



**2017-2018**

**5 – 12 Curriculum & Course Guide**

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction	3
Middle School Pathways & Participation	4
Middle School Core Curriculum	5-13
Fifth Grade	5
Sixth Grade	6-7
Seventh Grade	8-9
Eighth Grade	9-10
Additional Middle School Course Offerings	12
Middle School Elective Course Offerings	12-15
High School Course Pathways & Participation	16
High School Graduation Information	17
Required Credits	17
Earned Credits	18
Successful Course Completion	18
Transfer Students	18
Home Schooling Programs	18
Pre-High School Credit	18
Course Failure and Repeat Credit	18
Plagiarism and Cheating	18
Credit Recovery	19
Drop/Add Policy	19
Audit a Course	19
Valedictorian/Salutatorian	19
Wisconsin Academic Excellence Scholarship	19
Technical Excellence Scholarship	19
Advanced Placement Program	20
Early Graduation	21
High School Grading Procedures	21
Cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA)	22
Grade Points	22
Grading Scale	22
GPA Calculation	22
Weighted Grades	22
Class Rank	22
Honor Roll	22

Grade Level Determination	22
Senior Status	22
Post-Secondary Planning Guide	23-24
High School Core Course Offerings	26-85
English & English Electives	6-30
Mathematics & Mathematics Electives	31-34
Science & Science Electives	35-40
Social Studies & Social Studies Electives	41-50
Physical Education & Health	51-53
Elective Courses	54
World Languages	74-84
Alternate Ways of Earning High School Credit	84
Work Study Program	84
Youth Options	84

*\*Contents of this document may change without notice.*

## INTRODUCTION

Wisconsin Virtual Learning (WVL) is a public virtual charter school. Our mission is to provide a personalized educational program to meet the individual learning needs of each of our students. Our passion is to do whatever it takes to help each child reach their full potential.

WVL offers a diverse selection of learning pathways including online classes, independent learning, and curriculum choices to best meet the individual learning styles and needs of each of our students.

This course catalog contains information for both students and parents about courses offered at Wisconsin Virtual Learning. It is subdivided by departments, which include descriptions of class offerings, recommendations, graduation requirements and alternate ways of earning credit. This information will assist students and parents in making decisions about course selections.

Student course selection should be guided by information collected from several sources - parents, school staff and printed materials. Student placement in courses will be determined on a case-by-case basis and will be guided by input and/or approval from school staff. Each year, students and parents should review student progress, making sure that requirements are being completed.

## MIDDLE SCHOOL COURSE PATHWAYS & PARTICIPATION

Wisconsin Virtual Learning Middle School students have three pathways in which they can pursue their education. These pathways include 1) virtual, 2) independent, or 3) blended. A description of each pathway is provided below.

Students in the **Virtual Pathway** access their courses, lessons, assignments, quizzes, tests, and submit work online. Students attend regularly scheduled, real-time classes online with a Wisconsin Virtual Learning teacher and other students. Teachers provide live instruction and give homework assignments through mandatory Blackboard Collaborate sessions, and offer students the opportunity to interact with one another. Students will participate in class and the live classes are based on the lessons as outlined in the online course. The live classes provide an extension to the online lessons and allow students to participate and practice the concepts for that lesson.

Students in the **Independent Pathway** access their courses, lessons, assignments, quizzes, tests, and submit work online. Students work through the curriculum independently, and are required to sustain the recommended pacing for course completion. Those quickly demonstrating mastery of course learning goals can progress at an accelerated pace.

The **Blended Pathway** combines both the virtual and independent models. It is ideal for students who excel in some subjects but desire more one-on-one instruction in others.

**Students in all pathways are expected to participate in school on a daily basis.** Students will be evaluated frequently to determine achievement in their scheduled courses. Assessments are based on student participation in online discussions and web-based discussion threads, submitted writings, projects, portfolios, quizzes, unit tests, semester exams, and final exams.

## **FIFTH GRADE**

### **Language Arts 5**

In Language Arts 5, students will learn a wide range of skills and strategies focused on reading, writing, listening and speaking through online lessons, videos, educational games, and interactive learning objects. Students will select a novel to read and use that novel as well as other literature pieces to focus on plot, main idea, figurative language, and other literary elements. A unit of this course will emphasize comprehending informational texts, and students will focus on determining the structure, author's purpose, and main idea of several informational texts.

Additionally, students will learn useful strategies to use before, during, and after reading in order to better understand informational texts. Students will learn about the five main types of writing: descriptive, narrative, expository, technical, and persuasive. They will hone vocabulary skills, including word analysis and decoding, determining the meaning of unknown words, and understanding word relationships. Students will learn to improve their writing by focusing on grammar and usage, such as sentence types, punctuation, capitalization, and spelling.

*Note: This course is offered through the virtual and independent pathway.*

### **Math 5**

Fifth Grade Math emphasizes real-life problem-solving and building algebraic and geometric thinking. Concepts covered include understanding place value system, perform operations with multi-digit whole numbers and decimals to hundredths, use equivalent fractions as a strategy to add and subtract fractions, apply and extend previous understandings of multiplication and division to multiply and divide fractions, geometric measurement and understand concepts of volume and relate volume to multiplication and to addition, as well as graph points in the coordinate plane to solve real-world problems. Students are also expected to use Google Drive.

*Note: This course is offered through both the virtual and independent pathway.*

### **Science 5**

In Science 5, students will explore scientific concepts through online lessons, videos, and interactive learning objects, which will serve as a foundation for higher-level science courses. Students who complete this course will be able to distinguish between the engineering design process and the scientific method as well as to recognize the importance of technology in society. Students will learn about the ecosystems and their components, how energy moves through an ecosystems and how plants and animals interact and depend on one another.

As students move through the course, they will complete a study of earth and space, including a study of the resources of freshwater on earth. Students will be introduced to some chemistry and physics concepts. The successful mastery of these skills in this course, will adequately prepare students for higher-level concepts they will encounter in middle school science courses.

*Note: This course is offered through the virtual and independent pathway.*

### **Social Studies 5**

Social Studies 5 will cover material ranging from that regarding the early Americans to that of modern times using online lessons, videos, educational games, and interactive learning objects. Students will use maps to learn geography skills, and they will explore topics such as early American civilization, including the first Americans and Native American tribes, European exploration, and the colonization of North America. Other featured topics in the course will include American independence, principles and documents of government, growth and westward expansion, federal government, state and local government, patriotism, and the rights and responsibilities of citizenship.

*Note: This course is offered through the virtual and independent pathway.*

## **SIXTH GRADE**

### **Language Arts 6**

Language Arts 6 explores a variety of types of literature. Students will read intriguing selections written by famous and influential authors. Comprehension strategies will be put into practice. Students will be introduced to several forms of writing, such as fiction and nonfiction, which Students will read, comprehend, and analyze. The writing process is emphasized while given the opportunity to produce students own compositions. In Semester One, writing will include a comparison-contrast essay, a short story, a research report, and a response to literature. Students will learn proper conventions of grammar and how to spell commonly misspelled words. In addition, Students will learn many new vocabulary words, reading concepts, and grammar concepts.

*Note: This course is offered through both the virtual and independent pathway.*

### **Math 6**

Sixth Grade Math emphasizes real-life problem-solving and building algebraic and geometric thinking. Concepts covered include apply and extend previous understandings of multiplication and division to divide fractions by fractions, apply and extend previous understandings of numbers to the number of rational numbers, understand ratio concepts and use ratio reasoning to solve problems, apply and extend previous understandings of arithmetic to algebraic expressions, reason about and solve one-variable equations and inequalities, and represent and analyze quantitative relationships between dependent and independent variables. Students are also expected to use Google Drive.

*Note: This course is offered through both the virtual and independent pathway.*

### **Science 6 - Life Science**

Students in science 6 will be learning about the life sciences. We travel through the spectrum studying the very small all the way to how all of those cells come together to form large, multi-celled organisms-humans. We also discuss plants, animals, and how these organisms interact in their environments. Students have many hands on activities throughout each unit and participate in virtual labs. Standard lab materials are included. A list of additional lab materials is provided with each unit. Students are also expected to be able to utilize Google Drive.

*Note: This course is offered through both the virtual and independent pathway.*

### **Social Studies 6 - Ancient Civilizations**

This course will focus on world history from the beginnings of human civilization to the present day. Students will learn to evaluate the connections between geography and history. Topics in the course will include: the Fertile Crescent, Judaism and the Jewish People, Ancient India and China, Ancient Greece, Ancient Rome, and the Byzantine Empire. Students will study various world religions, such as Hinduism and Buddhism. Throughout this course, students will have access to interactive online activities and compelling videos that will help explain world history and enhance the course. The textbook provides built-in reading support and helps students build map skills to better understand the world. It also helps students develop writing and geography skills. Student assessments include a variety of projects, written assessments, and virtual presentations.

*Note: This course is offered through the virtual and independent pathway.*

## SEVENTH GRADE

### Language Arts 7

Language Arts 7 focuses on the study of grammar, literature, and composition. Students will study parts of speech and sentences. The literature selections will expose students to a variety of genres including fiction, nonfiction, poetry, drama, mythology and folktales. This course will also help students focus on key elements of literature such as character, plot, setting, theme, and point of view, as well as literary devices. Reading selections provide students the opportunity to improve reading comprehension skills, develop vocabulary, and make inferences. Students will compose formal writing assignments, including a comparison-contrast essay, a persuasive essay, and a short story.

*Note: This course is offered through both the virtual and independent pathway.*

### Math 7

Seventh Grade Math emphasizes real-life problem-solving and building algebraic and geometric thinking. The course guides students to apply and extend previous understanding of operations with fractions to add, subtract, multiply and divide rational numbers. Students will analyze proportional relationships and use them to solve real-world and mathematical problems. Additionally, they will use properties of operations to generate equivalent expressions and solve real-life and mathematical problems using numerical and algebraic expression and equations. The course utilizes a variety of hands on and virtual experiences. Students are also expected to use Google Drive.

*Note: This course is offered through both the virtual and independent pathway.*

### Science 7 - Physical Science

Students in science 7 are engaged in the many different aspects of the physical sciences. From Newton's Laws of Motion to an electrifying unit on electricity, this course utilizes many hands on experiences, virtual labs and video demonstrations of the various concepts we cover. Students also create their own Rube Goldberg machine to demonstrate their knowledge of force and motion. Standard lab materials are included. A list of additional lab materials is provided with each unit. Students are also expected to be able to utilize Google Drive.

*Note: This course is offered through both the virtual and independent pathway.*

### Social Studies 7 - Geography

Geography 7 will encourage students to think like geographers by teaching them to study the Earth according to the five themes of geography. Students will use these themes to determine where something is located, such as a region, ethnic group, landform, or trade route, and why it can be found in a particular place. The answers to these basic questions will also equip students to more fully understand the geography, history, culture, regions, and contemporary issues facing the people of the United States, Canada, and Latin America.

*Note: This course is offered through both the virtual and independent pathway.*

## **EIGHTH GRADE**

### **Language Arts 8**

Language Arts 8 focuses on the study of grammar, literature, and composition. Students will study parts of speech and sentences. The literature selections will expose students to a variety of genres including fiction, nonfiction, poetry, and drama. This course will also help students focus on key elements of literature such as character, plot, setting, theme, and point of view, as well as literary devices. Reading selections provide students the opportunity to improve reading comprehension skills, develop vocabulary, and make inferences. Students will compose formal writing assignments, including a short story, a persuasive essay and a research report.

*Note: This course is offered through both the virtual and independent pathway.*

### **Math 8 - Pre-Algebra**

Eighth Grade Math emphasizes real life problem-solving steps and helps lead into the concepts of algebra. Students will work with radical and integer exponents and understand the connections between proportional relationships, lines and linear equations. In addition, students focus on analyzing and solving linear equations and pairs of simultaneous linear equations, defining, evaluating, and comparing functions. Students also study the use of functions to model relationships between quantities. The course utilizes a variety of hands on and virtual experiences. Students are also expected to use Google Drive.

*Note: This course is offered through both the virtual and independent pathway.*

### **Science 8 - Earth Science**

What could more exciting than volcanoes, earthquakes, tornadoes, hurricanes, and monster storms? This course covers the many aspects of the Earth sciences. We begin by explore the Earth's surface, and then diving deep below to discover how and why we have earthquakes and volcanoes. We then begin our journey skyward to develop a better understanding of our weather and climate. We round out the year with a virtual trip into space. This course utilizes a variety of hands on and virtual experiences. Students are also expected to use Google Drive. Standard lab materials are included. A list of additional lab materials is provided with each unit.

*Note: This course is offered through both the virtual and independent pathway.*

### **Social Studies 8 - US History**

This course teaches students about United States History and society, from the first human migrations to the Americas to the European colonization of the Americas and the founding of the United States, through to the end of the Reconstruction period after the Civil War. Students will explore the causes and effects of the French and Indian War and will study the First Continental Congress, Declaration of Independence, and challenges of governing a new nation. The course will move through the growth of the United States, including its political landscape in the early 1800s, and slavery and territorial expansion. These discussions will lead to lessons that cover Manifest Destiny, the Civil War, and the Reconstruction of post-Civil War America.

*Note: This course is offered through both the virtual and independent pathway.*

## ADDITIONAL MIDDLE SCHOOL COURSE OFFERINGS

### ELECTIVES

Elective courses are **independent**. Students access their classes, lessons, assignments, quizzes, tests, and submit work online. Students work through the curriculum independently, and are required to sustain the recommended pacing for course completion. There are no live classes to attend with a teacher. Those quickly demonstrating mastery of course learning goals can progress at an accelerated pace.

Student placement in elective courses will be determined on a case-by-case basis and will be guided by input and/or approval from school staff. Please note that middle school elective courses are offered to students as an opportunity for enrichment. Students do not receive grades in middle school elective courses.

#### **Student Finance**

Course Length: 1 semester

Description: This course is a relevant and practical guide to student finance, understanding money beliefs, values and goals; identifying and changing unwise behaviors; opportunity costs and spending plans; credit and debt; and savings and investments.

Note: This course is only offered through the independent pathway.

#### **Self-Discipline**

Course Length: 1 semester

Description: In this course, students will be exploring self-discipline; what it is and is not, the effects of having and lacking self-discipline, and improving self-discipline. This is the first course in a three part personal development course.

Note: This course is only offered through the independent pathway.

#### **Honesty**

Course Length: 1 semester

Description: In this course, students will be exploring what constitutes honesty, the consequences of having or lacking it, and increasing personal honesty. This is the second course in a three part personal development course.

Note: This course is only offered through the independent pathway.

#### **Trust**

Course Length: 1 semester

**Description:** In this course, students will be exploring trust; what it is and is not, the effects of having or lacking trust, and strengthening personal trust. This is the third course in a three part personal development course.

**Note:** This course is only offered through the independent pathway.

### **Study Skills**

**Course Length:** 1 semester

**Description:** This course is designed to help students master themselves and the ability to study, learn and retain information in a manner that most aptly fits their learning style. Students will discover their learning style, learn how to use time effectively, learn listening skills and learn tips for taking better notes.

**Note:** This course is only offered through the independent pathway.

### **Critical Thinking, Problem Solving and Learning Strategies**

**Course Length:** 1 semester

**Description:** Gain strategies to find important information quickly, transfer it to long-term memory, and perform better on assignments and tests. You will learn to become a more efficient learner, find balance and prioritize goals.

**Notes:** This course is offered through the independent pathway.

### **Leadership Skills Development**

**Course Length:** 2 semesters

**Description:** Succeed in high school, college, and beyond by taking your future into your own hands. In this two-semester course, you will learn how to take action, manage your time, chart your goals, and many other leadership techniques.

**Notes:** This course is offered through the independent pathway.

### **Social Media**

**Course Length:** 1 semester

**Description:** Explore your individual contribution and influential powers by identifying your digital imprint. In this course, you will examine the world through social media, where citizen journalism is the news, personal audiences are your critics and your supporters, and personal connection is subjective.

**Notes:** This course is offered through the independent pathway.

### **Journalism**

**Course Length:** 1 semester

**Description:** Are you someone who likes to get the story straight? Who? What? When? Where? How? These are the details that make for a great story. And knowing how to find these key facts in any situation is the skill of a true journalist. In *Middle School Journalism: Tell Your Story*, you'll learn how to ask the right questions and find the story in any situation. You'll learn how to gather information effectively, organize ideas, format stories for media production, and edit your articles. Get ready to break that news.

**Note:** This course is only offered through the independent pathway.

## **Career Exploration**

**Course Length:** 1 semester

**Description:** How many times have you heard, "What do you want to be when you grow up?" When you close your eyes and picture yourself in the future, what do you see? Police officer? Doctor? Farmer? Pilot? Teacher? The possibilities are endless. In *Middle School Career Exploration*, you will have the chance to explore more than 15 different career areas from the energy field, human resources, the law, transportation, and other fields. Discover which careers you might enjoy the most and which ones you'll be best at.

**Note:** This course is only offered through the independent pathway.

## **Digital Photography**

**Course Length:** 1 semester

**Description:** Have you ever wondered how professional photographers manage to take such sensational pictures? Or how they are able to find just the right way to capture an image or moment in time? Perhaps you've even wondered why your own pictures don't meet that standard. *Digital Photography I: Creating Images with Impact!* will answer these questions and help you understand more about the basics of photography. Learning about aperture, shutter speed, lighting, and composition is key for any serious photographer and will help you gain the confidence and knowledge you need to become one. You will not only follow photography through its history but also gain a basic understanding of camera functions, technique, and what it takes to shoot quality portraits, close-ups, action shots, and landscapes.

**Note:** This course is only offered through the independent pathway.

**Course Length:** 1 semester

**Description:** How many times have you heard, "What do you want to be when you grow up?" When you close your eyes and picture yourself in the future, what do you see? Police officer? Doctor? Farmer? Pilot? Teacher? The possibilities are endless. In *Middle School Career Exploration*, you will have the chance to explore more than 15 different career areas from the energy field, human resources, the law, transportation, and other fields. Discover which careers you might enjoy the most and which ones

you'll be best at.

Note: This course is only offered through the independent pathway.

Wisconsin Virtual Learning High School students have three pathways in which they can pursue their education. These pathways include 1) virtual, 2) independent, or 3) blended. A description of each pathway is provided below.

Students in the **Virtual Pathway** access their courses, lessons, assignments, quizzes, tests, and submit work online. Students attend regularly scheduled, real-time classes online with a Wisconsin Virtual Learning teacher and other students. Teachers provide live instruction and give homework assignments through mandatory Blackboard Collaborate sessions, and offer students the opportunity to interact with one another. Students will participate in class and the live classes are based on the lessons as outlined in the online course. The live classes provide an extension to the online lessons and allow students to participate and practice the concepts for that lesson.

Students in the **Independent Pathway** access their courses, lessons, assignments, quizzes, tests, and submit work online. Students work through the curriculum independently, and are required to sustain the recommended pacing for course completion. Those quickly demonstrating mastery of course learning goals can progress at an accelerated pace.

The **Blended Pathway** combines both the virtual and independent models. It is ideal for students who excel in some subjects but desire more one-on-one instruction in others.

**Students in all pathways are expected to participate in school on a daily basis.** Students will be evaluated frequently to determine achievement in their scheduled courses. Assessments are based on student participation in online discussions and web-based discussion threads, submitted writings, projects, portfolios, quizzes, unit tests, semester exams, and final exams.

It is the **Parent's Responsibility** to monitor progress and student's credit attainment towards graduation. This includes, but is not limited to, consistently checking grades on a regular basis, reviewing graduation requirements and contacting the guidance counselor with concerns and questions.

**WVL administration reserves the right to cancel and/or change any course offered based on enrollment and staffing.**

## WVL HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Wisconsin Virtual Learning High School is on a credit system and aligns with the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction's High School Graduation Standards for course requirements. WVL requires students to earn **22 credits** in the following courses for graduation:

<b><u>4 Credits-English</u></b>  English 9  Communications  American Literature  English Electives	<b><u>3 Credits- Social Studies</u></b>  World Cultures  United States History  Government (.5 credit)  Social Studies/Sciences Elective (.5 credit)
--	--

<b><u>3 Credits-Mathematics</u></b>  Algebra I  Geometry  Mathematics Elective	<b><u>3 Credits-Science</u></b>  Biology & Physical Science or  Biology & Chemistry  Science Elective
--	---

<b><u>7.0 Elective Credits</u></b>	<b><u>1.5 Credits- Physical Education</u></b>  PE I (.5 credit)  PE II (.5 credit)  PE III (.5 credit)  <b><u>.5 Credit- Health / Life Management</u></b>  <b><u>Civics Examination</u></b>
------------------------------------	---

**NCAA Approved** - WVL virtual courses are NCAA approved. If you have questions about this or need more information, please contact the School Counselor.

**Earned Credit** - High school credit is earned on a semester basis. Students earn 0.5 credits for each semester course that they complete with a passing grade. Students must earn 1.0 credit in the core subject areas of English, Mathematics, Science and Social Studies to move to the next course level.

**Successful Completion** – For courses to be successfully completed, students must have earned a passing grade of D- (60%) or higher. In addition, student placement in AP and elective courses will be determined on a case-by-case basis and will be guided by input and/or approval from school staff.

**Transfer Students** – Students entering Wisconsin Virtual Learning from another school **must provide a transcript** showing completed coursework. Students providing a current grade report or transcript of courses in progress and current achievement will be placed into the corresponding course(s) at the appropriate point(s). Official academic records are necessary for credit to be earned at Wisconsin Virtual Learning from any school. Placement tests may be required to determine appropriate course assignment(s) for a student. Final determination on course placement, placement within individual courses, and final grades rests with the individual subject teachers and administration.

**Home Schooling Programs** – Students entering from a homeschooling program must provide evidence of a curriculum plan. Official academic records are necessary for credit to be earned at Wisconsin Virtual Learning from any school. Letter grades will not be assigned; instead the student will receive a satisfactory/unsatisfactory for the course obtained through home schooling. Placement tests may be required to determine appropriate course assignment(s) for a student. Final determination on course placement and placement within individual courses rests with the individual subject teachers and administration.

**Pre-High School Credit** – Students may earn high school credit for a class taken as a non-high school student given that all Department of Public Instruction requirements are met. Each student's particular academic needs will determine which courses may be taken for high school credit and at what grade level. Students must have successfully completed the course with a D- (60%) or higher in order to receive credit. **However, WVL recommends students earning less than a B- retake the course to ensure success in subsequent coursework. HS courses taken during MS are included on the transcript and count for credit, but do not count toward GPA.** It reads in the state legislature as "The Department of Public Instruction recommends that high school courses taken at the middle school level should be so noted on the transcript along with the grade received; however, the grade/s received should not be factored into high school grade point average. The reasoning behind that recommendation is that middle school students might shy away from taking a more challenging course because of future implications on their overall grade point average." WVL follows these recommendations as outlined by the Department of Public Instruction.

**Course Failure and Repeat Credit** – Students must retake required classes for which they receive a failing grade. In addition, students may choose to retake a failed elective course. Failed courses are recorded as an "F" on the student's transcript and a zero will be computed for the course in determining their cumulative grade point average.

**Academic Integrity** - WVL takes academic integrity very seriously. Plagiarism and cheating are about honesty and is a reflection about character. In addition, teachers need to be able to assess each student's learning. We expect that all work turned in will be the student's own.

- **Plagiarism** is taking sentences directly from another place and claiming it as your own. Students must write in their own words. Do not copy from your lessons, books, internet, other students, etc.
- **Cheating** is copying someone else's answers on a quiz, test, or assignment. We welcome students studying together, but each student needs to make sure all answers are your own. Tests and quizzes should be completed individually.

Students caught plagiarizing or cheating will have the following consequences:

- First offense: Conference between student and teacher. Parent notified.
- Second offense: No credit for the assignment. Referred to the principal.
- Third offense: No credit for assignment. Letter from principal.

Honest mistakes do happen and will be used as learning experiences. We will also discuss and review this information in your courses. Here are two main tips to avoid plagiarism:

- Always write in your own words.
- Cite any sources you use in your assignments.

Teachers reserve the right to request a meeting with students in order to assess their learning of course material. Meetings may be requested in online classrooms, on the phone, or in person

**Credit Recovery** - CR courses are offered to allow students to make up credits that have been lost due to failure to earn a passing grade. When students take credit recovery courses, the previous "F" will still be used in the student's GPA calculation, as will the final grade given in the credit recovery course.

**Drop/Add Policy** – The request to drop a course should be made to the Student Learning Advocate (SLA) **before the end of the tenth day of the semester**. After the tenth day of the semester, courses dropped will be given a failing grade. A request to add a course may occur at any time. The request must be made to the SLA. However, a request does not guarantee a course addition. For courses that require special fees, or if the student's participation in the course requires the school to make additional materials/course purchases, the family may be responsible for that financial commitment when the course is dropped, regardless of timing. For those courses, a student's readiness for taking the course will be discussed with the family so that the family is aware of obligations they may incur.

**Audit a Course** - Some curricula are structured in such a way that understanding and retention of material later in a course is directly related to material presented early on in the class (e.g., content covered in math classes builds on itself as the course proceeds through the year). As such, it may be recommended or required for students to audit the first semester of a course in order to better prepare for the content of the second semester. For example, if a student passed their first semester of a math class but not the second semester, it may be suitable for that student to retake the first semester of the class by auditing it, and then continuing on with the class in the second semester. Audited courses will go on a student's transcript with a grade, but **will not count for credit**.

### **Valedictorian/Salutatorian Criteria**

- The criteria for this honor are the cumulative GPA at the conclusion of the winter semester of their senior year (end of 7<sup>th</sup> semester). Students must be in attendance for three consecutive semesters in order to be considered for these awards. There is a possibility that these honors may be shared.
- Students must successfully complete a minimum of one Advanced Placement course to qualify for Valedictorian/Salutatorian.
- If there are two or more students with identical GPAs, the first tie-breaker to determine the recipient of the Wisconsin Academic Excellence Scholarship would be the total number of advanced placement courses successfully completed.
- If there are two or more students still tied after the first tie-breaker, the second tie-breaker utilized will be the student with the most credits.

**Wisconsin's Academic Excellence Scholarship** Academic Excellence Scholarships are awarded to Wisconsin high school seniors who have the highest grade point average in each public and private high school throughout the State of Wisconsin. The number of scholarships each high school is eligible for is based on total student enrollment. In order to

receive a scholarship, a student must be enrolled on a full-time basis by September 30<sup>th</sup> of the academic year following the academic year in which he or she was designated as a scholar, at a participating University of Wisconsin, Wisconsin Technical College, or independent institution in the state. The value of the scholarship is \$2,250 per year, to be applied towards tuition. Half of the scholarship is funded by the state, while the other half is matched by the institution. Eligibility must not exceed 8 semesters.

**Technical Excellence Scholarships** are to be awarded to high school seniors who have the highest demonstrated level of proficiency in technical education subjects. The scholarships are only for use at a Wisconsin Technical College within the Wisconsin Technical College System (WTCS). In order to receive a scholarship, a student must be enrolled on a full-time basis by September 30 of the academic year following the academic year in which he or she was designated as a scholar. No student may receive both a Technical Excellence Scholarship (TES) and an Academic Excellence Scholarship (AES). Students must have attended WVL for at least three (3) consecutive semesters to be eligible to compete for the scholarship.

WVL will use the Higher Education Aids Board (HEAB)-recommended ranking system to determine student qualification.

In the event of a tie-breaker, the following selection process will be followed until a winner is reached:

- GPA based on Career and Technical Education (CTE) grades is the first tiebreaker
- The total number of (1) technical college credits earned while the student has been in high school and (2) technical college credits that are in progress during the current semester is the second tiebreaker.
- The students' cumulative high school grade point average is the third tiebreaker.
- The student with the most high school credits earned by the end of the semester prior to the semester in which the scholarship is awarded is the fourth tiebreaker.
- Each student's highest ACT score, if an ACT score is available for all of the students who remain tied is the fifth tiebreaker.
- In the event any remaining tie has not been broken after the five tiebreakers, the scholarship shall be awarded to the student who has attended WVL for the longest period of time.

The recipient must be a resident of Wisconsin and the United States who is either a citizen or an alien lawfully admitted for permanent resident by the INS.

**Eligibility to Compete for Academic and Technical Excellence Scholarships** - A student will be eligible to compete for the Academic and Technical Excellence scholarships when 1) they have reached senior status and 2) they have acquired enough credits to be on pace to graduate with their class at the end of their senior year. The student's SLA, counselor, and/or principal will review whether or not a student is considered to be on pace to graduate with their age-appropriate class at the end of the school year.

**Advanced Placement Program** – Advanced Placement is a program run by the College Board, which offers students the opportunity to take college-level courses while in high school. AP classes help students improve writing skills, sharpen problem-solving techniques, as well as develop study habits necessary for tackling rigorous course work. Research indicates that many students who take AP courses and exams are much more likely to be successful in college. In addition, AP classes help college applicants stand out in the college admissions process, showing a willingness to take the most rigorous courses and emphasize a commitment to academic excellence. In May, students have the opportunity to take the AP exam for their course(s), allowing students to potentially earn college credit. The amount of college credit received varies by college, the AP score, and the subject. Students may also have the opportunity to enroll in higher-level courses as college freshman. Students are encouraged to challenge themselves by enrolling in AP courses.

**Early Graduation** – Some students pursue educational goals which include graduation from high school at an earlier date

than their designated class. The following guidelines should be followed when seeking Early Graduation:

1. The student must have earned all credits necessary for graduation.
2. Reasons for considering early graduation:
  - a. permit students to begin advanced formal education.
  - b. To permit students entry into apprenticeships, on-the-job training programs, or entry into the armed services of the United States.
  - c. To permit students to aid themselves or family during times of personal or financial need.
  - d. To permit students to offer exceptional service to society.
3. The process of application:
  - a. The student must meet with the guidance counselor to discuss early graduation and review the Early Graduation Request Checklist.
  - b. The student must submit a written letter requesting early graduation to the principal by September 30 of his/her senior year. The letter must include:
    - i. An explanation of the student's reason for early graduation.
    - ii. Signatures of the student and at least one parent/guardian to approve and verify the request.

The Board must be informed of students who are eligible and have applied for early graduation. The early graduate will be issued a diploma in the spring of the year. The early graduate is welcome to participate in commencement exercises if he/she desires and must inform the high school principal of this desire. The early graduate will not be permitted to take part in organized school activities during the remainder of his/her senior year.

## **GRADING PROCEDURES**

**Cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA)** is determined by dividing the number of quality points achieved by the number of cumulative GPA credits received. GPA is calculated at the conclusion of each semester using the final grade for each class.

### **Grade Points:**

A	4.000	B+	3.333	C+	2.333	D+	1.333	F	0.000
A-	3.667	B	3.000	C	2.000	D	1.000		
		B-	2.667	C-	1.667	D-	0.667		

### **Grading Scale -**

A	100-93	B+	89.99-87	C+	79.99-77	D+	69.99-67	F	59.99 and below
A-	92.99-90	B	86.99-83	C	76.99-73	D	66.99-63		

**Subjects/Classes/Grades Included in GPA calculation-**All subjects, classes, and grades are factored into a student's GPA calculation, with the following exceptions:

- Classes taken and grades earned at a college/university/technical college are not factored into a student's GPA (this includes Youth Options and Course Options).
- High school courses taken during middle school are not factored into a student's GPA.
- Grade marks of P, S, U, M, and INC are not factored into a student's GPA.
- Grades from study abroad programs and/or earned in another country will be entered as an "S" on the transcript produced by WVL, unless there is evidence that the teacher the student received instruction and grade from had a valid Wisconsin teaching license (in the content area the student received a grade for) for the duration of the time the student was schooling with that teacher.

**Weighted Grades-** Due to the variety of different weighting scales used by high schools many colleges and universities recalculate weighted grades to a four point scale. Therefore, WVL does not weight grades.

**Class Rank-** After a great deal of research and debate with a number of high schools, college representatives, WVL staff and administration, Wisconsin Virtual Learning does not supply the rank of its students. Because of our smaller class sizes, we have found supplying rank to colleges/universities presents a significant disadvantage for our students attempting to gain admittance. If students take advantage of our college preparatory curriculum and dedicate themselves to their studies, they will meet and exceed the minimum requirements for admission into many of the well- respected post-secondary institutions across the country. Class rank will be utilized for internal and administrative purposes only.

**Honor Roll** is published at the end of each semester. Students with a G.P.A. of 3.50 and above receive High Honors and students with a G.P.A. of 3.00 to 3.499 receive Honors. Students are eligible for the school Honor Roll if they meet the following requirements. Students who fail a class or receive an incomplete are not eligible.

**Grade Level Determination** - High school students advance through grade levels in sequential order, regardless of the number of credits they've acquired (an exception may be a student who formally skips ahead a grade level - this determination is made after careful consideration and discussion between family, the student, staff, and administration). Students who transfer into WVL are placed into their age-appropriate grade level. Students of junior status (11th grade) who plan to graduate a year early - at the end of their junior year - are not considered to be of senior status, and may not have the same eligibility or opportunities associated with being a senior.

**Senior Status** - Students are considered to have reached "senior" status when 1) they have reached the age-appropriate grade level or 2) they have followed proper protocol to advance a grade level to be considered a senior through administrative approval.

## POST SECONDARY PLANNING GUIDE

SUBJECT	WVL GRADUATION REQUIREMENT S  22.0 Credits	TECHNICAL COLLEGE Admission Requirements	UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN SYSTEM Admission Requirements	SELECTIVE COLLEGES/ UNIVERSITIES Admission Requirements
ENGLISH	<b>4 Credits</b> English 9, Communications American Literature 1 Elective Credit	<b>4 Credits</b>	<b>4 Credits</b> AP coursework	<b>4+ Credits</b> AP coursework
MATHEMATICS	<b>3 Credits</b> Algebra I Geometry 1 Elective Credit	<b>2-3 Credits</b>	<b>3 Credits</b> Algebra I Geometry Algebra II	<b>4+ Credits</b> Pre-Calculus AP Coursework
SCIENCE	<b>3 Credits</b> Physical Science & Biology or	<b>2-3 Credits</b>	<b>3 Credits</b> Physical Science Biology	<b>4+ Credits</b> Biology Chemistry

	Biology & Chemistry 1 Elective Credit		Chemistry AP Coursework	Physics AP Coursework
SOCIAL STUDIES	<b>3 Credits</b> American & World History Government .5 Elective Credit	<b>3 Credits</b>	<b>3 Credits</b> AP Coursework Social Sciences	<b>4+ Credits</b> AP Coursework Social Sciences
HEALTH/ PHYSICAL ED	<b>.5 Credit</b> -Health <b>1.5 Credits</b> - Physical Education	Not Required	Not Required	Not Required
ADDITIONAL COURSEWORK	<b>7.0</b> Electives	Computer Proficiency	World Language(suggested) Fine Arts Academic Electives	AP Coursework World Language Fine Arts Academic Electives

The above requirements are the *minimum* set by colleges and universities. All students are encouraged *to exceed the minimum* number of college preparatory credits required for admission. Strong academic preparation for college helps to ensure success. Challenge and prepare for success by taking rigorous college preparatory courses including during the senior year of high school. This includes enrolling in Advanced Placement courses. Research has shown that students who complete AP coursework have greater success in college. College preparatory coursework helps develop competencies in four primary areas—English, mathematics, social studies, and natural science.

All UW System campuses require new freshmen to have completed a minimum of 17 high school credits. Thirteen of these credits must be "core college preparatory" (English, mathematics, natural science, and social science/history); an additional four electives are required.

In addition to the "core college preparatory" credits identified, students need to complete a **minimum** of four elective credits. An additional 4 credits may be chosen from English, mathematics, natural science, social science/history, foreign language, fine arts, computer science, and other academic areas. **Two years of a single foreign language is required for admission to UW-Eau Claire and UW-Madison, and strongly recommended at other UW System campuses.** Some UW System campuses may also accept technical and career courses for a portion of these 4 elective credits.

Technical school requirements vary depending on the program of study a student entering. Students may be required to take the ACT or placement tests in reading, writing, and math.

Individual campuses have specific requirements. Check college and technical school websites for specific information about admission requirements.

UW Public Colleges <http://uwhelp.wisconsin.edu>

Wisconsin Private Colleges

[www.wisconsinprivatecolleges.org](http://www.wisconsinprivatecolleges.org) UW 2-Year Colleges

<http://www.uwc.edu>

Wisconsin Technical Colleges

<http://www.witechcolleges.org> Minnesota Public Colleges

<http://www.mnscu.edu>

Minnesota Private Colleges <http://www.mnprivatecolleges.org>

Midwest Student Exchange Program

[http://www.mhec.org/MSEPDescription](http://www.mhec.org/MSEPDDescription) Illinois Public Colleges

[https://www.collegetoolkit.com/colleges/browse/institutional\\_control/illinois/17/results/public/1.as](https://www.collegetoolkit.com/colleges/browse/institutional_control/illinois/17/results/public/1.aspx)

[px](#) Illinois Private Colleges

<http://www.e-referencedesk.com/education/schools-private/illinois-state/>

## HIGH SCHOOL CORE COURSE OFFERINGS

Core courses are offered through both the virtual or independent pathway unless otherwise noted.

Students in the **Virtual Pathway** access their courses, lessons, assignments, quizzes, tests, and submit work online. Students attend regularly scheduled, real-time classes online with a Wisconsin Virtual Learning teacher and other students. Teachers provide live instruction and give homework assignments through mandatory Blackboard Collaborate sessions, and offer students the opportunity to interact with one another

Students in the **Independent Pathway** access their courses, lessons, assignments, quizzes, tests, and submit work online. Students work through the curriculum independently, and are required to sustain the recommended pacing for course completion. Those quickly demonstrating mastery of course learning goals can progress at an accelerated pace.

### ENGLISH

#### English 9

Course Length: 2 semesters

Credit Earned: 1 credit

Prerequisite(s): None

Description: This course introduces learners to elements of literature from classic to modern times using forms such as short stories, novels, poetry, drama, and essays. Through reading, learners will develop skills in literary analysis and interpretation. Tips for strengthening vocabulary, grammar, and mechanics will be given. Lessons concerning writing emphasize composition skills. Learners will demonstrate their knowledge of the content through a variety of writing assignments.

Note: This course is offered through both the independent and virtual pathway.

#### Communications

Course Length: 2 semesters

Credit Earned: 1 credit

Prerequisite(s): English 9

Description: Communications reinforces the development of reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills and knowledge taught in English 9. The course explores in-depth the principles, mechanics, techniques, tools, processes, and aesthetics of successful written and spoken communication for both the professional and academic world at the individual, small group, and public communication levels. This course provides experiences in oral communication and offers the further development of writing skills to ensure an improvement of ability to analyze, organize, and critically think about communicative messages while becoming better equipped to articulate ideas.

Note: This course is offered through both the independent and virtual pathway.

## American & World Literature

Course Length: 2 semesters

Credit Earned: 1 credit

Prerequisites: English 9

Description: In this course, students are invited to travel through the various cultural periods of American literature. Students will explore American literary traditions of the 19th century and study the darker side of Romanticism while exploring the horror story genre. The course will include a study of the Contemporary Period, where students will read many different genres of literature including poetry, drama, fiction, and nonfiction. Students will complete the course with a deeper understanding of the major contributions literature has made in the development of our country.

Note: This course is offered through both the independent and virtual pathway.

## ENGLISH-ELECTIVES

The following courses can be used to meet the additional fourth credit of required English or as an elective. **These courses cannot be taken in place of a required core class.**

### AP English Literature & Composition

Course Length: 2 semesters

Credit Earned: 1 credit

Prerequisites: English 9 and Communications or American Literature or Administrative discretion.

Description: Assignments/lessons include reading, analyzing, writing, rewriting, and discussing creations by renowned authors throughout a wide span of history. With intensive concentration on composition skills and on author's narrative techniques, this course equips students with strategies for success in college, in a career, and on the AP exam. Assessments can be in the form of writing assignments, to include creative writing (essays, reflective responses, style emulations, etc.) and analytical writing (comparison/ contrast, literary analysis, AP style essays, etc.), AP multiple choice questions, short answer assignments, oral assessments, and discussions.

Objectives: Besides engaging students in challenging curriculum, the course guides students to reflect on their learning and to evaluate their progress through a variety of assessments. Assessments can be in the form of writing assignments, to include creative writing (essays, reflective responses, style emulations, etc.) and analytical writing (comparison/ contrast, literary analysis, AP style essays, etc.), AP multiple choice questions, short answer assignments, oral assessments, and discussions. Instructors evaluate progress and provide interventions through the variety of assessments built into a course, as well as through contact with the student in other venues.

Note: **This course will be offered during the 2018-2019 school year through the virtual pathway and as enrollment allows. However, it may be available independently through an outside vendor**

## **English Language & Composition**

Course Length: 2 semesters

Credit Earned: 1 credit

Prerequisites: English 9, Communications, American Literature or at Administrative discretion.

Description: An AP course in English Language and Composition engages students in becoming skilled readers of prose written in a variety of periods, disciplines, and rhetorical contexts and in becoming skilled writers who compose for a variety of purposes. Both their writing and their reading should make students aware of the interactions among a writer's purposes, audience expectations, and subjects as well as the way generic conventions and the resources of language contribute to effectiveness in writing.

Objectives: Analyze and interpret samples of good writing, identifying and explaining an author's use of rhetorical strategies and techniques; apply effective strategies and techniques in their own writing; create and sustain arguments based on readings, research, and/or personal experience; demonstrate understanding and mastery of standard written English as well as stylistic maturity in their own writings; and write in a variety of genres and contexts, both formal and informal.

Note: **This course will be offered during the 2017-2018 school year through the virtual pathway and as enrollment allows. However, it may be available independently through an outside vendor.**

## **Creative Writing I**

Course Length: 1 semester

Credit Earned: 0.5 credit

Prerequisite(s): None

Description: Students create original essays, poems, and short stories in this course, which uses two textbooks and focuses on the four-step process writing model. They read professionally written forms of creative writing as models and then integrate their impressions of these works with their personal life experiences as they compose their own writing projects. Students are encouraged to write about topics they find engaging as they practice writing on the following themes: narration, definition, process analysis, cause and effect, and comparison/contrast. After students turn in each assignment, the teacher supplies detailed suggestions for revision. This feedback helps students learn how to improve their self-expression and self-editing skills.

Note: This course is only offered through the independent pathway.

## **Creative Writing II**

Course Length: 1 semester

Credit Earned: 0.5 credit

Prerequisite(s): Creative Writing I

**Description:** In this course, students will explore a range of creative writing genres, fiction, poetry, creative nonfiction, drama and multimedia writing. Students will study examples of writing through classic and contemporary selections and will apply that knowledge and understanding to their writing. In addition, students will develop and intimate understanding of the writing process and its application to various projects. As the students move through the course, they will understand and evaluate the writing of others, and be able to apply the evaluation criteria to their own writing. By the end of the course, students will have created a well-developed portfolio of finished written works. Learning activities include reading; listening; discussing; writing; multiple choice games; self-check activities; and reflective journals. The unit structure includes the broader idea of the unit as defined by the main heading. Units will include a combination of activities and will culminate in a submittal of the finished unit project. Unit projects will be developed in phases throughout each section of the unit. Unit lessons and performance tasks have been scaffolded carefully to help students achieve deeper levels of understanding.

**Note:** This course is only offered through the independent pathway.

### **Journalism**

Course Length: 1

semester Credit Earned:

0.5 credit Prerequisite(s):

None

**Description:** Students are introduced to the historical importance of journalism in America. They study the basic principles of print and online journalism as they examine the role of printed news media in our society. They learn investigative skills, responsible reporting, and journalistic writing techniques as they read, respond to, and write their own news and feature articles. Students conduct interviews, research, write, and design their own publications.

**Note:** This course is only offered through the independent pathway.

### **Public Speaking**

Course Length: 1

semester Credit Earned:

0.5 credit Prerequisite:None

**Description:** Students are introduced to public speaking as an important component of their academic, work, and social lives. They study public speaking occasions and develop skills as fair and critical listeners, or consumers, of spoken information and persuasion. Students study types of speeches (informative,

persuasive, dramatic, and special occasion), read and listen to models of speeches, and prepare and present their own speeches to diverse audiences. Students learn to choose speaking topics and adapt them for specific audiences, to research and support their ideas, and to benefit from listener feedback. They study how to incorporate well-designed visual and multimedia aids in presentations and how to maintain a credible presence in the digital world. Students also learn about the ethics of public speaking and about techniques for managing communication anxiety.

Notes: This course is offered through the independent pathway. Students must have a webcam and recording software.

### **Theater, Cinema, & Film Production**

Course Length: 1

semester Credit Earned:

0.5 credit Prerequisite(s):

Communications

Description: Lights! Camera! Action! Let's explore the enchanting world of theater and its fascinating relationship to the silver screen. In Theater, Cinema, and Film Production, you'll learn the basics of lighting, sound, wardrobe, and camerawork and examine the magic that happens behind all the drama. Delve into the glamorous history of film and theater, and examine the tremendous influence they've had on society, culture, and humanity over the years. During this unit, you'll discuss and analyze three classic American films: *Casablanca*, *Singin' in the Rain*, and *The Wizard of Oz*, helping you learn how to critique and appreciate some of the most famous dramas of all time..

Note: This course is only offered through the independent pathway.

## MATHEMATICS

### Basic Math

Course Length: 2 semesters

Credit Earned: 1 credit

Prerequisite(s): Teacher Recommendation

Description: Basic Math includes the topics and concepts typically covered in Middle School Courses that include, **Operations and Algebraic Thinking**; writing and interpreting numerical expressions, and analyze patterns and relationships, **Number and Operations in Base Ten**; understand the place value system, and perform the four operations with multi-digit **Whole numbers** and with **Decimals** to ten thousandths, **Number and Operations with Fractions**; adding, subtracting, multiplying, and dividing, **Measurement and Data Analysis**, as well as **Geometry** topics. This course is flexible in that it can be tailored to meet the specific needs of the student and their skill base needed.

Note: This course is only offered through the virtual pathway and through teacher recommendation. Requires Administrative approval.

### Pre-Algebra

Course Length: 2 semesters

Credit Earned: 1 credit

Prerequisite(s): Teacher Recommendation, 7<sup>th</sup> Grade math equivalent

Description: Pre-Algebra will teach students about expressions, integers, equations, inequalities, decimals, factors, fractions, exponents, ratios, proportions, and percent. Students will also learn about solving equations and inequalities, linear functions and graphing, data analysis and probability, and polynomials, as well as an introduction to geometry. This course emphasizes the use of technology, problem solving, critical thinking, and reasoning. Students will acquire a solid foundation for Algebra I.

Note: This course is offered through the virtual pathway only. Students that have successfully completed 8<sup>th</sup> grade math should proceed to Algebra.

### Algebra I-Required

Course Length: 2 semesters

Credit Earned: 1 credit

Prerequisite(s): 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Math /Pre-Algebra

Description: This course will review some of the fundamental math skills students learned in middle school, and then get students up to speed on the basic concepts of algebra. Each unit takes students step-by-step into world of integers, equations, graphs and data analysis. This course connects algebra to the real world. It also demystifies algebra, making it easier to understand and master. The goal is to create a foundation in math that will stay with Students throughout high school.

Note: This course is offered through both the independent and virtual pathway.

### **Geometry-Required**

Course Length: 2 semesters

Credit Earned: 1 credit

Prerequisite(s): Successful completion of Algebra I

Description: Throughout this course, student will focus on a mathematical highway illuminated by spatial relationships, reasoning, connections, and problem solving. This course is all about points, lines and planes. Just as importantly, this course is about acquiring a basic tool for understanding and manipulating the real world around students.

Note: This course is offered through both the independent and virtual pathway.

## **MATHEMATICS-ELECTIVES**

The following courses can be used to meet the additional third credit of required Math or as an elective. **These courses cannot be taken in place of a required core class.**

### **Algebra II**

Course Length: 2 semesters

Credit Earned: 1 credit

Prerequisite(s): Successful completion of Algebra I

Description: This course begins with a review of basic algebra and then introduces systems of equations, factoring, radical and quadratic equations, polynomial functions, rational equations, exponential and logarithmic relations, and sequences and series. Algebra II is an advanced course using hands-on activities, applications, group interactions, and the latest technology.

Note: This course is offered through both the independent and virtual pathway.

### **AP Calculus**

Course Length: 2 semesters

Credit Earned: 1 credit

Prerequisite(s): Successful completion of PreCalculus

Description: An interactive text, graphing software and math symbol software combine with the exciting online course delivery to make Calculus an adventure. This course is designed to prepare the student for the AP Calculus BC exam given each year in May. An Advanced Placement (AP) course in calculus consists of a full high school year of work that is comparable to calculus courses in colleges and universities. It is expected that students who take an AP course in calculus will seek college credit, college placement, or both, from institutions of higher learning.

Note: This course is only offered through the independent pathway.

### **AP Statistics**

Course Length: 2 semesters

Credit Earned: 1 credit

Prerequisite(s): Successful completion of Algebra II

Description: Actively construct your own understanding of the methods, interpretation, communication, and application of statistics. Each unit is framed by ideas and questions designed to provide you with a deep understanding of the concepts at hand, rather than memorization and emulation. This course meets one required math credit for high school graduation.

Note: This course is only offered through the independent pathway.

### **Integrated Math**

Course Length: 1 year course

Credit Earned: 1 credit

Prerequisite(s): Successful completion of Algebra I and Geometry

Description: This course will help students learn and master skills that are presented in Algebra 1 and Geometry. The course is offered through ALEKS. ALEKS uses adaptive questioning to quickly and accurately determine exactly what a student knows and doesn't know in a course. ALEKS then instructs the student on the topics he/she is most ready to learn. As a student works through a course, ALEKS periodically reassesses the student to ensure that topics learned are also retained.

Note: This course is only offered through the independent pathway with additional weekly support from the teacher.

### **Pre-Calculus**

Course Length: 2 semesters

Credit Earned: 1 credit

Prerequisite(s): Successful completion of Algebra II

Description: Students will investigate how advanced mathematics concepts can solve problems. The purpose of this course is to study functions and develop skills necessary for the study of calculus. The pre-calculus course includes analytical geometry and trigonometry.

Note: This course is offered through both the independent and virtual pathway.

### **Statistics**

Course Length: 1 semester

Credit Earned: 0.5 credit

Prerequisite(s): Algebra II

Description: This course prepares students to understand, develop and interpret statistical data, graphs, and studies. The course is offered through ALEKS. ALEKS uses adaptive questioning to quickly and accurately determine exactly what a student knows and doesn't know in a course. ALEKS then instructs the student on the topics he/she is most ready to learn. As a student works through a course, ALEKS periodically reassesses the student to ensure that topics learned are also retained.

Note: This course is only offered through the independent pathway.

## SCIENCE

Students must complete either Biology and Physical Science or Biology and Chemistry to meet graduation requirements.

### **Biology-Required**

Course Length: 2 semesters

Credit Earned: 1 credit

Prerequisite(s): None

Description: The Biology course is an in-depth look at the fundamental characteristics of living organisms such as genetics, cellular functions and the interaction of systems. It is designed to promote scientific inquiry and discovery while providing real relevance to life. The students will be introduced to the structure, function, diversity, and evolution of living matter while learning about microorganisms, plants, animals and the human body. This course encourages curiosity and provides opportunity for students to work on virtual activities and some hands on lab activities.

Note: This course is offered through both the independent and virtual pathway.

### **Physical Science-Required**

Course Length: 2 semesters

Credit Earned: 1 credit

Prerequisite(s): Successful completion of Biology and Pre-Algebra or Algebra

Description: Physical Science will introduce two areas of study: chemistry and physics. During semester 1, students will focus on studying chemistry. They will investigate topics surrounding matter, atomic structure, the periodic table, bonds, and chemical reactions. Physics will be the focus of semester 2 in which students will investigate topics involving motion, forces, energy, waves, and electricity.

Note: This course is offered through both the independent and virtual pathway.

### **Chemistry**

Course Length: 2 semesters

Credit Earned: 1 credit

Prerequisite(s): Successful completion of either Biology or Physical Science and Algebra

Description: Chemistry by definition is the branch of science that deals with the identification of the substances of which matter is composed; the investigation of their properties and the way in

which they interact, combine, and change, and the use of these processes to form new substances. In this class, students will spend the first semester of class analyzing the basics of chemistry. Students will analyze different types of solutions, properties of different matter types, periodic table properties, and types of compounds and how to name them. In the second semester, students will focus on college bound chemistry concepts. These concepts include the numeric relationships between substances in reactions, energy transfer in chemical reactions, and acid/base relationships. The majority of learning will occur through classroom discussion, simulations, and practice questions.

Note: This course is offered through both the independent and virtual pathway, however the classes are recorded and will need to be viewed to obtain important information about the class.

## SCIENCE-ELECTIVES

The following courses can be used to meet the additional third credit of required Science or as an elective. **These courses cannot be taken in place of a required core class.**

### Anatomy and Physiology

Course Length: 2 semesters

Credit Earned: 1 credit

Prerequisite(s): Successful completion of Biology & Chemistry (or Physical Science)

Description: This year-long course will take an in-depth look at both the anatomy and physiology of the human body systems. The course integrates discussions, case studies, textbook readings, virtual and wet labs and dissections all to gain a better understanding of our body. The course is geared toward those with an interest in a healthcare related field.

Note: **This course will be offered for the 2018-2019 school year through the virtual pathway and as enrollment allows. However, it may be offered independently through an outside vendor.**

### AP Biology

Course Length: 2 semesters

Credit Earned: 1 credit

Prerequisite(s): Successful completion of Biology and Chemistry

Description: AP biology is a year-long course designed to provide a college-level biology experience and prepare students for the AP biology exam. The course integrates both virtual and "wet" lab experiences with textbook readings and online and in class activities to learn about the key themes of biology: the scientific processes, the effects of science on technology and society, the chemistry and makeup of living organisms, genetics, diversity, and evolution.

Note: **This course will be offered for the 2017-2018 school year through the virtual pathway and as enrollment allows. However, it may be offered independently through an outside vendor.**

## **Astronomy**

Course Length: 1

semester Credit Earned:

0.5 credit Prerequisite(s):

None

Description: Why do stars twinkle? Is it possible to fall into a black hole? Will the sun ever stop shining? Since the first glimpse of the night sky, humans have been fascinated with the stars, planets, and universe. This course introduces students to the study of astronomy, including its history and development, basic scientific laws of motion and gravity, the concepts of modern astronomy, and the methods used by astronomers to learn more about the universe. Additional topics include the solar system, the Milky Way and other galaxies, and the sun and stars. Using online tools, students examine the life cycle of stars, the properties of planets, and the exploration of space.

Note: This course is only offered through the independent pathway.

## **Environmental Science**

Course Length: 1

semester Credit Earned:

0.5 credit

Prerequisite(s): Success in Biology

Description: This course surveys key topic areas including the application of scientific process to environmental analysis; ecology; energy flow; ecological structures; earth systems; and atmospheric, land, and water science. Topics also include the management of natural resources and analysis of private and governmental decisions involving the environment. Students explore actual case studies and conduct five hands-on, unit-long research activities, learning that political and private decisions about the environment and the use of resources require accurate application of scientific processes, including proper data collection and responsible conclusions.

Notes: This course is only offered through the independent pathway. Students will need common household materials for labs.

## **Forensic Science**

Course Length: 1 semester

Credit Earned: 0.5 credit

Prerequisite(s): Success in Biology and Chemistry

**Description:** This course surveys key topics in forensic science, including the application of the scientific process to forensic analysis, procedures and principles of crime scene investigation, physical and trace evidence, and the law and courtroom procedures from the perspective of the forensic scientist. Through online lessons, virtual and hands-on labs, and analysis of fictional crime scenarios, students learn about forensic tools, technical resources, forming and testing hypotheses, proper data collection, and responsible conclusions.

**Notes:** This course is only offered through the independent pathway.

### **Great Minds in Science**

**Course Length:** 1 semester

**Credit Earned:** 0.5 credit

**Prerequisite(s):** None

**Description:** Is there life on other planets? What extremes can the human body endure? Can we solve the problem of global warming? Today, scientists, explorers, and writers are working to answer all of these questions. Like Edison, Einstein, Curie, and Newton, the scientists of today are asking questions and working on problems that may revolutionize our lives and world. This course focuses on 10 of today's greatest scientific minds. Each unit takes an in-depth look at one of these individuals, and shows how their ideas may help to shape tomorrow's world.

**Note:** This course is only offered through the independent pathway.

### **Biotechnology**

**Course Length:** 1

**semester Credit Earned:**

0.5 credit

**Prerequisite(s):** Successful completion of Pre-Algebra & Biology

**Description:** In today's world, biotechnology helps us grow food, fight diseases, and create alternative fuels. In this course, students will explore the science behind biotechnology and how this science is being used to solve medical and environmental problems.

**Note:** This course is only offered through the independent pathway.

### **Marine Science**

**Course Length:** 2 semesters

Credit Earned: 1 credit

Prerequisite(s): Successful completion of 1 year of high school Science and English/Writing

Description: In the marine science course, students will delve deep into Earth's bodies of water and study geologic structures and how they impact the oceans. Students will investigate characteristics of various populations, patterns of distribution of life in our aquatic systems and ongoing changes occurring every day in our precious ecosystems. Students will be amazed and enlightened at just how much our oceans and lakes affect climate, weather, and seasonal variations. Students will have the opportunity to explore the relationships among living organisms and see how they are affected by our oceans currents, tides, and waves.

Note: This course is offered through both the independent and virtual pathway.

### **Physics**

Course Length: 2 semesters

Credit Earned: 1 credit

Prerequisite(s): Successful completion of Biology and Algebra

Description: Physics by definition is the branch of science concerned with the nature and properties of matter and energy. In this course, students will do several hands-on labs to investigate the concepts of acceleration, forces, momentum, and energy in the first semester. In the second semester, students will use more computer simulations to explore the concepts of atomic energy, waves, electricity and magnetism, circuits, and thermodynamics. Overall, the course is a blend of scientific concepts and math problems that validate those concepts. Students taking this course should be proficient in algebra, and have a strong interest in science and problem solving.

Note: This course is offered through both the independent and virtual pathway, however the classes are recorded and will need to be viewed to obtain important information about the class.

### **SMART Team (Students Modeling A Research Topic)**

Course Length: This is an independent study project that runs from late September to mid-March

Credit Earned: 0.5 credit

Prerequisite(s): Successful completion of Biology

Description: SMART team is an independent study project that runs from late September-mid March through a partnership with MSOE (Milwaukee School of Engineering). SMART teams pair student groups with a local research mentor to study the structure function and research applications of a biological molecule. Students will learn how to use 3D molecular modeling software to study the structure of a protein, create a poster that tells the story of their molecule, and participate in a final group presentation. Students will have once a month, (Saturday) meetings in Milwaukee (at MSOE or the Medical College) as part of this project. Attendance is highly encouraged. There are 1-2 Blackboard Collaborate meetings per

week and assignments done as a group.

Note: This course is offered through the virtual pathway

### **Veterinary Science**

Course Length: 1 semester

Credit Earned: 0.5 credit

Prerequisite(s): None

Description: As animals play an increasingly important role in our lives, scientists have sought to learn more about their health and well-being. Taking a look at the pets that live in our homes, on our farms, and in zoos and wildlife sanctuaries, this course will examine some of the common diseases and treatments for domestic animals. Toxins, parasites, and infectious diseases impact not only the animals around us, but at times...we humans as well! Through veterinary medicine and science, the prevention and treatment of diseases and health issues is studied and applied.

Note: This course is only offered through the independent pathway.

### **Intro to Renewable Energies**

Course Length: 1 semester

Credit Earned: 0.5 credit

Prerequisite(s): Biology

Description: Interested in transforming energy? With concerns about climate change and growing populations' effects on traditional energy supplies, scientists, governments, and societies are increasingly turning to renewable and innovative energy sources. In the Introduction to Renewable Technologies course, you'll learn all about the cutting-edge field of renewable energy and the exciting new technologies that are making it possible. You'll explore new ways of generating energy and storing that energy, from biofuels to high-capacity batteries and smart electrical grids. You'll also learn more about the environmental and social effects of renewable technologies and examine how people's energy decisions impact policies.

Notes: This course is only offered through the independent pathway.

## **SOCIAL STUDIES**

### **World Cultures-Required**

Course Length: 2 semesters

Credit Earned: 1 credit

Prerequisite(s): None

Description: World Cultures explores the geography, history, and cultures of the world. The course begins by examining the basic components of culture to understand how these features relate to human societies. The majority of the course explores world history since 1450, examining how cultures have evolved and interacted over time. Students will gain knowledge about world history while learning about and using broader historical thinking and analysis skills.

Note: This course is offered through both the independent and virtual pathway.

### **United States History-Required**

Course Length: 2 semesters

Credit Earned: 1 credit

Prerequisite(s): Successful completion of World Cultures or teacher recommendation

Description: United States History is designed to help students understand and interpret the history of the United States after 1865. The course will discuss political, economic, and social trends in the United States from the end of the Civil War through the recent past. This course will deal with the vast scope of complex issues that has shaped America throughout its history. Students will learn about these prominent national events, historical milestones around the world, and the general study of history.

Note: This course is offered through both the independent and virtual pathway. AP United States History may also be taken in place of this course to satisfy a student's History requirement.

### **American Government-Required**

Course Length: 1 semester

Credit Earned: 0.5 credit

Prerequisite(s): Successful completion of United States History & World Cultures

Description: American Government helps students become informed and active citizens through the study of the United States political system. Responsible citizenship means understanding the principles, structures, practices, and outcomes of government. Students will gain a greater understanding of the development of the U.S. government structure, and knowledge of how government functions at the local, state and national levels.

Note: This course is offered through both the independent and virtual pathway. AP Government may also be taken in place of this course to satisfy a student's Government requirement. The Civics Exam will be a required element of this course. Which is needed to satisfy a graduation requirement.

### **SOCIAL STUDIES ELECTIVES**

The following courses can be used to meet core course requirements in United States History, World History, or Government.

#### **Anthropology**

Course Length: 1

semester Credit Earned:

0.5 credit

Prerequisite(s): Successful completion of World History, or equivalent recommended

Description: This course presents a behavioral science that focuses on the study of humanity and culture. Students learn the foundations of the five main branches of anthropology including physical, social, linguistic, archeological, and cultural. They are provided the opportunity to apply their observational skills to the real-life study of cultures in the United States and around the world.

Note: This course is only offered through the independent pathway.

#### **AP Macro Economics**

Course Length: 1

semester Credit Earned:

0.5 credit Prerequisite(s):

None

Description: By taking on the role of a leader at a fictitious company, you will learn fundamental economic concepts, including scarcity, opportunity costs and trade-offs, productivity, economic systems and institutions, exchange, money, and interdependence. This course meets the Economics high school graduation requirement.

Note: This course is only offered through the independent pathway.

### **AP Micro Economics**

Course Length: 1 semester

Credit Earned: 0.5 credit

Prerequisite(s): None

Description: By taking on the role of a leader at a fictitious company, you will learn fundamental economic concepts, including scarcity, opportunity costs and trade-offs, productivity, economic systems and institutions, exchange, money, and interdependence. This course meets the Economics high school graduation requirement.

Note: This course is only offered through the independent pathway.

### **AP Psychology**

Course Length: 2 semesters

Credit Earned: 1.0 credit

Prerequisite(s): None

Description: Immerse yourself in modern psychological techniques investigating the ethics and morality of human and animal research. In this college-level course, you will learn the psychological facts, principles, and phenomena associated with each major area of psychology and enhance your scientific critical thinking skills. This course provides elective credit only.

Note: This course is only offered through the independent pathway.

### **AP US Government & Politics**

Course Length: 2 semesters

Credit Earned: 1 credit

Prerequisite(s): Successful completion of English 9 and United States History (or AP US History)

Description: AP U.S. Government and Politics gives students an analytical perspective on government and politics in the United States. This course includes both the study of general concepts used to interpret U.S. government and politics and the analysis of specific examples. It also requires familiarity with the

various institutions, groups, beliefs, and ideas that constitute U.S. government and politics. Students will become acquainted with the variety of theoretical perspectives and explanations for various behaviors and outcomes.

Note: The Civics Exam will be a required element of this course. Which is needed to satisfy a graduation requirement.

### **AP US History**

Course Length: 2 semesters

Credit Earned: 1 credit

Prerequisite(s): Successful completion of World Cultures & English 9

Description: AP U.S. History provides students with the analytic skills and factual knowledge necessary to deal critically with the problems and materials in U.S. history. The course prepares students for intermediate and advanced college courses by making demands upon them equivalent to those made by full-year introductory college courses. Students will learn to assess historical materials and weigh the evidence and interpretations presented in historical scholarship. AP U.S. History will develop the skills necessary to arrive at conclusions on the basis of an informed judgment and to present reasons and evidence clearly and persuasively in essay format.

Note: **This course is only offered through the virtual pathway and as enrollment allows.** This course can be taken in place of American History to meet graduation requirements.

### **AP World History**

Course Length: 2 semesters

Credit Earned: 1 credit

Prerequisite(s): Successful completion of United States History (or AP US History), World Cultures, and English 9

Description: In AP World History, students will develop greater understanding of the evolution of global processes and contacts in different types of human societies. This understanding is advanced through a combination of factual knowledge and analytical skills. The course highlights the nature of changes in global frameworks and their causes and consequences, as well as comparisons among major societies. It emphasizes relevant factual knowledge, leading interpretive issues, and skills in analyzing historical evidence. Periodization forms an organizing principle to address change and continuity throughout the course. Specific themes provide further organization to the course, along with consistent attention to contacts among societies that form the core of world history as a field of study.

Note: **This course will be offered for the 2018-2019 school year through the virtual pathway and as enrollment allows. However, it may be offered independently through an outside vendor.**

### **Archaeology**

Course Length: 1 semester

Credit Earned: 0.5 credit

Prerequisite(s): None

Description: George Santayana once said, "Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it." The field of archaeology helps us better understand the events and societies of the past that have helped shape our modern world. This course focuses on the techniques, methods, and theories that guide the study of the past. Students learn how archaeological research is conducted and interpreted, as well as how artifacts are located and preserved. Finally, students learn about the relationship of material items to culture and what we can learn about past societies from these items.

Note: This course is offered through the independent pathway.

### **Careers in Criminal Justice**

Course Length: 1 semester

Credit Earned: 0.5 credit

Prerequisite(s): None

Description: Do you want to help prevent crime and maintain order in society? The criminal justice system may be a good career option. The criminal justice system offers a wide range of career opportunities, from law enforcement to forensic scientists to lawyers and judges. In this course, students will explore different areas of the criminal justice system, including the trial process, the juvenile justice system, and the correctional system. Careers in each area will be explored and students will learn more about the expectations and training required for various career options in the criminal justice field.

Note: This course is offered through the independent pathway.

### **Contemporary World Issues**

Course Length: 1 semester

Credit Earned: 0.5 credit

Prerequisite(s): None

Description: In this course, students will compare the geography, governments, economies, and cultures of the world. Emphasis will be placed on learning about the civics, politics, economics, structures, processes and policies of the United States and then comparing them with those of the international community. Students will use what they know and learn about the United States and the world to analyze current events and contemporary issues. Reasoning and research skills will be applied to the content throughout the course.

Note: This course is only offered through the independent pathway.

### **Criminology**

Course Length: 1 semester

Credit Earned: 0.5 credit

Prerequisite(s): None

Description: In today's society, crime and deviant behavior are often one of the top concerns of society members. From the nightly news to personal experiences with victimization, crime seems to be all around us. In this course, we will explore the field of criminology or the study of crime. In doing so, we will look at possible explanations for crime from psychological, biological, and sociological standpoints, explore the various types of crime and their consequences for society, and investigate

how crime and criminals are handled by the criminal justice system. Why do some individuals commit crimes but others don't? What aspects in our culture and society promote crime and deviance? Why do individuals receive different punishments for the same crime? What factors shape the criminal case process, from arrest to punishments?

Note: This course is offered through the independent pathway.

### **Economics**

Course Length: 1 semester

Credit Earned: 0.5 credit

Prerequisite(s): None

Description: Students are introduced to the basics of economic principles, and learn how to think like economists. They explore different economic systems, including the American free enterprise system, analyze and interpret data, and consider economic applications in today's world. From economics in the world of business, money, banking, and finance, students see how economics is applied both domestically and globally. Students take diagnostic tests that assess their current knowledge and generate individualized study plans, so students can focus on topics that need review. Audio readings and vocabulary lists in English and Spanish support reading comprehension.

Note: This course is offered through the independent pathway.

### **Law & Order**

Course Length: 1 semester

Credit Earned: 0.5 credits

Prerequisite(s):

Government

Description: Imagine if there were no laws and people could do anything they wanted. It's safe to say the world would be a pretty chaotic place! Every society needs some form of regulation to ensure peace not only in daily life but also in broader areas, such as business, family disputes, traffic violations, and the protection of children. Laws are essential to preserving our way of life and must be established and upheld in everyone's best interest. In Law and Order: Introduction to Legal Studies, you'll delve deeper into the importance of laws and consider how their application affects us as individuals and communities. Through understanding the court system and how laws are actually enacted, you will learn to appreciate the larger legal process and how it safeguards us all.

Note: This course is only offered through the independent pathway.

### **Psychology 1**

Course Length: 1 semester

Credit Earned: 0.5 credit

Prerequisite(s): Sophomore Standing

Description: In this course, students investigate why human beings think and act the way they do. This is an introductory course that broadly covers several areas of psychology. Instructional material presents theories and current research for students to critically evaluate and understand. Each unit introduces terminology, theories, and research that are critical to the understanding of psychology and includes = tutorials and interactive exercises. Students learn how to define and use key terms of psychology and how to apply psychological principles to their own lives. Unit topics in this one-semester course include methods of study, biological basis for behavior, learning and memory, development and individual differences, and psychological disorders.

Note: This course is only offered through the independent pathway. **This course fulfills the social science graduation requirement.**

### **Personal Psychology 2**

Course Length: 1 semester

Credit Earned: 0.5 credit

Prerequisite(s): Personal Psychology 1

Description: Why do you remember song lyrics but can't remember where you left your phone or car keys? How does language affect the way we think? Why is your personality so different from (or so similar) your brother's or sister's personality? Personal Psychology II: Living in a Complex World will explore what makes you you, from why some things motivate you more than others to what helps determine your IQ. If you've ever wanted to dive into the depths of who you are and how you got to be you, jump on board and start your exploration now! .

Note: This course is only offered through the independent pathway.

### **Social Problems I**

Course Length: 1 semester

Credit Earned: 0.5 credit

Prerequisite(s): None

Description: Students will learn more about the challenges facing societies and the relationships between societies, governments, and individuals in these areas. Each unit will focus on a particular area of social concern, often with a global view, and examine possible solutions at both a structural and individual level.

Note: This course is only offered through the independent pathway.

## Social Problems II

Course Length: 1 semester

Credit Earned: 0.5 credit

Prerequisite(s): None

Description: The Social Problems II course continues to examine the social problems that affect individuals and societies in the world today. Students learn about the overall structure of the social problem as well as how it impacts their lives. Each unit focuses on a particular social problem, including racial discrimination, drug abuse, the loss of community, and urban sprawl, and discusses possible solutions at both individual and structural levels. Students examine the connections in each issue between societies, individuals, governments, and the global arena.

Note: This course is only offered through the independent pathway.

## US and Global Economics

Course Length: 1 semester

Credit Earned: 0.5 credit

Prerequisite(s): Sophomore Standing

Description: This course uses real-world simulations to teach the issues faced by producers, consumers, investors, and taxpayers in the U.S. and around the world. Topics include markets; supply and demand; theories of early economic thinkers; theories of value; money; the role of banks, investment houses, and the Federal Reserve; and other fundamental features of capitalism. A survey of current issues in American and global markets rounds out the course.

Note: This course is only offered through the independent pathway. **This course fulfills the social science graduation requirement.**

## World Religions

Course Length: 1 semester

Credit Earned: 0.5 credit

Prerequisite: None

Description: Throughout the ages, religions from around the world have shaped the political, social, and cultural aspects of societies. This course focuses on the major religions that have played a role in human history, including Buddhism, Christianity, Confucianism, Hinduism, Islam, Judaism, Shintoism, and Taoism. Students will trace the major developments in these religions and explore their relationships with social institutions and culture. The course will also discuss some of the similarities and differences among the major religions and examine the connections and influences they have.

Notes: This course is offered through the independent pathway.

### **Intro to Women's Studies**

Course Length: 1 semester

Credit Earned: 0.5 credit

Prerequisite: None

Description: This course, although looking specifically at the experiences of women, is not for girls only. If you are student interested in exploring the world through film and open minded enough to be interested in social change, this course is for you.

Notes: This course is offered through the independent pathway.

### **Intro to Philosophy**

Course Length: 1 semester

Credit Earned: 0.5 credit

Prerequisite: None

Description: Go on an exciting adventure that covers more than 2,500 years of history! Along the way, you'll run into some very strange characters. For example, you'll read about a man who hung out on street corners, barefoot and dirty, pestering everyone he met with questions. You'll learn about another eccentric who climbed inside a stove to think about whether he existed. Despite their odd behavior, these and other philosophers of the Western world are among the most brilliant and influential thinkers of all time. As you learn about these fascinating intellectuals, you will come to see how and where many of the most fundamental ideas of Western civilization originated. In Introduction to Philosophy: The Big Picture, you'll get a chance to ask yourself some of the same questions these great thinkers pondered. By the time you've "closed the book" on this course, you will better understand yourself and the world around you—from atoms to outer space and everything in between..

Notes: This course is offered through the independent pathway.

### **National Security**

Course Length: 1 semester

Credit Earned: 0.5 credit

Prerequisite:

Government

Description: Do you know what it takes to keep an entire nation safe? Not only does this effort require knowledge on how to handle disasters, but it demands a cool head and tremendous leadership abilities. In

National Security, you will have the opportunity to learn about the critical elements of the job, such as evaluating satellite information, analyzing training procedures, assessing military engagement, preparing intelligence reports, coordinating information with other security agencies, and applying appropriate actions to various threats. Put yourself in the position of the country's decisive leaders and develop your own knowledge base and skill set necessary to meet the requirements of our nation's most demanding career..

Notes: This course is offered through the independent pathway.

### **African American History**

Course Length: 1 semester

Credit Earned: 0.5 credit

Prerequisite: US History

Description: How have African Americans shaped the culture of the United States throughout history? Tracing the accomplishments and obstacles of African Americans from the slave trade through emancipation, and to the modern African diaspora, you will learn about the political, economic, social, religious, and cultural factors that have influenced African American life. In African American History, you'll come face to face with individuals who changed the course of history and learn more about slavery, racism, and the Civil Rights Movement. You will also explore how the history of African Americans influences current events today.

Notes: This course is offered through the independent pathway.

## PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND HEALTH

### **Physical Education - (1.5 credits) Required**

Course Length: 1 semester

Credit Earned: 0.5 credit

Prerequisite(s): None

Description: The WVU Physical Education curriculum focuses on the benefits of exercise and physical fitness, motor skill development and cognitive understanding related to physical activity. Our goal is to promote the skills necessary for our students to maintain lifelong health enhancing fitness habits.

Note: To receive 1.5 credits of PE, there are three courses that must be taken - PE I, PE II and PE III. These courses are only offered through the independent pathway. Physical Education credits are limited to two.

### **Life Management-Required**

Course Length: 1 semester

Credit Earned: 0.5 credit

Prerequisite(s): None

Description: Life Management is a required health course. This course focuses on the role of an individual's lifestyle

as it pertains to his/her personal health and wellness. Topics include: Personality and Stress; Teen Suicide and Depression; Health Promotion; Substance Use and Abuse; Nutrition and Eating Disorders; Physiology; Fitness and Sports Medicine; First Aid and CPR; Abstinence; and Human Growth and Development.

Note: This course is offered through both the virtual and independent pathway.

## **Agriculture Elective Courses**

### **Intro to Agri Science**

Course Length: 2 semesters

Credit Earned: 1.0 credit

Prerequisite(s): None

Description: How can we make food more nutritious? Can plants really communicate with each other? From studying the secrets in corn roots to examining how to increase the amount of food we grow, agriscientists are at the forefront of improving agriculture, food production, and the conservation of natural resources. In Introduction to Agriscience, you'll learn about the innovative ways that science and technology are used in agriculture. You'll also learn about some of the controversies that surround this field as nations strive to provide their people with abundant and healthy food.

Note: This course is offered through the independent pathway.

### **Agriscience II**

Course Length: 2 semesters

Credit Earned: 1.0 credit

Prerequisite: Agriscience 1

Description: Science and technology are revolutionizing many areas of our lives, and agriculture is no exception! From aquaculture to genetic engineering, agriscience is finding new ways to better produce and manage plants, from the field to the garden. In Agriscience II, you'll build on your existing knowledge of plant science and delve deeper into important areas such as soil science and weed management. You'll learn more about horticulture and plant science trends from creating hybrid species to growing edible plants in unlikely places.

Note: This course is offered through the independent pathway.

### **Principles of Agriculture**

Course Length: 2 semesters

Credit Earned: 1.0 credit

Prerequisite(s):

Description: Food has to travel from the farm to the table, and in Agriculture and Natural Resources, you will learn about all of the steps in that journey, beginning with the history of agriculture through animal husbandry, plant science, and managing our use of natural resources. In this course, you will receive a broad understanding of the subject matter, preparing you for future hands-on learning, participation in Future Farmers of America, and supervised agricultural experiences..

Note: This course is offered through the independent pathway.

### **Intro to Forestry**

Course Length: 2 semesters

Credit Earned: 1.0 credit

Prerequisite(s): None

Description: Forests and other natural resources play an important role in our world, from providing lumber and paper products to providing habitat for birds and animals. In the Introduction to Forestry and Natural Resources course, you'll learn more about forest ecology, management, and conservation. You'll explore topics such as environmental policy, land use, water resources, and wildlife management. Finally, you'll learn more about forestry related careers and important issues facing forestry professionals today.

Note: This course is offered through the independent pathway.

## ELECTIVE COURSES

The following elective courses are offered only through the **independent** pathway. Students access their classes, lessons, assignments, quizzes, tests, and submit work online. Students work through the curriculum independently, and are required to sustain the recommended pacing for course completion. There are no live classes to attend with a teacher. Those quickly demonstrating mastery of course learning goals can progress at an accelerated pace.

Student placement in elective courses will be determined on a case-by-case basis and will be guided by input and/or approval from school staff. **Electives do not take the place of required core courses.**

### Accounting

Course Length: 2 semesters

Credit Earned: 1.0 credit

Prerequisite(s): None

Description: Through this course, students will gain a foundation in the skills needed for college accounting courses, office work, and managing their own small businesses. These skills are necessary for any student planning to major in Business in college. In this Introduction to Accounting Course, Students who have never had prior accounting training are given an overview of the three forms of Accounting: Financial, Cost and Management Accounting. The course helps build an appreciation for the role of accounting in managing a profitable business. It covers the basic concepts, conventions and rules of the double entry system. It introduces techniques to analyze ratios from the balance sheet. The concept of ethics, integrity and confidentiality and rigor are woven through all the chapters.

Note: This course is offered through the independent pathway.

### Achieving Your Career and College Goals

Course Length: 1

semester Credit Earned:

0.5 credit Prerequisite(s):

None

Description: Students explore their options for life after high school and implement plans to achieve their goals. They identify their aptitudes, skills, and preferences, and explore a wide range of potential careers. They investigate the training and education required for the career of their choice, and create a plan to be sure that their work in high school is preparing them for the next step. They also receive practical experience in essential skills such as searching and applying for college, securing financial aid, writing a resume and cover letter, and interviewing for a job. This course is geared toward 11th and 12th graders

Note: This course is offered through the independent pathway.

## **C++ Programming**

Course Length: 1

semester Credit Earned:

0.5 credit Prerequisite:None

Description: In this introductory course, students learn basic programming concepts through a series of hands-on projects. They also learn about software development careers, the software development process, and industry best practices. Using Microsoft Visual Studio 2013, students master the building blocks of programming: functions, variables, loops, arrays, and classes.

Notes: This course is offered through the independent pathway.

## **Career Planning**

Course Length: 1

semester Credit Earned:

0.5 credit Prerequisite:None

Description: Students use an informative interactive process to explore career and life options in this one-semester elective. They begin with a thorough examination of their own interests, aptitudes, achievements, and personality styles. Instructional material then helps them match job market information, interview techniques, training requirements, and educational paths to potential careers that suit their strengths and personal priorities. Successfully completing this course gives students the ability to identify and describe their personal interests, aptitudes, and lifestyle goals; locate and evaluate information about different careers; identify the skills and knowledge needed for careers of interest and how to obtain them; and create an entrepreneurial business plan.

Notes: This course is offered through the independent pathway.

### **Computer Literacy**

Course Length: 1 semester

Credit Earned: 0.5 credit

Prerequisite: None

Description: Students must be able to effectively use technology to research, organize, create, and evaluate information. In this introductory course, students become familiar with the basic principles of a personal computer, including the internal hardware, operating system, and software applications. Students gain practice in using key applications such as word processing, spreadsheet, and presentation software, as well as understand social and ethical issues around the Internet, information, and security. In the first part of the course, the focus is on the fundamentals: learning and using the applications, and understanding the basic roles and responsibilities of the software, hardware, and operating system. In the second part, the focus is on gathering and analyzing data, and using the right tools and methods to collect and present data.

Notes: This course is offered through the independent pathway. Student must have Microsoft Office 2010

### **Computer Science**

Course Length: 1 semester

Credit Earned: 0.5 credit

Prerequisite: None

Description: This course introduces students to computer science concepts such as computer architecture, networks, and the Internet. Students use object-oriented programming, event-driven processes, modular computer programming, and data manipulation algorithms to produce finished software programs. They use the design process to create many programs by determining specifications, designing the software, and testing and improving the product until it meets the specifications. By the end of this course, students will have a solid foundation for further study in this subject.

Notes: This course is offered through the independent pathway. Student must have Microsoft Office 2010

### **Cosmetology**

Course Length: 1 semester

Credit Earned: 0.5 credit

Prerequisite(s): None

Description: Students will explore the history of cosmetology, as well as career options in the field of cosmetology. Research into some of the common techniques used in caring for hair, nails, and skin

in salons, spas, and other cosmetology related businesses will also be presented.

Note: This course is offered through the independent pathway. This class will require materials to practice some basic cosmetology procedures at home and will require basic household items such as • pH strips (available at drugstores on online retailers like amazon.com) • Household bleach • Vinegar • Oatmeal • Honey • Avocado • Hair styling tools (hair dryer, bobby pins, etc.)

### **Critical Thinking, Problem Solving and Learning Strategies**

Course Length: 1 semester

Credit Earned: 0.5 credit

Prerequisite(s) None

Description: Gain strategies to find important information quickly, transfer it to long-term memory, and perform better on assignments and tests. You will learn to become a more efficient learner, find balance and prioritize goals.

Notes: This course is offered through the independent pathway.

### **Digital Photography I: Creating Images with Impact!**

Course Length: 1 semester

Credit Earned: 0.5 credit

Prerequisite(s): None

Description: Have you ever wondered how professional photographers manage to take such sensational pictures? Or how they are able to find just the right way to capture an image or moment in time? Perhaps you've even wondered why your own pictures don't meet that standard. Digital Photography I: Creating Images with Impact! will answer these questions and help you understand more about the basics of photography. Learning about aperture, shutter speed, lighting, and composition is key for any serious photographer and will help you gain the confidence and knowledge you need to become one. You will not only follow photography through its history but also gain a basic understanding of camera functions, technique, and what it takes to shoot quality portraits, close-ups, action shots, and landscapes.

Note: This course is only offered through the independent pathway.

### **Digital Photography II: Discovering Your Creative Potential**

Course Length: 1 semester

Credit Earned: 0.5 credit

Prerequisite(s): Digital Photography I

Description: In today's world, we are surrounded by images. Photographs appear in advertisements,

on websites, in magazines, and on billboards, and they adorn our walls. While many of these images have been created by professional photographers, it's possible to develop an understanding of how you too can discover your creative potential. You will examine various aspects of the field in this course, Digital Photography II: Discovering Your Creative Potential, including specialty areas, ethics, and famous photographers throughout history. Learn how to effectively critique photographs in order to better understand composition and how you can create eye-catching photographs of your own.

Note: This course is only offered through the independent pathway.

### **Early Childhood Education**

Course Length: 1 semester

Credit Earned: 0.5 credit

Prerequisite(s): None

Description: Children experience enormous changes in the first few years of their lives. They learn to walk, talk, run, jump, read and write, among other milestones. Caregivers can help infants, toddlers, and children grow and develop in positive ways. This course is for students who want to influence the most important years of human development. In the course, students learn how to create fun and educational environments for children; how to keep the environment safe for children; and how to encourage the health and well-being of infants, toddlers, and school-aged children.

Note: This course is offered through the independent pathway.

### **Engineering Design/CAD**

Course Length: 1 semester

Credit Earned: 0.5 credit

Prerequisite(s): None

Description: Computer-aided design systems are used by designers and manufacturers in virtually every industry to create engineering design solutions. In this course, students are introduced to engineering, learning the basics of CAD software: creating points, lines, other geometric forms, isometric drawings, and 3D models. They learn how to translate initial concepts into functional designs and 3D walkthroughs and explore career options in this hands-on, introductory-level course.

Note: This course is offered through the independent pathway.

### **Engineering & Technology**

Course Length: 1 semester

Credit Earned: 0.5 credit

Prerequisite(s): None

Description: Each day, we are surrounded by technology and engineering projects. From our phones to the bridges we drive over, engineering and technology influence many parts of our lives. In Concepts of Engineering and Technology, you will learn more about engineering and technology careers and what skills and knowledge you'll need to succeed in these fields. You'll explore innovative and cutting-edge projects that are changing the world we live in and examine the design and prototype development process. Concepts of Engineering and Technology will also help you understand the emerging issues in this exciting career field.

Note: This course is offered through the independent pathway.

### **Family and Consumer Sciences**

Course Length: 1 semester

Credit Earned: 0.5 credit

Prerequisite(s) None

Description: The high school Family and Consumer Science course focuses on the development of skills and knowledge that will help teenagers transition into the adult roles within the family. Students engage in activities to develop their abilities to make wise consumer choices, to prepare nutritious meals, to contribute effectively as part of a team, to manage a household budget, and to balance roles of work and family. Students gain an appreciation for the responsibilities of family members throughout the lifespan and how they as individuals contribute to the well-being of not only their family but also their larger community.

Note: This course is only offered through the independent pathway.

### **Fashion and Interior Design**

Course Length: 1 semester

Credit Earned: 0.5 credit

Prerequisite(s): None

Description: Do you have a flair for fashion? Are you constantly redecorating your room? If so, the design industry might just be for you! In this course, you'll explore what it is like to work in the industry by exploring career possibilities and the background that you need to pursue them. Get ready to try your hand at designing as you learn the basics of color and design then test your skills through hands-on projects. In addition, you'll develop the essential communication skills that build success in any business. By the end of the course, you'll be well on your way to developing the portfolio you need to get your stylishly clad foot in the door of this exciting field.

Note: This course is offered through the independent pathway. General required materials for this course  
• Clothing items • Sewing machine • Digital camera • Thread • Clothing patterns • Measuring tape • Sketchpad • Paper • Scissors

## **Foundations of Web**

Course Length: 2 semesters

Credit Earned: 1

Prerequisite(s): None

Description: Explore interactive, real-world scenarios to learn basic Web design principles. From HTML to Adobe CS6 Dreamweaver and Photoshop, this course builds a strong foundation of Web design skills. All necessary software is provided on a virtual desktop - no downloads required!

Note: This course is only offered through the independent pathway.

## **Gothic Literature: Monster Stories**

Course Length: 1 semester

Credit Earned: 0.5 credit

Prerequisite(s): None

Description: Vampires, ghosts, and werewolves have lived in our collective imagination since the 18th century and continue to influence the world of fiction even today. Gothic Literature: Monster Stories will focus on the major themes found in Gothic literature and demonstrate how a writer's technique can produce a thrilling psychological experience for the reader. Terror versus horror, the power of the supernatural, and the struggle between good and evil are just a few of the classic themes explored in this course. Are you brave enough to go beyond the fear and find an appreciation for the dark beauty of Gothic stories?

Note: This course is only offered through the independent pathway.

## **Health Science I**

Course Length: 1 semester

Credit Earned: 0.5 credit

Prerequisite(s): None

Description: Will we ever find a cure for cancer? What treatments are best for conditions like diabetes and asthma? How are illnesses like meningitis, tuberculosis, and the measles identified and diagnosed? Health sciences provide the answers to questions such as these. In this course, students will be introduced to the various disciplines within the health sciences, including toxicology, clinical medicine, and biotechnology. They will explore the importance of diagnostics and research in the identification and treatment of diseases. The course presents information and terminology for the health sciences and examines the contributions of different health science areas.

Note: This course is only offered through the independent pathway.

### **Health Science II**

Course Length: 1 semester

Credit Earned: 0.5 credit

Prerequisite(s): Health Science I

Description: Health Science II is designed to further students' understanding of the healthcare workplace, including patient and caregiver interactions and how various members of the healthcare team work together to create an ethical, functional and compassionate environment for patients.

Note: This course is only offered through the independent pathway.

### **History of the Holocaust**

Course Length: 1 semester

Credit Earned: 0.5 credit

Prerequisite(s): None

Description: "Never shall I forget that night, the first night in camp, which has turned my life into one long night, seven times cursed and seven times sealed." Elie Wiesel, a Holocaust survivor, wrote these words about his experiences in a Nazi concentration camp. The History of the Holocaust will take you through the harrowing details of anti-Semitism, the power of the Nazi party, the persecution of European Jews and other groups, and the tremendous aftermath for everyone involved in World War II. You'll explore the causes of the Holocaust, the experiences of Jews and other individuals during this time, and what has been done to combat genocide since WWII. "For the dead and the living, we must bear witness.

Note: This course is only offered through the independent pathway.

### **Hospitality and Tourism**

Course Length: 1 semester

Credit Earned: 0.5 credit

Prerequisite(s): None

Description: With greater disposable income and more opportunities for business travel, people are traversing the globe in growing numbers. As a result, the hospitality and tourism industry is one of the fastest growing industries in the world. This course introduces the hospitality and tourism industry, including hotel and restaurant management, cruise ships, spas, resorts, theme parks, and other areas. Student learn about key hospitality issues, the development and management of tourist

locations, event planning, marketing, and environmental issues related to leisure and travel. The course also examines some current and future trends in the field.

Note: This course is only offered through the independent pathway.

### **Introduction to Agriscience**

Course Length: 1 semester

Credit Earned: 0.5 credit

Prerequisite(s): None

Description: Agriculture has played an important role in the lives of humans for thousands of years. It has fed us and given us materials that have helped us survive. Today, scientists and practitioners are working to improve and better understand agriculture and how it can be used to continue to sustain human life. In this course, students learn about the development and maintenance of agriculture, animal systems, natural resources, and other food sources. Students also examine the relationship between agriculture and natural resources and the environment, health, politics, and world trade.

Note: This course is only offered through the independent pathway.

### **Introduction to Culinary Arts**

Course Length: 1 semester

Credit Earned: 0.5 credit

Prerequisite(s): None

Description: Food is fundamental to life. Not only does it feed our bodies, but it's often the centerpiece for family gatherings and social functions. In this course, students learn all about food, including food culture, food history, food safety, and current food trends. They also learn about the food service industry and prepare some culinary dishes. Through hands-on activities and in-depth study of the culinary arts field, this course helps students hone their cooking skills and gives them the opportunity to explore careers in the food industry.

Note: This course is only offered through the independent pathway. Household items required: stand mixer, meat thermometer, assorted ingredients for recipes.

### **Introduction to Entrepreneurship I**

Course Length: 1 semester

Credit Earned: 0.5 credit

Prerequisite(s): None

Description: Students build on the business concepts they learned in Introduction to Entrepreneurship I. They

learn about sales methods, financing and credit, accounting, pricing, and government regulations. They refine their technology and communication skills in speaking, writing, networking, negotiating, and listening. They enhance their employability skills by preparing job-related documents, developing interviewing skills, and learning about hiring, firing, and managing employees. Students develop a complete business plan and a presentation for potential investors.

Notes: This course is offered through the independent pathway.

### **Introduction to Entrepreneurship II**

Course Length: 1 semester

Credit Earned: 0.5 credit

Prerequisite(s) None

Description: Students build on the business concepts they learned in Introduction to Entrepreneurship I. They learn about sales methods, financing and credit, accounting, pricing, and government regulations. They refine their technology and communication skills in speaking, writing, networking, negotiating, and listening. They enhance their employability skills by preparing job-related documents, developing interviewing skills, and learning about hiring, firing, and managing employees. Students develop a complete business plan and a presentation for potential investors.

Notes: This course is offered through the independent pathway.

### **Introduction to Manufacturing**

Course Length: 1 semester

Credit Earned: 0.5 credit

Prerequisite( None

Description: America has been called a land of consumers. Our society has become accustomed to the luxury of purchasing commodities from retail stores in a way that is convenient and affordable. Most of us don't take the time to think much past the checkout line, however. Where do these products come from exactly? Were they made in our country or shipped in from somewhere else entirely? What machines and equipment were used to make the items we purchase? Who are the people involved in manufacturing and assembling the finished goods that line the shelves of our favorite stores? This course will give you a behind-the-scenes look at the vast industry called manufacturing. In this unit, you'll examine the basics of manufacturing, including a brief history and some of the basic processes and principles that work together to transform raw materials into useful and valuable commodities.

Notes: This course is offered through the independent pathway.

### **Introduction to Marketing I**

Course Length: 1 semester

Credit Earned: 0.5 credit

Prerequisite: None

Description: Students find out what it takes to market a product or service in today's fast-paced business environment. They learn the fundamentals of marketing using real-world business examples. They learn about buyer behavior, marketing research principles, demand analysis, distribution, financing, pricing, and product management.

Notes: This course is offered through the independent pathway.

### **Introduction to Marketing II**

Course Length: 1 semester

Credit Earned: 0.5 credit

Prerequisite: None

Description: Students build on the skills and concepts learned in Introduction to Marketing I to develop a basic understanding of marketing principles and techniques. By the end of the course, they will have developed their own comprehensive marketing plan for a new business.

Notes: This course is offered through the independent pathway.

### **Introduction to Military Careers**

Course Length: 1 semester

Credit Earned: 0.5 credit

Prerequisite: None

Description: Like most people, you've probably seen a war movie depicting some sort of military life. Maybe it was about a hotshot naval aviator, a renegade private, or perhaps something more recent that captures the daring lives of Special Forces operatives. But outside of these sensationalized portrayals, do you really understand how the military works or what it can do for you? The military offers far more diversity in career opportunities than most people imagine. Introduction to Military Careers will provide all the information you need to answer these questions and gain a broader understanding of how you can find the right fit. You will not only learn about the five military branches—Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, Marines Corps, and Navy—but also have the chance to examine which job you might like to pursue in any of these areas. From aviation, to medicine, to law enforcement, to dentistry, the military can be an outstanding place to achieve your dreams in a supportive and well-structured environment.

Notes: This course is offered through the independent pathway.

## **Introduction to Social Media**

Course Length: 1 semester

Credit Earned: 0.5 credit

Prerequisite: None

Description: Have a Facebook account? What about Twitter? Whether you've already dipped your toes in the waters of social media or are still standing on the shore wondering what to make of it all, learning how to interact on various social media platforms is crucial in order to survive and thrive in this age of digital communication. In this course, you'll learn the ins and outs of social media platforms such as Facebook, Twitter, Pinterest, Google+, and more. You'll also discover other types of social media you may not have been aware of and how to use them for your benefit—personally, academically, and eventually professionally as well. If you thought social media platforms were just a place to keep track of friends and share personal photos, this course will show you how to use these resources in much more powerful ways.

Notes: This course is offered through the independent pathway.

## **Leadership Skills Development**

Course Length: 2 semesters

Description: Succeed in high school, college, and beyond by taking your future into your own hands. In this two-semester course, you will learn how to take action, manage your time, chart your goals, and many other leadership techniques.

Notes: This course is offered through the independent pathway.

## **Music Appreciation**

Course Length: 1 semester

Credit Earned: 0.5 credit

Prerequisite: None

Description: Have you ever heard a piece of music that made you want to get up and dance? Cry your heart out? Sing at the top of your lungs? Whether pop, classical, or anything in between, music provides a powerful way for people to celebrate their humanity and connect with something larger than themselves. Music Appreciation: The Enjoyment of Listening not only will provide a historical perspective on music from the Middle Ages to the 21st century but will also teach you the essentials of how to listen and really hear (with a knowledgeable ear) the different music that's all around you. Learning how to truly appreciate sound and melody is the best way to ensure a continued love of this delightful art form.

Notes: This course is offered through the independent pathway.

### **Mythology & Folklore**

Course Length: 1 semester

Credit Earned: 0.5 credit

Prerequisite(s): None

Description: Since the beginning of time, people have gathered around fires to tell stories of angry gods, harrowing journeys, cunning animals, horrible beasts, and the mighty heroes who vanquished them. Mythology and folklore have provided a way for these colorful stories to spring to life for thousands of years. Mythology and Folklore: Legendary Tales will take you through these ancient tales, illustrating all the while how these famous anecdotes have helped humans make sense of the world. Beginning with an overview of mythology and different types of folklore, you will journey with age-old heroes as they slay dragons, outwit gods, defy fate, fight endless battles, and outwit clever monsters with strength and courage. You'll explore the universality and social significance of myths and folklore and see how these powerful tales continue to shape society even today.

Note: This course is only offered through the independent pathway.

### **Peer Counseling I**

Course Length: 1 semester

Credit Earned: 0.5 credit

Prerequisite: None

Description: Are you the person whom people come to for advice or to talk through their problems with? If so, Peer Counseling may be the perfect way to explore this valuable skill and how it can make a difference in the lives of others. Helping people achieve their personal goals is one of life's most rewarding experiences, and peer counselors provide support, encouragement, and resource information. Learn how to observe others while carefully listening and offering constructive, empathic communication and enhancing your own communication skills..

Notes: This course is offered through the independent pathway.

### **Personal and Family Finance**

Course Length: 1 semester

Credit Earned: 0.5 credit

Prerequisite: None

Description: We all know money is important in life. But how important? No one tells you that the financial decisions you make today may have a lasting effect on your future. Rather than feeling anxious, feel empowered through learning how to make smart decisions! Personal and Family Finance will begin the conversation around how to spend and save your money wisely, investing in safe opportunities and the days ahead. Learning key financial concepts around taxes, credit, and money management will provide both understanding and confidence as you begin to navigate your own route to future security. Discover how education, career choices, and financial planning can lead you in the right direction to making your life simpler, steadier, and more enjoyable.

Note: This course is only offered through the independent pathway.

### **Personal Fitness**

Course Length: 1 semester

Credit Earned: 0.5 credit

Prerequisite: None

Description: What does being fit really mean? Is it just based on physical appearance or is it something deeper? In life, we strive to be healthy and make sensible choices, but it's difficult to always know exactly how this can be achieved. It's not only about losing weight or lifting a heavy barbell; being physically fit entails a wealth of knowledge about body functions, environment, safety, diet, goals, and strategies for longevity. As with any realm of study, understanding real fitness requires seeing beyond the predictable into what makes us tick as physical beings and how we can increase our strength, endurance, and flexibility. Human beings, both body and mind, are complex and highly sensitive organisms that need the right kind of attention to physically excel and feel great in the process. Being fit is about living life to the fullest and making the most of what you have—yourself! Let's explore the world of healthy living and see how real fitness can be achieved through intention, effort, and just the right amount of knowledge.

Note: This course is only offered through the independent pathway.

### **Personal Psychology I: The Road to Self Discovery**

Course Length: 1 semester

Credit Earned: 0.5 credit

Prerequisite: None

Description: Have you ever wondered why you do the things you do? Is it true that self-knowledge is the key to self-improvement? Psychology can help! In Personal Psychology I: The Road to Self-Discovery, you will trace development, personality, and behavior from infancy through adulthood. You'll also learn about such topics as perception, consciousness, and sensation on your way to exploring all that psychology can offer to help you understand the human experience.

Note: This course is only offered through the independent pathway

### **Principles of Public Service: To Serve & Protect**

Course Length: 1 semester

Credit Earned: 0.5 credit

Prerequisite: None

Description: Ambulances scream along, heading toward those in need. But who makes sure someone is there to answer the 9-1-1 call? When you pick up a prescription or take a pill, who has determined that drug is safe for the public? All of these duties are imperative to our comfort and success as a society and an essential part of public service, a field that focuses on building a safe and healthy world. Principles of Public Service: To Serve and Protect will introduce you to many different careers in this profession and illustrate how they all work together to provide for the common good. The protection of society is one of our greatest challenges, and public service provides a way for people to work together, ensure safety, and provide an indispensable service to those around us. If you've ever contemplated being one of these real-life heroes, now is the time to learn more.

Notes: This course is offered through the independent pathway.

### **Programming I - VB.NET**

Course Length: 1 semester

Credit Earned: 0.5 credit

Prerequisite: None

Description: This course presents basic programming and teaches the essential concepts of VisualBasic.NET (VB.NET). As an introduction to VB.NET, students will see the basic uses of the programming language, its similarities to the English language (and others), and its flexibility as a programming

language. The course helps participants understand the processes involved in software development and object-oriented programming. This is an introductory course that could lead to careers such as software engineer, developer, or game designer. The course participants will also complete a series of hands-on projects covering built in data types, operators, control structures, classes, and objects.

Notes: This course is offered through the independent pathway. Student needs Visual Studio 2010 Express Edition - **FREE DOWNLOAD**

### **Programming II - Java**

Course Length: 1 semester

Credit Earned: 0.5 credit

Prerequisite: None

Description: This introductory-level course presents the understanding of Java and how to build and compile a stand-alone application (working with real-world scenarios). This course is designed especially for students who have very little background, but have taken the Programming I: VB.NET course. This course concentrates on Java programming language, built-in data types, control structures, classes, objects, inheritance, and polymorphism. By the end of the course the student will be able to write basic programs using Java as well as basic applets using updated techniques. Students can pursue further instruction in Java programming and other programming languages.

Notes: This course is offered through the independent pathway. Student needs JDK 1.6 (or higher version) - **FREE DOWNLOAD**

### **Reaching Your Academic Potential**

Course Length: 1 semester

Credit Earned: 0.5 credit

Prerequisite: None

Description: Students learn essential academic skills within the context of their learning style, individual learning environment, and long-term goals. This course helps students develop habits for more successful reading, writing, studying, communication, collaboration, time management, and concentration. It also provides insights into how the brain works when it is learning, and ways to maximize its potential.

Notes: This course is offered through the independent pathway.

### **Real World Parenting**

Course Length: 1 semester

Credit Earned: 0.5 credit

Prerequisite: None

**Description:** The process of parenting is more than just having a child and making sure they eat, sleep and get to school on time. Learn what to prepare for, what to expect, and what vital steps a parent can take to create the best environment and life for their child. Parenting roles and responsibilities; nurturing and protective environments for children; positive parenting strategies and effective communication in parent/child relationships are some of the topics covered in this course.

**Note:** This course is only offered through the independent pathway.

### **Social Media**

**Course Length:** 1 semester

**Description:** Explore your individual contribution and influential powers by identifying your digital imprint. In this course, you will examine the world through social media, where citizen journalism is the news, personal audiences are your critics and your supporters, and personal connection is subjective.

**Notes:** This course is offered through the independent pathway.

### **Sociology I**

**Course Length:** 1 semester

**Credit Earned:** 0.5 credit

**Prerequisite(s):** None

**Description:** The world is becoming more complex. How do your beliefs, values, and behavior affect the people around you and the world in which we live? Students examine social problems in our increasingly connected world, and learn how human relationships can strongly influence and impact their lives. Exciting online video journeys to an array of areas in the sociological world are an important component of this relevant and engaging course.

**Note:** This course is only offered through the independent pathway.

### **Sociology II**

**Course Length:** 1 semester

**Credit Earned:** 0.5 credit

**Prerequisite(s):** Sociology I

**Description:** Sociology is the study of people, social life, and society. By developing a “sociological imagination” students are able to examine how society itself shapes human action and beliefs—

and how in turn these factors re-shape society itself! Fascinating online video journeys not only inform students, but motivate them to seek more knowledge on their own.

Note: This course is only offered through the independent pathway.

### **Sports and Entertainment Marketing**

Course Length: 1 semester

Credit Earned: 0.5 credit

Prerequisite(s): None

Description: Students who have wished to play sports professionally or who have dreamed of becoming an agent for a celebrity entertainer have an interest in sports and entertainment marketing. Although this particular form of marketing bears some resemblance to traditional marketing, there are many differences as well—including a lot more glitz and glamour! In this course, students have the opportunity to explore basic marketing principles and delve deeper into the multibillion-dollar sports and entertainment marketing industry. Students learn how professional athletes, sports teams, and well-known entertainers are marketed as commodities and how some of them become billionaires as a result. For students who have ever wondered about how things work behind the scenes of a major sporting event such as the Super Bowl or even entertained the idea of playing a role in such an event, this course introduces the fundamentals of such a career.

Note: This course is only offered through the independent pathway.

### **The Lord of the Rings: An Exploration of the films & Its Literary Influences**

Course Length: 1 semester

Credit Earned: 0.5 credit

Prerequisite: None

Description: The Lord of the Rings is one of the most popular stories in the modern world. In this course, you will study the movie versions of J.R.R. Tolkien's novel and learn about the process of converting literature to film. You will explore fantasy literature as a genre and critique the three Lord of the Rings films.

Note: This course is only offered through the independent pathway.

### **Transitions I**

Course Length: 1 semester

Credit Earned: 0.5 credit

Prerequisite(s): None

Description: This course focuses on learning about yourself to help you choose the best career option. You will learn about yourself, your strengths, growth areas, and opportunities. In addition, you will learn effective communication skills for the work world and practice all the steps to get a job; including a mock interview.

Note: **This course is only offered through the virtual pathway.**

### **Transitions II**

Course Length: 1 semester

Credit Earned: 0.5 credit

Prerequisite(s): Successful completion of Transitions I

Description: This course focuses on being a successful adult. You will make real-world decisions and solve real-world problems. The skills learned in this course will help you keep a job, learn to budget and live by your means, plan for a happy future, and be a participating member of your community.

Note: **This course is only offered through the virtual pathway.**

### **Web Design**

Course Length: 1 semester

Credit Earned: 0.5 credit

Prerequisite: None

Description: This course provides a comprehensive introduction to the essentials of Web design, from planning page layouts to publishing a complete site to the Web. Students learn how to use HTML to design their own Web pages. The course covers basic HTML tags for formatting text, as well as more advanced tags. Through real-world design scenarios and hands-on projects, students create compelling, usable websites using the latest suite of free tools.

Notes: This course is offered through the independent pathway.

## **WORLD LANGUAGE ELECTIVES**

Although an elective course, two years of the same World Language is required or recommended by many colleges.

### **French I**

Course Length: 2 semesters

Credit Earned: 1.0 credit

Prerequisite(s): None

Description: Students begin their introduction to French by focusing on the four key areas of foreign language study: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. The course represents an ideal blend of language learning pedagogy and online learning. Each unit consists of a new vocabulary theme and grammar concept, reading and listening comprehension activities, speaking and writing activities, multimedia cultural presentations, and interactive activities and practices which reinforce vocabulary and grammar. There is a strong emphasis on providing context and conversational examples for the language concepts presented in each unit. Students should expect to be actively engaged in their own language learning, become familiar with common vocabulary terms and phrases, comprehend a wide range of grammar patterns, participate in simple conversations and respond appropriately to basic conversational prompts, analyze and compare cultural practices, products, and perspectives of various French-speaking countries, and take frequent assessments where their language progression can be monitored. The course has been carefully aligned to national standards as set forth by ACTFL (the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages).

Note: This course is only offered through the independent pathway. French-English dictionary is recommended.

### **French II**

Course Length: 2 semesters

Credit Earned: 1.0 credit

Prerequisite(s): Successful completion of French I

Description: Students continue their study of French by further expanding their knowledge of key vocabulary topics and grammar concepts. Students not only begin to comprehend listening and reading passages more fully, but they also start to express themselves more meaningfully in both speaking and writing. Each unit consists of a new vocabulary theme and grammar concept, reading and listening comprehension activities, speaking and writing activities, multimedia cultural presentations, and interactive activities and practices which reinforce vocabulary and grammar. There is a strong emphasis on providing context and conversational examples for the language concepts presented in each unit. Students should expect to be actively engaged in their own language learning, understand common vocabulary terms and phrases, use a wide range of grammar patterns in their speaking and writing, participate in conversations and respond appropriately to conversational prompts, analyze and compare cultural practices, products, and perspectives of various French-speaking countries, and take frequent assessments where their language progression can be monitored. By semester 2, the course is

conducted almost entirely in French. The course has been carefully aligned to national standards as set forth by ACTFL (the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages).

Note: This course is only offered through the independent pathway. French-English dictionary is recommended.

### **French III**

Course Length: 2 semesters

Credit Earned: 1.0 credit

Prerequisite(s): Successful completion of French I and II

Description: Students further deepen their understanding of French by focusing on the three modes of communication: interpretive, interpersonal, and presentational. Each unit consists of a variety of activities which teach the students how to understand more difficult written and spoken passages, to communicate with others through informal speaking and writing interactions, and to express their thoughts and opinions in more formal spoken and written contexts. Students should expect to be actively engaged in their own language learning, use correct vocabulary terms and phrases naturally, incorporate a wide range of grammar concepts consistently and correctly while speaking and writing, participate in conversations covering a wide range of topics and respond appropriately to conversational prompts, analyze and compare cultural practices, products, and perspectives of various French-speaking countries, read and analyze important pieces of Hispanic literature, and take frequent assessments where their language progression can be monitored. The course is conducted almost entirely in French. The course has been carefully aligned to national standards as set forth by ACTFL (the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages).

Note: This course is only offered through the independent pathway. French-English dictionary is recommended.

### **French IV**

Course Length: 2 semesters

Credit Earned: 1.0 credit

Prerequisite(s): Successful completion of French I, II and III

Description: This fourth year of French is a continuation of the first three years. The student will continue to sharpen listening, speaking, reading and writing skills through activities that are based on pedagogically proven methods of foreign language instruction. Throughout the five units of material, students learn to express themselves using an ever increasing vocabulary, present-tense verbs, past-tense verbs, future tense, conditional tense, subjunctive mood, articles, and adjectives. Grammar is introduced and practiced in innovative and interesting ways with a variety of learning styles in mind. The course is rich in authentic text reading material and authentic, native-speaker recordings and presentations to enrich culture, grammar and vocabulary presentations.

Note: This course is only offered through the independent pathway. French-English dictionary is recommended.

### **AP French**

Course Length: 2 semesters

Credit Earned: 1.0 credit

Prerequisite(s): Successful completion of French I, II, III and IV

Description: The AP French Language course is an advanced language course in which students acquire proficiencies that expand their cognitive, analytical and communicative skills. The AP French Language course prepares the student for the AP French exam. It uses as its foundation the three modes of communication (Interpersonal, Interpretive and Presentational) as defined in the Standards for Foreign Language Learning in the 21st Century. The course is designed as an immersion experience requiring the use of French exclusively. The online learning coach only uses French to communicate with students. In addition, all the reading, listening, speaking and writing is in French.

Note: This course is only offered through the independent pathway. French-English dictionary is recommended.

### **German I**

Course Length: 2 semesters

Credit Earned: 1.0 credit

Prerequisite(s): None

Description: Students begin their introduction to German by focusing on the four key areas of foreign language study: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. The course represents an ideal blend of language learning pedagogy and online learning. Each unit consists of a new vocabulary theme and grammar concept, reading and listening comprehension activities, speaking and writing activities, multimedia cultural presentations, and interactive activities and practices which reinforce vocabulary and grammar. There is a strong emphasis on providing context and conversational examples for the language concepts presented in each unit. Students should expect to be actively engaged in their own language learning, become familiar with common vocabulary terms and phrases, comprehend a wide range of grammar patterns, participate in simple conversations and respond appropriately to basic conversational prompts, analyze and compare cultural practices, products, and perspectives of various German-speaking countries, and take frequent assessments where their language progression can be monitored. The course has been carefully aligned to national standards as set forth by ACTFL (the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages).

Note: This course is only offered through the independent pathway. German-English dictionary is recommended.

### **German II**

Course Length: 2 semesters

Credit Earned: 1.0 credit

Prerequisite(s): Successful completion of German I

Description: Students begin their introduction to German by focusing on the four key areas of foreign language study: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. The course represents an ideal blend of language learning pedagogy and online learning. Each unit consists of a new vocabulary theme and grammar concept, reading and listening comprehension activities, speaking and writing activities, multimedia cultural presentations, and interactive activities and practices which reinforce vocabulary and grammar. There is a strong emphasis on providing context and conversational examples for the language concepts presented in each unit. Students should expect to be actively engaged in their own language learning, become familiar with common vocabulary terms and phrases, comprehend a wide range of grammar patterns, participate in simple conversations and respond appropriately to basic conversational prompts, analyze and compare cultural practices, products, and perspectives of various German-speaking countries, and take frequent assessments where their language progression can be monitored. The course has been carefully aligned to national standards as set forth by ACTFL (the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages).

Note: This course is only offered through the independent pathway. German-English dictionary is recommended.

### **German III**

Course Length: 2 semesters

Credit Earned: 1.0 credit

Prerequisite(s): Successful completion of German I and II

Description: This third year of German is a continuation of the first two years. The student will continue to sharpen listening, speaking, reading and writing skills through activities that are based on pedagogically proven methods of foreign language instruction. Throughout the five units of material (Media, My Childhood, My Future, Foods, and The Environment), students learn to express themselves using an ever increasing vocabulary and more advanced sentence structure. Grammar is introduced and practiced in innovative and interesting ways with a variety of learning styles in mind.

Note: This course is only offered through the independent pathway.

### **German IV**

Course Length: 2 semesters

Credit Earned: 1.0 credit

Prerequisite(s): Successful completion of German I, II and III

Description: This fourth year course builds upon the first three levels of German. Students will continue to develop their skills in reading, writing, listening and speaking, building vocabulary and grammar skills that move beyond practical scenarios to focus on cultural competency. Exercises based on authentic texts, as well as audio and visual materials from Germany, Austria, and Switzerland, will teach students to think critically and express themselves on topics relevant to German culture, past and present. Topics include: the history of political resistance, current events, environmentalism, multiculturalism, multilingualism, important personalities in the arts, literature and sciences, and profiles of three major cities.

Note: This course is only offered through the independent pathway.

### **Latin I**

Course Length: 2 semesters

Credit Earned: 1.0 credit

Prerequisite(s): None

Description: Since mastering a classical language presents different challenges from learning a spoken world language, students learn Latin through ancient, time-honored, classical language approaches which include repetition, parsing, written composition, and listening exercises. These techniques, combined with a modern multimedia approach to learning grammar, syntax, and vocabulary, provide students with a strong foundation for learning Latin. Each unit consists of a new vocabulary theme and grammar concept, reading comprehension activities, writing activities, multimedia culture, history, and mythology presentations, and interactive activities and practices which reinforce vocabulary and grammar. There is a strong emphasis on engaging with authentic classical Latin through weekly encounters with ancient passages from such prestigious authors as Virgil, Ovid, and Lucretius. The curriculum concurs with the Cambridge school of Latin; therefore, students will learn ancient high classical styles of pronunciation and grammar in lieu of generally less sophisticated medieval styles, making it possible for students to comprehend the most Latin from the widest range of time periods. Students should expect to be actively engaged in their own language learning, become familiar with common vocabulary terms and phrases, comprehend a wide range of grammar patterns, understand and analyze the cultural and historical contexts of the ancient sources they study, and take frequent assessments where their language progression can be monitored. The course has been carefully aligned to national standards as set forth by ACTFL (the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages).

Notes: This course is only offered through the independent pathway. Latin-English dictionary is recommended.

### **Latin II**

Course Length: 2 semesters

Credit Earned: 1.0 credit

Prerequisite(s): Successful completion of Latin I

Description: Students continue with their study of Latin through ancient, time-honored, classical language approaches which include repetition, parsing, written composition, and listening exercises. These techniques, combined with a modern multimedia approach to learning grammar, syntax, and vocabulary, prepare students for a deeper study of Latin. Each unit consists of a new vocabulary theme and grammar concept, reading comprehension activities, writing activities, multimedia culture, history, and mythology presentations, and interactive activities and practices which reinforce vocabulary and grammar. The emphasis is on reading Latin through engaging with myths from the ancient world which are presented in Latin. The curriculum concurs with the Cambridge school of Latin; therefore, students will learn ancient high classical styles of pronunciation and grammar in lieu of generally less sophisticated medieval styles, making it possible for students to comprehend the most Latin from the widest range of time periods. Students should expect to be actively engaged in their own language learning, understand and use common vocabulary terms and phrases, comprehend a wide range of grammar patterns, understand and analyze the cultural and historical contexts of the ancient sources they study, and take frequent assessments where their language progression can be monitored. The course has been carefully aligned to national standards as set forth by ACTFL (the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages).

Note: This course is only offered through the independent pathway. Latin-English dictionary is recommended.

### **Japanese I**

Course Length: 2 semesters

Credit Earned: 1.0 credit

Prerequisite(s): None

Description: This is a beginning level course that will introduce the student to a variety of areas of language learning. In this course, the student will learn listening, speaking, reading and writing skills through activities that are based on pedagogically proven methods of foreign language instruction. Throughout the five units of material (Greetings, The date, Time, Colors and Places), students learn to express themselves using an ever increasing vocabulary, present-form verbs, particles, and adjectives. Grammar is introduced and practiced in innovative and interesting ways with a variety of learning styles in mind.

Note: This course is only offered through the independent pathway. English-Japanese Japanese-English dictionary recommended.

### **Japanese II**

Course Length: 2 semesters

Credit Earned: 1.0 credit

Prerequisite(s): Successful completion of Japanese I

Description: This course is a continuation of a beginning level course that will introduce the student to a variety of areas of language learning. In this course, the student will learn listening, speaking, reading and writing skills through activities that are based on pedagogically proven methods of foreign language instruction. Throughout the five units of material (Daily Life, Animals, Activities, The Body and Descriptions), students learn to express themselves using an ever increasing vocabulary, present-tense verbs and adjectives. Grammar is introduced and practiced in innovative and interesting ways with a variety of learning styles in mind. Culture is sprinkled throughout the course in an attempt to help the learner focus on the Japanese language and culture, people, life-style, geographical locations and histories. The course is aligned to the national Foreign Language standards.

Note: This course is only offered through the independent pathway. English-Japanese Japanese-English dictionary recommended.

### **Mandarin Chinese I**

Course Length: 2 semesters

Credit Earned: 1.0 credit

Prerequisite(s): None

Description: Students begin their introduction to Chinese by focusing on the four key areas of foreign language study: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. The course represents an ideal blend of language learning pedagogy and online learning. Each unit consists of a new vocabulary theme and grammar concept, reading and listening comprehension activities, speaking and writing activities, multimedia cultural presentations, and interactive activities and practices which reinforce vocabulary and grammar. There is a strong emphasis on providing context and conversational examples for the language concepts presented in each unit. Both Chinese characters and pinyin are presented together throughout the course and specific character practices are introduced after the first quarter. Students should expect to be actively engaged in their own language learning, become familiar with common vocabulary terms and phrases, comprehend a wide range of grammar patterns, participate in simple conversations and respond appropriately to basic conversational prompts, analyze and compare cultural practices, products, and perspectives of various Chinese-speaking regions, and take frequent assessments where their language progression can be monitored. The course has been carefully aligned to national standards as set forth by ACTFL (the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages).

Note: This course is only offered through the independent pathway. Chinese-English dictionary is recommended.

### **Mandarin Chinese II**

Course Length: 2 semesters

Credit Earned: 1 credit

Prerequisite(s): Successful completion of Mandarin Chinese I

**Description:** Students continue their study of Chinese by further expanding their knowledge of key vocabulary topics and grammar concepts. Students not only begin to comprehend listening and reading passages more fully, but they also start to express themselves more meaningfully in both speaking and writing. Each unit consists of a new vocabulary theme and grammar concept, reading and listening comprehension activities, speaking and writing activities, multimedia cultural presentations, and interactive activities and practices which reinforce vocabulary and grammar. There is a strong emphasis on providing context and conversational examples for the language concepts presented in each unit. Character recognition and practice are a key focus of the course and students are expected to learn several characters each unit. However, pinyin is still presented with characters throughout the course to aid in listening and reading comprehension. Students should expect to be actively engaged in their own language learning, understand common vocabulary terms and phrases, use a wide range of grammar patterns in their speaking and writing, participate in conversations and respond appropriately to conversational prompts, analyze and compare cultural practices, products, and perspectives of various Chinese-speaking regions, and take frequent assessments where their language progression can be monitored. The course has been carefully aligned to national standards as set forth by ACTFL (the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages).

**Note:** This course is only offered through the independent pathway. Chinese-English dictionary is recommended.

### **Spanish I**

**Course Length:** 2 semesters

**Credit Earned:** 1 credit

**Prerequisite(s):** None

**Description:** Students begin their introduction to Spanish by focusing on the four key areas of foreign language study: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. The course represents an ideal blend of language learning pedagogy and online learning. Each unit consists of a new vocabulary theme and grammar concept, reading and listening comprehension activities, speaking and writing activities, multimedia cultural presentations, and interactive activities and practices which reinforce vocabulary and grammar. There is a strong emphasis on providing context and conversational examples for the language concepts presented in each unit. Students should expect to be actively engaged in their own language learning, become familiar with common vocabulary terms and phrases, comprehend a wide range of grammar patterns, participate in simple conversations and respond appropriately to basic conversational prompts, analyze and compare cultural practices, products, and perspectives of various Spanish-speaking countries, and take frequent assessments where their language progression can be monitored. The course has been carefully aligned to national standards as set forth by ACTFL (the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages).

**Note:** This course is offered only through the independent pathway. Spanish-English dictionary is recommended.

### **Spanish II**

Course Length: 2 semesters

Credit Earned: 1 credit

Prerequisite(s): Successful completion of Spanish I

Description: Students continue their study of Spanish by further expanding their knowledge of key vocabulary topics and grammar concepts. Students not only begin to comprehend listening and reading passages more fully, but they also start to express themselves more meaningfully in both speaking and writing. Each unit consists of a new vocabulary theme and grammar concept, reading and listening comprehension activities, speaking and writing activities, multimedia cultural presentations, and interactive activities and practices which reinforce vocabulary and grammar. There is a strong emphasis on providing context and conversational examples for the language concepts presented in each unit. Students should expect to be actively engaged in their own language learning, understand common vocabulary terms and phrases, use a wide range of grammar patterns in their speaking and writing, participate in conversations and respond appropriately to conversational prompts, analyze and compare cultural practices, products, and perspectives of various Spanish-speaking countries, and take frequent assessments where their language progression can be monitored. By semester 2, the course is conducted almost entirely in Spanish. The course has been carefully aligned to national standards as set forth by ACTFL (the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages).

Note: This course is offered only through the independent pathway. Spanish-English dictionary is recommended.

### **Spanish III**

Course Length: 2 semesters

Credit Earned: 1 credit

Prerequisite(s): Successful completion of Spanish I and II

Description: Students further deepen their understanding of Spanish by focusing on the three modes of communication: interpretive, interpersonal, and presentational. Each unit consists of a variety of activities which teach the students how to understand more difficult written and spoken passages, to communicate with others through informal speaking and writing interactions, and to express their thoughts and opinions in more formal spoken and written contexts. Students should expect to be actively engaged in their own language learning, use correct vocabulary terms and phrases naturally, incorporate a wide range of grammar concepts consistently and correctly while speaking and writing, participate in conversations covering a wide range of topics and respond appropriately to conversational prompts, analyze and compare cultural practices, products, and perspectives of various Spanish-speaking countries, read and analyze important pieces of Hispanic literature, and take frequent assessments where their language progression can be monitored. The course is conducted almost entirely in Spanish. The course has been carefully aligned to national standards as set forth by ACTFL (the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages).

Note: This course is only offered through independent pathway. Spanish-English dictionary is recommended.

## **Spanish IV**

Course Length: 2 semesters

Credit Earned: 1 credit

Prerequisite(s): Successful completion of Spanish I, II and III

Description: This fourth year of Spanish is a continuation of the first three years. The student will continue to sharpen listening, speaking, reading and writing skills through activities that are based on pedagogically proven methods of foreign language instruction. Throughout the five units of material, students learn to express themselves using an ever increasing vocabulary, present-tense verbs, past-tense verbs, articles, and adjectives. Grammar is introduced and practiced in innovative and interesting ways with a variety of learning styles in mind.

Note: This course is only offered through independent pathway. Spanish-English dictionary is recommended.

## **AP Spanish**

Course Length: 2 semesters

Credit Earned: 1 credit

Prerequisite(s): Successful completion of Spanish I, II, III and IV

Description: The course is conducted almost exclusively in Spanish and encourages the student to do likewise. However, the tips and grammar tutorials make use of both Spanish and English to aid in the student's comprehension of difficult grammatical concepts. The course is divided into ten units. Each unit focuses on a unit theme which is then further broken down into sub-topics. Each unit consists of vocabulary practices, grammar presentations and practices, culture topics, assessments, and AP-related test practices. Although this course is completely online, you will have a teacher who will be available to answer any questions you might have regarding the course and the content. The teacher will also be correcting assignments and any audio or essay submissions. The intensity, quality and amount of materials can be compared to a third-year college course. All audio excerpts and passages were written and recorded by native-Spanish speakers from various countries and spoken at native speeds. All reading passages were also written and prepared by native Spanish-speaking writers. The activities and assignments in this course are specifically designed to help each student improve their skills in all Spanish communicative areas and also to prepare for the AP Exam. Each unit consists of several activities that integrate multiple language skills together, which further strengthens the student's language development and acquisition. The tests, especially the unit tests and semester final exams, are structured to assess a student's complete understanding of all the information presented.

Note: This course is only offered through independent pathway. Spanish-English dictionary is recommended.

## ALTERNATE WAYS OF EARNING HIGH SCHOOL CREDIT

### Work Study

Course Length: 1 semester

Credit Earned: 0.5 credit for 180 *officially* documented hours (ten hours per week)

Prerequisite(s): Junior or senior standing and Administrative Approval

Description: To provide students with the opportunity to draw a connection between what they are learning in school and what the expectations are in the workplace. Students must secure employment within two weeks of the start of the semester.

Eligibility: Students must have an academic history of staying on pace, passing all classes and not have any unexcused absences. Administrative approval is required.

Note: More detailed requirements are available upon request.

### Youth Options

Wisconsin Virtual Learning, under the direction and policies of the Northern Ozaukee School District supports junior and senior students' participation in the Youth Options Program. Wisconsin Virtual Learning will adhere to the Youth Options Program guidelines below:

The Northern Ozaukee School District will implement the following as allowed in Wisconsin State Statutes 118.55(7t) (a), 118.55(7t) (c), and 118.55 (7r) (a) 5.

1. A pupil who intends to enroll in an institution of higher learning through the Youth Options Program shall notify the Board of Education or Board designee of his/her intention to enroll no later than March 1 if the pupil intends to enroll in the fall semester, and no later than October 1 if the pupil intends to enroll in the spring semester. The notice shall include the titles of the courses in which the pupil intends to enroll and the number of credits of each course, and shall specify whether the pupil will be taking the course for high school or postsecondary credit. An application form is available at: <http://dpi.wi.gov/Studentsthoptions/>
2. The Board limits the number of credits for which the Board will pay to 18 post-secondary credits total in a student's junior and senior years. The Board will consider additional credits upon written request by the student.
3. If a pupil receives a failing grade or fails to complete (drops) a course for which the school district has made payment, reimbursement to the district is required for all costs related to the course. According to Wisconsin State Statute §118.55(7t)(c): "If a school board that requests reimbursement of a payment made under this section is not reimbursed as requested, the pupil on whose behalf the payment was made is ineligible for any further participation in the program under this section." The Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction further recommends that any recovery of unpaid reimbursement be made in small claims court. Reimbursement will be requested from the student if he or she is an adult or from the student's parent or guardian. Students who fail to provide reimbursement for a dropped or failed course as described are no longer eligible for the Youth Options Program."

Note: Youth options is the responsibility of the parent to research and submit necessary paperwork on time to be considered for the program.