the curriculum used within the Teen Prevention Education Program for high school sophomores through seniors. The course cultivates leaders in the upper grades, with a task to educate freshman on issues of decision making and life skills. This course is designed to empower youths (freshmen) with information and skills that they need to make healthy decisions and ultimately become leaders, educating others on this topic.

Childcare

Prerequisites: None

Credits: 10.0

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

Childcare is designed for those interested in working with children in a professional capacity or as a parent. Instruction is given in the development, behavior, and care of the child from the newborn stage through the sixth year. Effective techniques for working with children and appropriate arts and crafts for preschoolers are studied in detail. Working in the preschool program gives students practical opportunities to apply their knowledge. Juniors and seniors must complete written and oral observations of interaction with children and are required to keep a professional portfolio.

Clothing Construction I

Prerequisites: None

Credits: 5.0

Grade Level: 10, 11, 12

This course is planned to provide students opportunities to construct sewing projects. A knowledge and understanding of fibers and fabrics that assists them in meeting the clothing and fabric product needs of themselves, family and/or general public are studied. The course content centers around pattern, sewing equipment and notion selection, fitting a garment, use and care of the sewing machine and garment care. Career and job information is related to the textile and fashion field throughout the semester.

Clothing Construction II

Prerequisites: Clothing Construction I.

Credits: 5.0

Grade Level: 11, 12

This course is planned to provide juniors and seniors opportunities to develop knowledge and understanding of textiles, fashions and fabrics and to assist them in meeting the clothing and fashion product needs for themselves, families and the consumer industry. The content includes developing student competencies in the areas of selecting clothing and textile products using goal-making skills, wardrobe evaluation and planning design elements for personal selection; also, wardrobe care, construction, altering, repairing and remodeling clothing/textile products. Fashion merchandizing and related skills that help lead to the employability of the student will be introduced. Career and job information relating to the fashion industry are introduced during the semester.

Culinary Arts I

Pre-requisites: None

5 credits

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

This course includes basic classroom/laboratory experiences for sophomores, juniors, and seniors to develop knowledge and understanding of basic food principles and applied nutrition for people of all ages. The course content includes promoting food service and preparation management using the decision-making process, meeting basic needs by applying nutrition concepts, meeting health/safety needs, maximizing resources when planning, preparing, and serving food, promoting hospitality in food practices, and analyzing individual and family nutritional needs. Information related to careers in foods and nutrition is included in this course.

Culinary Arts II

Prerequisites: Foods/Nutrition I

5 credits

Grade Level: 11, 12

This course provides juniors and seniors an introduction to commercial food service, preparation, and management. Course content includes the areas of careers in foods and nutrition, influences of food customs, requirements for diet and health, discussion of current nutritional issues, planning for special food needs, safety of foods, planning of food purchasing, prevention of food related illnesses and practices of food preservation. Laboratory sessions are devoted to preparation of foods with specific characteristics.

Photography I

Level: Introductory

Prerequisite: None

Length of Course: Full year

Digital photography explores the digital photographic process as a method of creative, visual communications. It also investigates art principles and the development of technical skills to communicate effectively. This course encompasses the use of and type of hardware and software necessary to create digital imaging. All work is done on the computer. This course also focuses on the anatomy of taking a good photograph. Application of design principles, lighting, and composition are the emphasis of all assignments. Projects include: landscape photography, still life photography, portraiture and pet wild life photography, designing magazines, creating posters, photo collages, surreal photos and more. Adobe Photoshop is used as the primary photo editing/manipulating tool and prints will be made with a high-resolution printer.

Photography II

Level: 2

Prerequisite: Photography 1

Length of Course: Full year

This course is designed for students who can demonstrate a thorough knowledge of basic digital photographic techniques utilizing Adobe Photoshop. This class will explore advanced techniques and work with various procedures and photography formats. Students will work on individual projects to further their understanding of photography as an expressive medium. Subjects of study will include: advanced masking, advanced retouching, advanced editing, creative utilization of camera controls, composition, panoramic large format photography, camera raw and basic critical theory. The coursework consists of both technical and creative assignments, essays, presentations, regular class critiques and discussions.

Wood Technology I

Prerequisites: None

5 credits

Grade Level: 10, 11, 12

This is a beginning-level course in wood fundamentals for sophomores, juniors, and seniors with an emphasis on shop safety. Students learn machine and hand-tool procedures. Students fabricate projects, learning the basic skills of wood joinery, hand tools, making a plan and putting a finish on their work.

Wood Technology II

Prerequisites: Wood Technology I

5 credits

Grade Level: 11, 12

Sophomores, juniors, and seniors learn more advanced wood joinery techniques to fabricate projects. More emphasis on wood machinery safety and their use to fabricate construction projects are taught. Woodworking skills enable students to work in a cabinetmaking environment.

Construction I

Prerequisites: Wood Technology I

5 credits

Grade Level: 10, 11, 12

Construction I is a challenging course for sophomores, juniors, and seniors interested in learning about some of the activities that contribute to the completion of house building. Learn from the 'ground up' about floors, sub floors, walls, and roof styles. Learning proper terms and codes as well as hands on experience compliments activities with techniques for building a house. This course provides students with a solid background in the carpentry trade, construction materials, hand and power tools and rough framing.

Construction II

Prerequisites: Construction I

5 credits

Grade Level: 11, 12

The Pre-Apprenticeship Training Program is designed to provide sophomores, juniors, and seniors with basic knowledge and skills in the construction industry. Students continue to learn about wood house design and building techniques taught in Construction I. The core of the class works on wood framing from the foundation to finishing an interior of the house. Students also learn basic principles of electrical, plumbing, masonry, and roofing techniques.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

The Health and Physical Education Department recognizes the value of regular physical activity that coincides with an aggressive comprehensive and progressive program. Four years of Health and Physical Education are required for graduation. Students will have one quarter of Health and 3 quarters of Physical Education in accordance with the NJ State Core Curriculum Standards every year in high school. Grade 9 will develop basic skills of all sports activities designed to incorporate health related components. Grades 10-12 will incorporate health components to correlate with choice of two programs from the courses listed below:

- Personal Fitness I – Active Fitness Found
- Personal Fitness II – Advanced Fitness
- Lifetime Sports
- Self Defense
- Advanced Team Sports
- Swimming I-Learn to Swim
- Swimming II-Advanced Swimming

Physical Education and Health 9

Prerequisites: None

5 credits

Grade Level: 9

In addition, this course introduces students to major and lifetime sports focusing on basic skill development. This course also includes aerobic and fitness activities along with the importance of nutrition helping the student gain an understanding of the need for physical education and the development of lifetime fitness with proper eating procedures. Swimming will be available for some students. This course is taken concurrently with Health 9.

Physical Education and Health 10

Prerequisites: Physical Education 9

5 credits

Grade Level: 10

In addition, this course provides students with an increased opportunity to develop the basic skills learned in Physical Education 9. Class activities include walking, cycling, aerobic fitness, swimming, golf, tennis, basketball, soccer, football, softball, volleyball, badminton, bowling, pillo polo, weight room activities, and floor hockey. The course will increase the importance to having proper nutritional value implemented into their daily lives. The course will introduce hands on training for CPR and AED. This course is taken concurrently with Health 10.

Physical Education and Health 11

Prerequisites: Physical Education 10

5 credits

Grade Level: 11

In addition, this course provides students with an increased opportunity to develop the skills needed to promote a lifelong desire for fitness and physical activity including advanced knowledge and nutritional value. Activities included in this course includes swimming, weight room and conditioning, aerobic activities including cycling, pilates, golf, tennis, football, basketball, badminton, floor hockey, pillo polo, soccer and softball. This course is taken concurrently with Health 11 where Drivers Education is completed.

Physical Education and Health 12

Prerequisites: Physical Education 11

5 credits

Grade Level: 12

In addition, this course emphasizes the need for physical activity and lifetime fitness along with nutritional value. All major sports, lifetime activities, aerobic and conditioning, cycling, and swimming are available. Students develop fitness and health habits based upon the prior years of learning creating a lifelong value of healthiness. This course is taken concurrently with Health 12.

SPECIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

The Plainfield Public Schools are dedicated to providing our special needs students with a quality education in the least restrictive environment. All placement options are determined by the Individualized Education Plan (IEP) during the Annual Review. There are a variety of programs offered to our students to meet their needs. Our classes are taught by certified personnel dedicated to the development and growth of our students.

In Class Support Model - Students receive instruction in the general education class with collaboration between the general education and special education teachers. Modifications of the instructional delivery are reflected in the Individualized Education Plan (IEP).

Resource Replacement - Students in this setting receive a more structured curriculum that parallels the general education class that meets the Common Core Standards.

Learning and or Language Disabilities Program - Students in this setting receive a structured curriculum that meets the NJ core content curriculum standards. Modifications of the instructional delivery are reflected in the Individualized Education Plan (IEP).

Self-Contained Model - Students receive highly structured modified instruction in a small group setting. Students receive core academic subjects in one classroom while elective classes are received according to the I.E.P.

Adaptive PE 9-12

Prerequisites: Appropriate grade level as required by the I.E.P.

5 credits

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

This course is designed to meet the special needs of students whose I.E.P. requires adaptive physical education.

Career Preparation

Prerequisites: Appropriate grade level as required by the I.E.P.

5 credits

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

Students examine possible career choices, complete self-assessments, career inventories, and use career-related tools to complete a variety of real-world career applications. Students will explore the use of appropriate social and problem-solving skills in order to prepare for transition into adulthood.

Career Preparation

Prerequisites: Appropriate grade level as required by the I.E.P.

5 credits

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

Students will explore possible career choices and complete self-assessments to investigate possible career options. Students will complete job applications, create resumes, and examine the interview process to simulate job searches.

Life Skills English

Prerequisites: Appropriate grade level as required by the I.E.P.

5 credits

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

Students examine a variety of texts such as short novels, vocabulary words and creative writing assignments in order to strengthen, develop, and reinforce reading, comprehension, and oral and written communication.

Life Skills History

Prerequisites: Appropriate grade level as required by the I.E.P.

5 credits

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

Students explore concepts of time, geography, and civics, as well as being introduced to historical and current events. The role of the government and the rights of the citizen in a democratic society will also be explored.

Life Skills Math

Prerequisites: Appropriate grade level as required by the I.E.P.

5 credits

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

Students will solve a variety of real-world problems, examine consumer and household mathematical applications as well as learn to perform daily life skills.

Life Science

Prerequisites: Appropriate grade level as required by the I.E.P.

5 credits

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

Students will use scientific skills, graphs and models to comprehend, make predictions and draw conclusions about science topics such as living things, matter, the environment, and ecosystems.

Practical Art

Prerequisites: Appropriate grade level as required by the I.E.P.

5 credits

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

Students will use a variety of materials and technologies to create art projects that reinforce and develop self-expression, problem solving, self-esteem, communication, and understanding of the world around them.

Reading

Prerequisites: Appropriate grade level as required by the I.E.P.

5 credits

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

This course is designed to reinforce reading skills through poems, short stories and novels.

Social and Personal Preparation

Prerequisites: Appropriate grade level as required by the I.E.P.

5 credits

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

Students discuss and participate in life-skills oriented activities that will prepare students to use problem-solving and social skills needed in school, at home, in the workplace, and in the community.

ESL, BILINGUAL, & WORLD LANGUAGES PROGRAM ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE (ESL) OFFERINGS

All English Language Learners (ELL) must be offered an appropriate education that takes into consideration their developing language. This is particularly true for older learners, for whom control over complex language is a prerequisite for successful academic learning. Specialized, appropriate educational programs are required by law to ensure that the language and academic needs of Limited English Proficient students are met. Instructional focus is on the four language skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing using content area knowledge as the basis of instruction. All potential ELL students will be identified upon entry into the school system when they complete a home language survey. These potential ELL students will be given a placement exam to determine if ESL and Bilingual classes are needed. As part of the ESL program, all ELL students are required to be tested annually using the State ACCESS exam to determine if they are making progress.

ESL Basic

Prerequisites: Placement exam and in country less than 1 year.

Credits: 10 world language

Grade level: 9, 10

This English as a Second Language class is an entry-level course for students who have been designated Limited English Proficient, as per their placement scores on the Idea Proficiency Test (IPT). They have no or very limited knowledge of the English language and have been in the United States and/or a public school in the United States for less than one year. Students receive concentrated instruction in areas of English language acquisition skills: listening, speaking, and introduction to reading and writing. Units of study include vocabulary development through thematic units of instruction and reading. This course does not count as English credit for graduation, yet counts as a world language.

ESL I

Prerequisites: ESL Basic or placement exam.

Credits: 10 English

Grade level: 9, 10

English as a second Language I is a beginning-level course for students who have been designated Limited English Proficient. Students receive concentrated instruction in areas of English language acquisition skills: listening, speaking and the introduction of reading and writing. Units of study include vocabulary development through thematic instruction, and reading development in the four content areas: Social Studies, Language Arts, Math, and Science.

ESL II

Prerequisites: ESL I, placement exam or teacher recommendation.

Credits: 10 English

Grade level: 9, 10, 11, or 12

English as a second Language II is a high-beginning/low intermediate level course for students who have been designated Limited English Proficient. This course builds upon prior English language skills in listening, speaking, reading and writing. Emphasis is placed on various learning modalities such as small group interaction. Instruction will include the 4 content areas: Language Arts, Social Studies, Math and Science.

ESL III

Prerequisites: ESL II, placement exam or teacher recommendation.

Co-requisite: English I for ELLs

Credits: 5 English/5 World Language

Grade level: 9, 10, 11, or 12

English as a second Language III is a high intermediate level course for students who have been designated Limited English Proficient. Emerging fluency in English, as a second language, is demonstrated. Content area instruction is in English; however, social studies and science classes may be taken bilingually. The course presents challenges utilizing different genres, in reading and writing components. Critical thinking skills are used to analyze text. Emphasis is on essays, public speaking, debating, and individual and group presentations.

ESL IV

Prerequisites: ESL III or teacher recommendation.

Credits: 5 English/5 world language

Grade level: 10, 11, or 12

English as a second Language IV is an advanced level course for students who have been designated Limited English Proficient. All Content area instruction is given in mainstream classes. Students meet the challenge of reading and writing on a proficient level and cover such units as appreciation of poetry; writing columns for a newspaper, political discussions, magazine publications, and introduction to citizenship and the values of education. The four strands of language, listening, speaking, reading and writing are developed to near fluency. This course is taught through the content areas of language arts, social studies, math and science.

BILINGUAL COURSE OFFERINGS (Spanish/English)

The Plainfield Public Schools' Bilingual Program considers the research that links the influence of native language development to academic achievement. The program ensures that students of limited English proficiency are provided instruction in a language they understand in order to help them develop academic skills while acquiring English language skills. This academic model sets high expectations for all ELL students and ensures that they receive a rich and demanding curriculum with appropriate assistance and support. These courses follow the same curriculum as mainstream classes and are taught using the dual language method of instruction which rotates teaching in English one week followed by Spanish for one week.

BILINGUAL MATHEMATICS

Bilingual Mathematics courses are taught using the dual language model using Spanish and English. The purpose is to ensure content knowledge along with English Proficiency gains. All students are required to complete three years of mathematics to satisfy the state of New Jersey graduation requirements. Courses that can be used to satisfy these requirements are Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II. To support the needs of diverse learners, the courses Algebra I applications, Geometry applications, and Algebra II applications were developed. These courses are paired with the students required courses.

Math I

Co-requisites: Emergent Spanish

5 credits

Grade level: 9

This course is designed for students who have had an interrupted education and/or have scored significantly below grade level achievement on a mathematical proficiency exam. Students require concentrated instruction of integral math skills needed to be successful in Algebra 1. This course provides additional time for mastery of basic skill development. Students who successfully complete this course move on to Bilingual Algebra I. This course is taught bilingually in Spanish and English.

This course does not meet the mathematics requirement for graduation but students do receive elective credits.

Algebra I

Co-requisite: ESL

5 credits

Grade level: 9

This course is for ESL students who are eligible for bilingual content courses only. Algebra I is the first course in the standard high school mathematics sequence. Students learn to represent relationships using numbers, variables, expressions, equations, and formulas; and they use equations and inequalities to solve problems. They collect, organize, and analyze data; and learn to translate among graphs, tables, and symbolic statements. Algebra 1 focuses on understanding mathematical principles and concepts, and communicating mathematical thinking. This course is taught bilingually in Spanish and English.

Algebra I Applications

Co-requisite: ESL, Algebra I

5 credits

Grade Level: 9

Students in Algebra I Applications explore algebraic and geometrical puzzles and problems. They explore the school's instructional focus through group, partners and class activities that connect basic math with real-world situations and examples. This class supports the concepts taught in Algebra I.

Geometry

Prerequisites: Algebra I

Co-requisite: ESL

5 credits

Grade level: 10

This course is for ESL students who are eligible for bilingual content courses only. Geometry is the second course in the high school mathematics sequence. Students learn properties of plane (two-dimensional) and solid (three-dimensional) figures along with properties on the coordinate plane, and use those properties to find various quantities, including length, area, perimeter, volume, and angle measurements. This course is taught bilingually in Spanish and English.

Geometry Honors

Prerequisites: Grade of 93 or better in Algebra I or departmental recommendation.

Co-requisite: ESL

5 credits

Grade Level: 10

This course is for ESL students who are eligible for bilingual content courses only. Geometry Honors is open to tenth-grade students who exhibit exceptional ability and a strong interest in mathematics. In addition to the standard geometry topics, students learn to use logical arguments to justify conjectures about geometric relationships. The focus of geometry honors is to develop an understanding of Euclidean geometry as an axiomatic-deductive system.

Geometry Applications

Prerequisites: Algebra I

Co-requisites: Geometry, ESL

5 credits

Grade Level: 10

Students in Geometry Applications explore the school's instructional focus through group, partners and class activities that connect basic math, Algebra I and Geometry with real-world situations and examples. This class supports the concepts taught in Geometry.

Algebra II

Prerequisites: Algebra I and Geometry

Co-requisite: ESL

5 credits

Grade Level: 11

This course is for ESL students who are eligible for bilingual content courses only. Algebra II is the third course in the high school mathematics sequence. The focus of Algebra II is an extensive study of functions, their graphs, and transformations on the coordinate plane. Students study linear equations and inequalities, nonlinear functions, and systems of linear and nonlinear functions. Conics are introduced, with emphasis on the relationship between graphs and equations of conic sections. This course is taught bilingually in Spanish and English.

Algebra II Applications

Prerequisites: Algebra I, Geometry

Co-requisites: Algebra II, ESL

5 credits

Grade Level: 11

Students in Algebra II Applications prepare through working in groups and with partners to problem-solve. Students learn test-taking strategies and use mock tests to perfect their skills.

BILINGUAL SCIENCES COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Bilingual Science courses are taught using the dual language model using Spanish and English. The purpose is to ensure content knowledge along with English Proficiency gains. The science department offers a wide range of courses that afford all students the opportunity to become scientifically and technologically literate. Successful completion of three years (15 credits) of science courses is required for graduation. Any student enrolled in an honors class must maintain a minimum of a B average throughout the year in order to continue in the honors sequence.

Urban Ecology/Environmental Science

5 credits

Grade Level: 9

Urban Ecology/Environmental Science is a multidisciplinary course that draws from all the sciences, as well as other disciplines. This is an inquiry-based course integrated with demonstrations, critical thinking, and problem solving activities to enable students to gain a better understanding of the relationship between humans and the world in which we live. The essential themes of the course include: Introduction to Environmental Science, Ecology, Populations, Air, Water and Land, Mineral and Energy Resources, and Our Health and Our Future.

Biology

Prerequisites: Environmental Science

Co-requisite: ESL

5 credits

Grade Level: 10

This course is for ESL students who are eligible for bilingual content courses only. This college-preparatory, core-required course introduces students to the major biological concepts such as the following: 1) cell biology; 2) genetics; 3) taxonomy; 4) ecology; 5) botany; and 6) biochemistry. Emphasis is placed on scientific inquiry and processes. In addition, emphasis is placed on comparative anatomy and physiology of both body structure and functions between organisms of various structures. Students extensively use the microscope, and learn dissection techniques. Alternative learning experiences are provided for students who do not wish to participate in activities involving animals, e.g., dissections.

Honors Biology

Prerequisites: Grade of at least 80 and teacher recommendation.

Co-requisite: ESL

5 credits (weighted)

Grade Level: 10

This course is for ESL students who are eligible for bilingual content courses only. Honors Biology approaches the study of life with a heavy reliance on laboratory activities that emphasize the nature of biological inquiry and the importance of careful observation. The course uses an ecological theme but devotes much time to all major branches of biological science, including cell study, biochemistry and metabolism, heredity, and the physiology of plants and animals. The ability to analyze data collected in laboratory investigations is stressed, and math competency is necessary. Some lab activities will include computer involvement. Honors Biology includes a research project and is designed for those who are considering following a career in science and who are successful in mathematics.

Chemistry

Prerequisites: Biology

Co-requisite: ESL

5 credits

Grade Level: 11, 12

This course is for ESL students who are eligible for bilingual content courses only. This course involves study of the composition, structure, and changes in matter and introduces the student to the fundamental principles of chemistry. The laboratory experiments emphasize these concepts and utilize the mathematics and problem-solving techniques of Algebra I. This course is for 10th, 11th or 12th graders.

Physiology and Fitness

Prerequisites: Successful completion of 8th grade Science

Co-requisite: ESL

5 credits

Grade Level: 9, 10

This course is for ESL students who are eligible for bilingual content courses only. This elective provides freshmen and sophomores with a strong science foundation that emphasizes preparation for further specialized study or direct entrance into a related career. The course integrates technology, content, and process skills, current research, and active, student-centered learning. The sport management option is designed to meet the needs of the popular and growing field of management of sports facilities and programs. Graduates may choose to pursue their interests in a four-year institute of higher education or prepare for entry-level positions in sport/fitness organizations or collegiate sports programs.

BILINGUAL SOCIAL STUDIES

Bilingual Social Studies courses are taught using the dual language model using Spanish and English. The purpose is to ensure content knowledge along with English Proficiency gains. New Jersey requires three years of history as part of the graduation requirements. This includes American and World History, Economics and American Government. Through social studies courses, students are exposed to and participate in multicultural experiences, gender equity awareness, an understanding of the heritage of New Jersey and of the nation, global perspectives, and economic and geographic literacy.

BILINGUAL SOCIAL STUDIES COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

United States History I

Prerequisites: World History

Co-requisite: ESL

5 credits

Grade Level: 10

This course is for ESL students who are eligible for bilingual content courses only. United States History is the second in a three-year required course sequence in social studies, designed to help students become knowledgeable citizens and

thoughtful voters through a study of the past and present problems of American democracy. The first half surveys the important historical events that occurred from the colonial period until the late nineteenth or early twentieth centuries with emphasis on African-American and Latino studies. The second half concentrates on important political, social and cultural events from 1900 to the present. In addition, the United States' position in the international community is studied. There is a continued emphasis on African-American and Latino interests. US History integrates study of the Constitution and civic responsibilities for encouraging good citizenship. A mandatory research paper and challenging problem solving and critical analysis strategies are emphasized in compliance with the New Jersey Core Content Standards.

United States History I Honors

Prerequisites: 90 or higher in World History and/or teacher recommendation.

5 credits (weighted)

Grade Level: 9

This course is for ESL students who are eligible for bilingual content courses only. This course accomplishes the same as United States History but is accelerated to prepare students for college level work. This course provides students with an opportunity to expand their reading, writing and analytical skills in social studies and meet the requirement of three years of social science. A mandatory research paper and challenging problem-solving and critical analysis strategies are emphasized in compliance with the New Jersey Core Content Standards.

United States History II

Prerequisite: US History I

Co-requisite: ESL

5 credits

Grade level: 11

This course is for ESL students who are eligible for bilingual content courses only. United States History II is the second required course in the social studies sequence that concentrates on important political, social and cultural events from 1900 to the present. In addition, the United States' position in the international community is studied. There is a continued emphasis on African-American and Latino interests. This course is taught bilingually in Spanish and English.

World History

Prerequisites: None

Co-requisites: ESL

5 credits

Grade Level: 9

This course is for ESL students who are eligible for bilingual content courses only. World history is the 9th grade course, the first in a three-year required course sequence in social studies that surveys world history, geography, traditions and political institutions that have shaped our world. Students are involved in a broad spectrum of activities, investigation of the cultural, social and historic background of the contemporary world.

Economics

Prerequisites: World History and U.S. History I and II

2.5 credits

Grade Level: 12

This course is for ESL students who are eligible for bilingual content courses only. Economics is a half year requirement available to twelfth grade students. Students will further their analytical skills by studying investment in the market system theories, problems of scarcity, operation of business, investment banking and the budgetary process. Students pursue independent research on economic topics that are teacher-selected and student-elected. Satisfactory completion of the course provides students an adequate foundation for understanding major economic principles and basic knowledge for informed personal investment decisions.

American Government

Prerequisites: World History and US History I and II

2.5 credits

Grade Level: 12

This course is for ESL students who are eligible for bilingual content courses only. American Government is a half year requirement available to twelfth grade students. This course offers for analysis certain perspectives on government and politics in the United States. The course includes both the study of general concepts used to interpret U.S. politics and the analysis of specific examples. The following topics are discussed: constitutional underpinnings of United States Government; political beliefs and behaviors, political parties, interest groups, and mass media; institutions of National Government; public policy; civil rights and civil liberties. This year-long course requires substantial research.

Latino Perspective

5 credits

Grade Level: 10, 11, 12

This course is for ESL students who are eligible for bilingual content courses only. Latino Perspective is an elective course that focuses on the history and heritage of people and cultures that emerged from civilizations of the original inhabitants of the western hemisphere and the people and cultures of Europe and Africa. The course is designed to help expose students to the rich cultural and history of Latin America. Latino Perspective is structured to encourage social participation with respect and appreciation of cultural diversity of the Plainfield community. This course is taught bilingually in Spanish and English.