

# **WAHCONAH**

## **Regional High School**

# **PROGRAM OF STUDIES**



# **2018 – 2019**

Serving the Central Berkshire Regional School District  
Seven Member Towns

Becket, Cummington, Dalton, Hinsdale, Peru, Washington and Windsor

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**WAHCONAH REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL**  
 is a member of the  
**NEW ENGLAND ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES**  
 and is accredited by the  
**MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**  
 as a  
**COMPREHENSIVE HIGH SCHOOL**

**Telephone Service**  
**Area Code 413**

Main Office .....	684-1330
Fax (Main Office) .....	684-4196
Guidance Office.....	684-1330
Fax (Guidance).....	684-5032
Athletic Department .....	684-1330
Director Food Service .....	684-1307



## Central Berkshire Regional School District Directory

### School Committee

Mr. Shawn Armacost, Chair

Dr. Barabara Craft-Reiss  
 Ms. Bonny DiTomasso  
 Mr. Richard Farley  
 Mr. Peter Gazzillo

Mr. Michael Hagmaier  
 Mr. Michael Hopper  
 Ms. Patricia Keith  
 Mr. Richard Lacatell  
 Mrs. Ellen Lattizzori

Mr. John Les  
 Mr. Richard Peters  
 Mrs. Nicole Tucker  
 Mr. Richard Wagner

### Superintendent

Ms. Laurie Casna, J.D.

### Assistant Superintendent

Ms. Melissa Falkowski

### Director of Student Services

Ms. Maria Geryk

# Wahconah Regional High School Staff Directory 2018 - 2019

## Administration

Robb, Aaron.....Principal  
Messina, Stephen...Asst.  
Principal

## Art

Capogna, Bonnie  
Sumner, Ginger

## English

DeMaranville, Mary  
Donovan, Meghann  
Hirschegger, Molly  
Pickard, John  
Stone, Maura  
Udel, Aaron  
Walsh, Corey

## Guidance

Andersen, Peter  
Grady, Catherine  
Salavantis, Katherine

## Library

Markland, Kelly

## Math/Business/Technology

Cramer, John  
Durkee, Cynthia  
Furtek, Cheryl  
Kowalczyk, Debbie  
McLaughlin, Jackie  
Pike, Jeffrey  
Walton, Melinda  
Wesley, Lynn  
Wilbur, Brenda

## Modern & Classical Language

Bradshaw, Charles  
Harrison, Tracy  
Polo, Suzanne  
Shannon, Meagan

## Music/Performing Arts

Rabuse, Brian  
Hoffman, Rebecca

## Physical Education/Health

Campbell, Jr., Gary  
Galliher, James  
Mason, Kerry

## School Adjustment Counselor

Therrien, Donna

## School Nurse

Bushway, Phoebe

## School Psychologist

Sutton, Sarah

## Science and

## Technology

Dahari, David  
Furlong, Eric  
LeSage, April  
Ostrander, Matthew  
Pegorari, Matthew  
Swegel, Nicole  
Therrien, Shawn  
Utz, David  
Walsh, Nicole

## Social Studies

Kovacs, Joseph  
Murphy, John  
Oliva, Frank  
Patton, Bryan  
Shannon, Jared

## Special Education

Keller, Maria  
Miller, Lara  
Sullivan, Nate

### Counselor Assignments 2018 - 2019 School Year

Grades 9-12: A-E.....Mrs. Grady  
Grades 9-12: F-M.....Mr. Andersen  
Grades 9-12: N-Z.....Mrs. Salavantis

## **MISSION STATEMENT**

Wahconah Regional High School is a culture to promote a comfortable, safe world of challenge, opportunity, consequence, and reward which, together with family and community, embraces the diverse dreams, talents, efforts and accomplishments of its individual students, while preparing them in mind, body and spirit to continue to lead productive, happy lives in their expanding and changing worlds within and beyond high school.

### **Core Values**

At Wahconah, we R.I.S.E.

- **R**esilience
- **I**ntegrity
- **S**elf-Direction
- **E**mpathy

## **21st CENTURY STUDENT LEARNING EXPECTATIONS**

Students will:

1. read, write, communicate, and listen effectively;
2. acquire, apply, and create new ideas/knowledge using 21st Century media and technology;
3. engage in a variety of activities that promote personal well-being, demonstrate personal and civic responsibility, and cultivate ethical behavior;
4. develop work habits that promote adaptability and life-long learning.

## CRITICAL THINKING SKILLS

An emphasis on critical thinking skills in the areas of reading, writing, conversation and computation are part of the Wahconah philosophy.

## INDIVIDUAL PROGRAMS

The policy of the school is to provide every student with an individualized program. There is no classification of students.

## POLICY - DROPPING CLASSES

- Students must carry an academic load of at least 30 credits. Students cannot drop classes, without administrative approval, if the loss of credits decreases their yearly total below 30 credits.
- Once students officially begin classes, there is a drop/add period of ten school days. In order to avoid a grade penalty, withdrawal must occur within 25 school days. Extenuating circumstances may be identified by the Principal, Counseling Coordinator, teacher, student or parent. Final status will be determined by the Administration and Guidance Department.
- After the 25 school day withdrawal period, a student failing must continue to attend classes and be encouraged to obtain a passing grade; or
- If the student withdraws after the first 25 school days of the marking period, he or she will carry a grade of WF (50) that will be computed in his or her official average.
- No student with a passing grade will be allowed to withdraw after the first 25 school days; (extenuating circumstances to be reviewed by the Principal, Counseling Coordinator, teacher and student).

## PROMOTION POLICY

The following are minimum credits to enter the next grade:

10th grade (Sophomore).....	25 credits
11th grade (Junior) .....	55 credits
12th grade (Senior).....	85 credits
Graduation .....	115 credits

## MINIMUM STANDARDS

All students at Wahconah Regional High School must accumulate a minimum number of credits in certain curriculum areas.

A designated number of credits are assigned to each course of study, based on the following criteria:

- Five (5.00) credits will be awarded for the successful completion of each full year's course meeting every day.
- Two and one-half (2.50) credits will be awarded for successful completion of each semester course which meets every day, and courses which meet every other day for the entire year.
- One and one-quarter (1.25) credits will be awarded for successful completion of each semester course meeting every other day.

In order to graduate from Wahconah Regional High School, students must earn credits in the following curriculum areas:

English .....	20.00 credits
Mathematics .....	20.00 credits
Science .....	15.00 credits
Social Studies .....	20.00 credits
Electives .....	30.00 credits
Physical Wellness .....	10.00 credits
(P.E. & Health)	

**115 TOTAL CREDITS**, the minimum required for graduation.

## METHODS OF EARNING CREDITS

Units of credit may be earned in the following ways:

Classroom instruction (regular classes)

Credit through the Work/Study Program

Other possible sources of credit (see your Guidance Counselor with questions)

Correspondence courses

Adult education

Post-secondary courses

Virtual High School

Tutorial program

Summer school program

## ADVANCED PLACEMENT

We have Advanced Placement (AP) programs in English, Science, Social Studies, Mathematics, Languages, and Music. The College Board Testing Program will be adhered to throughout the program. AP courses can also be accessed through Virtual High School. Qualified students may request AP Testing in specific academic areas.

Students electing to take one of Wahconah's AP courses must pay a testing fee. Taking the AP Exam in May is a requirement of every AP course. The testing fee will be billed in the fall. Financial assistance is available and students are encouraged to discuss this with their guidance counselor.

## GRADE WEIGHTING

Based on the degree of difficulty, certain courses have been designated to be considered for grade weighting as follows: Advanced Placement (AP) courses receive a weight of 5 and Honors courses receive a weight of 3. This adjustment will affect the calculation of cumulative grade point average for determining class rank and National Honor Society eligibility. Report card and student transcript will show actual non-weighted grade earned.

AP English Language & Composition

AP English Literature & Composition

Honors English 9

Honors English 10

Honors American Authors

Honors English 12

Honors Algebra I

Honors Algebra II

Honors Geometry

Honors Pre-Calculus

Honors Calculus

AP Statistics

AP Calculus AB

Honors Biology

Honors Chemistry

Honors Physics

Honors Environmental Science\*

AP Biology

Honors Anatomy & Physiology\*

AP Chemistry

AP Physics 1

Honors U. S. History I

Honors Modern World History

Honors U.S. History II

AP U.S. History

AP U.S. Government & Politics

AP French

AP Spanish

Honors French III

Honors French IV

Honors French V

Honors Latin III

Honors Latin IV

Honors Spanish III

Honors Spanish IV

Accounting II\*

Honors Accounting III\*

Personal Money Management\*

Computer Programming\*

AP Music Theory\*\*

\* May be eligible for college credit through Berkshire Community College

\*\* Offered in graduating years ending in an even number

## CALCULATING GPA

The GPA is computed by using a system of quality points. Quality points are determined by multiplying the course grade by the number of credits earned for that period and then adding all quality point totals. The sum is then divided by the number of credits earned for that period and the resulting quotient is the GPA.

*Notes: Physical Education, Academic Assistance and Work Study are not used when computing GPA.*

*If a course is a weighted course, then add the points to the term grade for the course before computing GPA.*

## REGULATION ON "INCOMPLETES"

Five school days after the quarter report card is issued, any assignment not completed will receive a zero, and be averaged into the term mark. It is the responsibility of the student to make arrangements for incompletes. Extenuating circumstances will be subject to review by the administration, teacher and student, with the final status being determined by the administration

## ATTENDANCE POLICY

Class attendance is essential to the learning process. If students are absent from class, they cannot participate in the learning process. If the number of **class** absences totals ten (10) for a *semester course*, or twenty (20) for a *full year course*, **the student will be subject to loss of course credit for the courses affected**. If the number of class absences totals five for a semester course meeting every other day or ten for a full year course meeting every other day, that student will be subject to losing course credit for the course(s) affected.

Students affected by loss of credit will still receive a grade for the course(s), and the grade achieved will appear on their school transcript, but without credit. The grade received will also be counted in the GPA calculation.

**Seniors** missing eight classes in a *second semester course* (18 for a *full year course*) will be subject to loss of credit for the course(s) affected (or missing four classes of a semester course meeting every other day).

The only excusable reason for an absence is for a student to be at a school-sponsored activity or **externally** suspended. Students may submit a written appeal to the Attendance Appeals Committee and must be forwarded to the Assistant Principal within ten (10) days from the issuance of report cards. The Attendance Appeals Committee will be comprised of the Assistant Principal, each guidance counselor, the school nurse and the school adjustment counselor. Vacation, cutting class, truancy and suspension are not acceptable reasons for an appeal.

*See Student Handbook for the complete Attendance Policy.*

## SPECIAL EDUCATION and SUPPORTIVE PROGRAMMING

**The number of courses offered in this area may vary each year depending on student enrollment and need, as well as services outlined in Individual Education Plans.**

Practical, hands-on courses, content-driven courses rooted in the curriculum frameworks are available for those students who plan on participating in the MCAS Alternative Portfolio assessment. Specifically, courses in math, language arts, and other areas are offered to these students on an as-needed basis and are both graded and credit-bearing.

An Academic Assistance period is provided to those students whose IEP calls for such services. Academic Assistance is offered every day or every other day depending on student need. Academic Assistance provides ongoing support and reinforcement of skills acquired in general education classes. Students are supported in meeting their IEP goals and achieve a higher level of academic independence as well. This class is graded and credited.

The Janus program is an "at-risk" educational platform unique to Wahconah. It is designed to provide alternative educational programming for students who are at risk of dropping out of high school and/or are in need of alternative instructional delivery. The primary delivery of instruction will be the APEX on-line learning system. The number of students allowed to participate in this program is limited due to the cost of purchasing APEX licensing and scheduling restrictions. Therefore, a panel of Wahconah and district staff will select participants based on academic need and other qualifications. Upon acceptance into this program, students' continued participation will be assessed on a quarterly basis.



## EARLY GRADUATION

Please refer to CBRSD School Committee Policy #5681.

## COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS

It is important for a student to give serious thought and attention to educational plans beyond high school as they enter Wahconah. The following admissions requirements to Massachusetts State Colleges and Universities serve as a basic guideline. Some colleges will have more stringent requirements, some less:

1. 16 required **college preparatory** academic courses. (A course is equivalent to one full school year of study. Courses count toward the distribution only if passed);
2. A minimum required Grade Point Average (GPA) of **83** earned in college preparatory courses completed at the time of application;
3. Applicants must also submit an SAT or ACT score.

### Academic Course Requirements:

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Years of Study</b>
English .....	4 (College Preparatory level)
Foreign Language (Modern or Classical)...	2 to 4 (at least two in a single language)
Mathematics.....	4 (Algebra I & II and Geometry or Trigonometry, or comparable coursework, including Math in the senior year.)
Science.....	3 to 4 (drawn from Natural or Physical Science or Technology/Engineering), including 3 years' lab work
Social Sciences .....	2 (including U.S. History)
Electives.....	2 from the above subject areas or Arts & Humanities or Computer Sciences.

## OFF-CAMPUS PROGRAM (non-credit)

### Shadowing (non-credit)

Shadowing provides students with the opportunity to "shadow" various careers by visiting vocational sites for an "on-the-job" observation. Arrangements may be made through your guidance counselor.

## **VIRTUAL HIGH SCHOOL (VHS)**

Virtual High School students have the opportunity to select from a full catalog\* of semester-length and full-year courses including elective, advanced placement (AP) and Pre-AP courses that are not otherwise offered at Wahconah. The grading and credit structure for VHS courses are the same as any other course offered at Wahconah.

Through VHS, your students will:

- Take one or more high school classes online, entirely over the Internet
- Enjoy small class sizes and low student to teacher ratios
- Engage in unique collaboration opportunities with peers from around the world
- Take advantage of the flexibility of VHS courses which can take place anywhere, anytime
- Participate in courses that are highly desired, yet are not typically offered locally.

If you are interested in taking a VHS class, please contact your guidance counselor and visit [vhslearning.org](http://vhslearning.org).

## **CAREER VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL EDUCATION (CVTE) LINKAGE**

The overarching goal of CVTE Linkage is to “link” high school career and technical programs with related programs at Berkshire Community College (BCC) and other local colleges. This is made possible in two ways:

**1. Articulated Courses.** Students who successfully complete certain courses at Wahconah and subsequently matriculate to BCC can apply for BCC credit. These classes include Anatomy & Physiology, Guitar, and possibly Personal Money Management, Computer Programming, and Accounting I and II.

**2. Dual Enrollment Courses.** Students who test college ready on the college assessment and meet all course pre-requisites, complete required registration and Bridge to College forms, and earn a qualifying grade in a Wahconah course can get a BCC transcript for that course, which will be accepted at BCC and may be accepted at other colleges. These classes include Anatomy & Physiology and Honors Environmental Science, and possibly Accounting II, Personal Money Management, and Computer Programming.

# BUSINESS EDUCATION

## Computer Software Applications

**PREREQUISITE: NONE**  
**LENGTH: SEMESTER**  
**GRADE LEVEL: 9-12**  
**CREDITS: 2.50**

Students use Microsoft Office Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Publisher, and Access to prepare a variety of documents in a simulation. Additionally, students will use Naviance to help them identify an area of interest that they feel they would like to pursue for a career. They will prepare a resume, cover letter, job application, follow-up letters, and participate in a mock interview.

## Cyber Literacy for the Digital Age

**PREREQUISITE: NONE**  
**LENGTH: SEMESTER**  
**GRADE LEVEL: 9-12**  
**CREDITS: 2.50**

Do you want to be sure that you are safe from cyber-crime and security? You will learn how to protect yourself from threats both in the home and in the workplace. Working safely on the Internet is a focus of our studies, including topics such as transacting business, communicating via instant messaging, and using portable, wireless USB devices, as well as using media files and third-party software. You will be presented with concepts and real cases that are relevant to the virtual world you now live in.

## Computer Graphics and Web Design

**PREREQUISITE: NONE**  
**LENGTH: YEAR**  
**GRADE LEVEL: 9-12**  
**CREDITS: 5.00**

Students taking this course will use the Adobe Creative Suite (Dreamweaver, Photoshop, InDesign, Flash and Fireworks) to create fully functioning, visually enhanced, and information rich web-based content. Topics covered will include: photo editing, graphic design, computer animation, web page design, and electronic publishing. Students taking this course will use the Adobe Creative Suite to create fully functioning websites.

## Video Game Design

**PREREQUISITE: NONE**  
**LENGTH: SEMESTER**  
**GRADE LEVEL: 10-12; 9 with Instructor Permission**  
**CREDITS: 2.50**

This course focuses on the fundamentals of the theory and development of video games. Students will utilize math, science and technology skills to design, code, test and debug video games using game making software. Experience in computer programming is not required but is useful.

## Robotics

**PREREQUISITE: NONE**  
**LENGTH: YEAR**  
**GRADE LEVEL: 10-12; 9 with Instructor Permission**  
**CREDITS: 5.00**

Through the use of robots, students will explore the fundamentals of problem solving, program design, algorithms and programming. Students will be designing, building, and programming robots while building problem-solving, organization, and team-building skills. This course is designed to focus on science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) concepts.

## **Accounting I**

**PREREQUISITE: NONE**

**LENGTH: YEAR**

**GRADE LEVEL: 10-12; 9 with Instructor Permission**

**CREDITS: 5.00**

Accounting is considered the language of the business world. Accounting I offers the student instruction in the system of developing and maintaining accounting records. The course is designed to prepare the college bound students in basic fundamentals, which will be encountered in the initial college course offerings. It also will help the vocational business career student who will be required to possess skills in accounting fundamentals for job placement. Members of the class become involved in the principles and methods of recording business transactions, the preparation and interpretation of financial statements, and the interpretation of fiscal reports. During the second semester, students will be introduced to electronic software used to complete their various assignments.

## **Accounting II\***

**PREREQUISITE: Completion of Accounting I with an 80 or permission of teacher**

**LENGTH: YEAR**

**GRADE LEVEL: 11-12**

**CREDITS: 5.00**

Accounting II expands on topics learned in Accounting I, while adding new topics about financial accounting, managerial accounting, and cost accounting. This course will help qualify students for higher-level jobs and careers and provides an excellent background and preparation for college-bound business majors and accounting majors alike. Students will use computer and spreadsheet software to solve problems.

*\* As part of an articulation agreement, students completing this course as Tech Prep students may earn college credit at Berkshire Community College. (Pending Dual Enrollment with BCC)*

## **Accounting III \***

**PREREQUISITE: Completion of Accounting II with an 80 or permission of teacher**

**LENGTH: YEAR**

**GRADE LEVEL: 12**

**CREDITS: 5.00**

Accounting III is an honors designated course designed to serve the needs of the student who requires a well-rounded accounting program, whether the student is preparing for a career in accounting or other types of management careers, both in and out of the business world. The course is carefully planned to help the student master accounting in a logical and efficient manner. The concepts advance steadily from the simple to the complex, from the familiar to the new. Accounting III will help the student build a broad understanding of the business world by showing how accounting systems operate through the use of simulations, industry-used computer software and assignments designed to provide the students with real-life scenarios. Students will address topics relevant in the business world today, including but not limited to financial statement analysis, corporate fraud, and various managerial accounting topics.

The successful completion of this course fulfills one year of the required three years of math, provided student scores 240+ on MCAS.

*\*As part of an articulation agreement, students completing this course as Tech Prep students may earn college credit at Berkshire Community College*

## **Entrepreneurship**

**PREREQUISITE: NONE**

**LENGTH: SEMESTER**

**GRADE LEVEL: 10-12**

**CREDITS: 2.50**

In this hands-on course, students will learn the step-by-step process of owning your own business. You will design, develop,

and create a product (or service) to sell. The students will also determine who their customers are, learn how to market the business, to obtain financing, and to manage their employees. As time allows, they will complete a computerized business simulation to run a virtual restaurant.

## **Personal Money Management**

**PREREQUISITE: NONE**

**LENGTH: SEMESTER**

**GRADE LEVEL: 10-12**

**CREDITS: 2.50**

Do you want to live at home forever? Do you want to have the latest technology but are sick of asking others for money? How does working until you are in your 80s sound to you? Personal Management is a semester-long course designed for students to actively learn life-long skills to help achieve personal financial success. Topics covered include but are not limited to: budgeting, understanding the banking system, long-term saving and investing, understanding credit, personal risk management, and taxes. The course also includes a technological component as students will complete an online simulation as well as continuously hone their skills through the use of Microsoft Office software. *(Pending Articulation and Dual Enrollment with BCC)*

## **Computer Building & Repair**

**PREREQUISITE: NONE**

**LENGTH: YEAR**

**GRADE LEVEL: 10-12**

**CREDITS: 5.00**

This course will offer students the opportunity to learn about computer technology through a hands-on approach. As the computer industry is a rapidly changing environment, students will learn how to recognize old and new computer components, safely build or modify computer systems, diagnose and repair problems, and provide exceptional user support.

Students continuing on for a second year may participate in internship opportunities via the CBRSD Information Technology Center.

## **Introduction to Computer Programming**

**PREREQUISITE: NONE**

**LENGTH: SEMESTER**

**GRADE LEVEL: 10-12; 9<sup>th</sup> with Instructor Permission**

**CREDITS: 2.50**

This course focuses on introducing students to the concept of computer programming. The objective of this course is to teach students the logic and skills required for understanding computer programming. Students will use a variety of software applications to learn the basics, as well as begin to design and write simple computer programs.

## **Advanced Topics in Computer Programming**

**PREREQUISITE: Completion of Introduction to Computer Programming with an 80 or Instructor Permission**

**LENGTH: SEMESTER**

**GRADE LEVEL: 10-12**

**CREDITS: 2.50**

This course focuses on continuing the subject matter taught in Introduction to Computer Programming. The objective of this course is to expand on the topics of designing and writing programs. Upon completion of this course, students should be able to design, code, test, and debug programs using C++ programming language. Students in this course will also be expected to undertake and complete special projects related to coding. *(Pending articulation and dual enrollment with BCC)*

- *Pending Articulation and Dual Enrollment with Berkshire Community College*

## **Sports and Entertainment Marketing**

**PREREQUISITE: Entrepreneurship or Permission of Instructor**

**LENGTH: SEMESTER**

**GRADE LEVEL: 10-12**

**CREDITS: 2.5**

In today's economy, it is estimated that companies worldwide spend over \$250 billion on marketing and advertising each year. Marketing and advertising plays an incredibly important role in the success of a business. This course teaches students these marketing concepts with a focus on the sports and entertainment industry. Topics covered include: the product mix, the economies of supply and demand, advertising and placement, target markets, and marketing legal issues.

## **Work Study/Internship Program**

**PREREQUISITE: NONE**

**LENGTH: SEMESTER/YEAR**

**GRADE LEVEL: 11-12**

**CREDITS: VARIES**

Work-based learning is an instructional strategy that is essential in preparing all students for success in postsecondary education and future careers. The Work-Study/Internship Program at Wahconah is designed, in cooperation with the Guidance Department, the Berkshire Regional Employment Board, and local employers to provide both college and career connecting opportunities for juniors and seniors, along with opportunities for skill development and direct application.

All work-based learning experiences involve interactions with industry and community professionals and are linked to school-based instruction. These learning experiences are designed to help students apply classroom learning while experiencing learning opportunities that are difficult to achieve through classroom instruction alone.

The Work Study/Internship Program offers students the opportunity to earn credit for work-related experiences as both paid and unpaid internships. Students who take advantage of the program will receive individualized vocational skills training, as well as instruction in the many facets of their chosen occupational area and establish good employer references.

The program is offered in various formats, which range from half day school/half day work, to other in-school, after school, evening, and summer options.

# **ENGLISH**

## **Grade 9 English**

**PREREQUISITE: NONE**

**LENGTH: YEAR**

**GRADE LEVEL: 9**

**CREDITS: 5.00**

Grade 9 English is designed to equip the student with the basic skills and the necessary tools to express his/her ideas with clarity, ease and imagination. In Grade 9 English, readings cover short works of fiction, non-fiction, drama and poetry with emphasis upon skill development. Included in Grade 9 English is a unit in library and basic research techniques.

## **Grade 9 English (Honors)**

**PREREQUISITE: NONE**

**LENGTH: YEAR**

**GRADE LEVEL: 9**

**CREDITS: 5.00**

Grade 9 Honors English is designed to equip the student with the basic skills and the necessary tools to express his/her ideas with clarity, ease and imagination. In Grade 9 Honors English, emphasis is placed on longer works of fiction, nonfiction, and

upon acquiring sophistication with the literary aspects of a work. Included in this course is a unit in library and basic research techniques. Grade 9 Honors English is designed for students planning to continue formal education after graduation at a college or technical school.

## **Grade 10 English**

**PREREQUISITE:** passing grade in ninth grade English

**LENGTH:** YEAR

**GRADE LEVEL:** 10

**CREDITS:** 5.00

Students read literature and nonfiction in this course, which invites them to consider their power as individuals and to examine their roles as responsible citizens. The writing includes a focus on the personal narrative, the literary essay, various approaches to open response questions, and preparation for the long composition on the MCAS exam.

## **Grade 10 English (Honors)**

**PREREQUISITE:** passing grade in ninth grade English

**LENGTH:** YEAR

**GRADE LEVEL:** 10

**CREDITS:** 5.00

This course consists of a focus on literature, writing and speech. In the literature component, students continue to perfect their analytical and creative thinking skills through an in depth look at various works, striving to articulate the author's intent in theme, style, and tone. The writing component focuses on the literary essay, various approaches to open response type questions, and preparation for the long composition on the MCAS exam. The speech component focuses on students learning the basic skills of oral communication, including how to write and present a speech, and the importance of-verbal communication in a speech as well. Selections of nonfiction are read as well.

## **English 11**

**PREREQUISITE:** passing grade in tenth grade English

**LENGTH:** YEAR

**GRADE LEVEL:** 11

**CREDITS:** 5.00

English 11 focuses on developing both analytical reading skills and writing skills. The course includes close, detailed readings of nonfiction, fiction, and drama; class discussion is required. Students will work to develop their writing skills through free writing exercises, analytical writing assignments, creative writing assignments, and a research paper.

## **Major American Authors and Expository Writing (Honors)**

**PREREQUISITE:** passing grade in tenth grade English

**LENGTH:** YEAR

**GRADE LEVEL:** 11

**CREDITS:** 5.00

This class includes surveying the history of American Literature from 1850 to the present day, and through this study, we practice forming opinions, developing arguments, and organizing them into speech and writing.

The writing focus is the expository essay, but we write in a range of formats. To become better writers, we use tools and skills to improve our understanding, including analysis and enjoyment of films, poems, short stories and novels. To become better thinkers, we will study logic, critical perspectives, and historical thinking. Selections of nonfiction are read as well.

## **Advanced Placement Language and Composition**

**PREREQUISITE:** passing grade in tenth grade English, competence in rigorous reading and writing, a strong work ethic

**LENGTH: YEAR**  
**GRADE LEVEL: 11**  
**CREDITS: 5.00**

The Advanced Placement English Language and Composition course is designed to help students become critical readers of fiction and nonfiction works, including expository, argumentative, analytical, and personal texts from various authors and time periods. The course also aims to strengthen the effectiveness of students' writing through close reading and frequent practice at applying rhetorical strategies, analyzing information from source texts, and writing arguments. (Literature studied in this course includes: *The Great Gatsby*, *The Things They Carried*, *Angela's Ashes*, *Catcher in the Rye*, and numerous works of nonfiction.) This course is both reading and writing intensive and is not a preparatory course for Advanced Placement English Literature and Composition course; it is, instead, a rigorous "stand alone" course that offers the possible opportunity to receive college credit.

*\*\*Students may receive college credit; however, this is dependent upon the college and the grade earned on the A.P. Language and Composition exam. There is an A.P. exam fee associated with this course.\*\**

## **English 12: Science Fiction, Speculative Fiction, and Fantasy**

**PREREQUISITE: passing grade in eleventh grade English**  
**LENGTH: YEAR**  
**GRADE LEVEL: 12**  
**CREDITS: 5.00**

*Science Fiction* used to refer to a type of writing fit only for pulpy magazines, comic books, late night radio shows, and B-movies. No more—the growing genre has reached tentacles into prize-winning literature, blockbuster films, highly-rated TV shows, and school classrooms. Society has recognized the value of asking “What if?” about our world, its history, and its future. By learning how to discuss and appreciate science fiction stories, students in this class will strengthen their ability to question, criticize, and value their “real” worlds. Other genres—speculative fiction, psychological fiction, and fantastic fiction—use the science fiction “What If” question as well.

## **English 12 (Honors)**

**PREREQUISITE: passing grade in eleventh grade English**  
**LENGTH: YEAR**  
**GRADE LEVEL: 12**  
**CREDITS: 5.00**

Honors English 12 offers an exploration and analysis of a variety of genres (including short stories, drama, novels and non-fiction) of the past and modern world. There is a strong focus on the changing periods of British Literature. Creative and critical writings are essential requirements for this course. There is a firm focus on developing strong writing skills connected to literary analysis. Students should expect to reflect on the various comparisons between the different periods of literature, including making connections to life today, both in writing and through discussion. As with all senior college prep English courses, students must complete a research paper for this course.

## **Advanced Placement English Literature and Composition**

**PREREQUISITE: passing grade in eleventh grade English, competence in rigorous reading and writing, a strong work ethic**  
**LENGTH: YEAR**  
**GRADE LEVEL: 12**  
**CREDITS: 5.00**

The AP Literature and Composition course, which is designed to be the equal of an introductory college English class, has several objectives. Students should be prepared for a three hour A.P. test; students should be ready for college-level reading, writing, and thinking; students should hone specific skills to aid in reading comprehension, analysis, interpretation, and evaluation; students should form habits that aid in appreciation of reading, writing, thinking, and discussing; students should build a functional web of cultural literacy using the threads of genre, philosophy, and literary movement.



*\*\*Students may receive college credit; however, this is dependent upon the college and the grade earned on the A.P. Literature and Composition exam. There is an A.P. exam fee associated with this course.\*\**

**All seniors in Honors English are required to successfully complete the senior research paper.**

## **FINE ARTS**

### **General Art**

**PREREQUISITE: NONE**

**LENGTH: SEMESTER**

**GRADE LEVEL: 9-12**

**CREDITS: 2.50**

General Art offers a variety of art projects from which the students can choose and gear toward, with individual interests and abilities. The objectives of this course are to help the student become creative and constructively critical in their thinking, to help them develop a healthy emotional outlet, and to enrich their cultural life. In order to accomplish these objectives, students are offered instruction in the areas of painting, drawing, design, sculpture, ceramics, crafts and print-making.

### **General Art II**

**PREREQUISITE: General Art (1 year)**

**LENGTH: SEMESTER**

**GRADE LEVEL: 10-12**

**CREDITS: 2.50**

This course is intended for students who have been in the General Art course for one or more years and are ready to move to a more advanced level of art. This is the second tier of General Art which offers a variety of art projects from which the students can choose and gear toward individual interests and abilities. The objectives of this course are to help the student work more independently while utilizing resources, building on technical skills in art, and continuing their growth in being creative and constructively critical in their thinking. Students will be expected to display a high level of responsibility in maintaining the visual workspace.

### **Painting and Design**

**PREREQUISITE: Recommendation of teacher**

**LENGTH: SEMESTER**

**GRADE LEVEL: 10-12**

**CREDITS: 2.50**

Using individual painting and design techniques, students will work toward the overall visual presentation of their artwork, including both presentation and style. This course is designed for serious art students.

### **Art Major**

**PREREQUISITE: Recommendation of teacher**

**LENGTH: YEAR**

**GRADE LEVEL: 10-12**

**CREDITS: 5.00**

The Art Major course is designed for the student who intends to pursue a career in the visual arts. Since a portfolio of art work is normally required for admission to art school, this course is directed to that end. Students are therefore required to work in the major areas of visual artistic expression and to explore a variety of media, such as painting, drawing, sculpture, ceramics, print-making, and graphic arts. It is hoped that by covering these areas students will be ready for acceptance to and success at an institution of higher learning.

## **Drawing**

**PREREQUISITE: NONE**

**LENGTH: SEMESTER**

**GRADE LEVEL: 9-12**

**CREDITS: 2.50**

In this drawing class, students will learn how to draw landscapes, still lifes, and portraits, using a variety of media. They will learn techniques of drawing from direct observation, contour drawing, and 1-and 2-point perspective, composition and design. It is expected that a sketchbook will be maintained in order to provide practice in drawing. The instructor will provide individual as well as group instruction and feedback, and students will learn how to look at their own, and others' art, critically. Through an analysis of each student's skill, goals may be created based on determined strengths and weaknesses. In order to enrich students' art knowledge, famous artists and major styles will be introduced within the context of selected assignments, and one museum field trip will be planned in the year.

# **PERFORMING ARTS**

## **Beginning Guitar**

**PREREQUISITE: Student must have access to an acoustic or electric guitar in working condition**

**LENGTH: SEMESTER**

**GRADE LEVEL: 9-12**

**CREDITS: 2.50**

This course is designed for students with little to no experience on guitar. Acoustic or electric is acceptable. Students will learn open position chords and songs that use them. Some basic music theory is also included in this class.

## **Advanced Guitar**

**PREREQUISITE: Student must have permission of the instructor.**

**LENGTH: SEMESTER**

**GRADE LEVEL: 9-12**

**CREDITS: 2.50**

The next level of guitar puts an emphasis on chords outside of the open position, inversions, scales, modes, improvisation, and ensemble skills.

## **Guitar Ensemble**

**PREREQUISITE:** Completion of Guitar or permission of the instructor.

**LENGTH:** SEMESTER

**GRADE LEVEL:** 9-12

**CREDITS:** 2.50

This course focuses on reading traditional music notation in an ensemble setting. Beginners are welcome, and students are not expected to know how to read music. Reading music notation will be taught throughout the class. There will be some evening performances by this group for which attendance will be required.

## **Introduction to Music Theory: Understanding Music** (offered in odd-numbered graduation years)

**PREREQUISITE:** None

**LENGTH:** SEMESTER

**GRADE LEVEL:** 9-12

**CREDITS:** 2.50

This course covers the basics of notation and harmony. No previous experience is required. Students will study intervals, chords, scales and how basic chord progressions form to make music. **(This course is an AP Theory pre-requisite)**

## **Advanced Placement Music Theory** (offered in even-numbered graduation years)

**PREREQUISITE:** Introduction to Music Theory or permission of the instructor

**LENGTH:** YEAR

**GRADE LEVEL:** 9\*-12

**CREDITS:** 5.00

AP course descriptions are updated regularly. Please visit AP Central® ([apcentral.collegeboard.org](http://apcentral.collegeboard.org)) to determine whether a more recent course description is available.

\*Permission of instructor required for grade 9 students

\*\**Students may receive college credit; however, this is dependent upon the college and the grade earned on the A.P. Music Theory exam. There is an A.P. exam fee associated with this course.*\*\*

## **Concert Band**

**PREREQUISITE:** Student must play a band instrument, electric bass or keyboard

**LENGTH:** YEAR

**GRADE LEVEL:** 9-12

**CREDITS:** 5.00

The Concert Band is a combination of wind and percussion instruments. It is a performing ensemble that gives concerts throughout the year. Its purpose is two-fold: (1) to develop technical proficiency on at least one instrument and to build an aesthetic appreciation of music in general, so that the student can learn to become a functioning member of any musical ensemble; (2) to contribute to the musical growth and pride of the school and community by participating in various functions such as concerts, parades and assemblies. Open to qualified musicians.

## **Music Production**

**PREREQUISITE:** Permission of instructor

**LENGTH:** SEMESTER

**GRADE LEVEL:** 9-12

**CREDITS:** 2.50

Music Production is a beginning level course open to all students at any grade level. Students will study electronic music making with Ableton 9 Live and FL Studio including drum sequencing and programming MIDI instruments as well as recording audio in a multitrack environment using PreSonus Studio One. Students will also learn the basics of live audio

mixing and recording using the P.A. systems in our school.

### **Treble Chorus**

**PREQUISITE: NONE**  
**LENGTH: YEAR**  
**GRADE LEVEL: 9-12**  
**CREDITS: 5.00**

This Chorus section consists of soprano and alto (high and middle) voices with emphasis placed on developing introductory ear training, vocal techniques and music reading skills. The course enables students to develop familiarity with a wide range of choral literature and styles. Some extracurricular rehearsals and performances are required. Open to all singers willing to perform in concerts several times per year. Prior singing experience is helpful but not necessary.

### **Mixed Chorus**

**PREREQUISITE: NONE**  
**LENGTH: YEAR**  
**GRADE LEVEL: 9-12**  
**CREDITS: 5.00**

This chorus section consists of soprano, alto, tenor and bass voices (all voice types from highest to lowest) with emphasis placed on developing advanced ear training, vocal technique and music reading skills. The course enables students to develop familiarity with a wide range of choral literature and styles. Some extracurricular rehearsals and performances are required. Open to all singers willing to perform in concerts several times per year. Prior singing experience is helpful but not necessary.

# MATHEMATICS

*\*Note: MCAS exams are based on Algebra I and Geometry curricula.*

## Algebra I(B)

**PREREQUISITE:** Recommendation of previous mathematics teacher

**LENGTH:** YEAR

**GRADE LEVEL:** 9-10

**CREDITS:** 5.00

Algebra I(B) will utilize the language of mathematics to enable students to express problems in equation form, to represent problems graphically and to find solutions. Emphasis is placed on problem solving techniques. This course will present an overview of math topics in preparation for state testing.

## Algebra I

**PREREQUISITE:** Recommendation of previous mathematics teacher

**LENGTH:** YEAR

**GRADE LEVEL:** 9-10

**CREDITS:** 5.00

Algebra I will utilize the language of mathematics to enable students to express problems in equation form, to represent problems graphically and to find solutions. Emphasis is placed on problem solving techniques. The student electing Algebra I is expected to have a strong background in the basic operations of arithmetic, including decimals, fractions and signed numbers. This course will present an overview of math topics in preparation for state testing.

## MCAS Math Blast

**PREREQUISITE:** Recommendation of previous mathematics teacher

**LENGTH:** YEAR

**GRADE LEVEL:** 10-11

**CREDITS:** 2.50 (meets every other day)

This course is an elective that a student can take along with a full-time, regularly scheduled math class. This course will teach students test-taking strategies and reinforce the skills necessary to succeed on the Mathematics MCAS. Particular emphasis will be placed on number sense and operations, geometry, measurement, patterns, relations, data analysis, statistics, and probability.

## Honors Algebra I

**PREREQUISITE:** A or better in regular 8th grade math or an 80 or better in 8th grade algebra and teacher recommendation

**LENGTH:** YEAR

**GRADE LEVEL:** 9

**CREDITS:** 5.00

The Honors Algebra I course parallels the Algebra I course with greater emphasis being placed on practical applications and the theoretical aspects of algebra. More in-depth problems and supplementary topics will be studied.

## Geometry

**PREREQUISITE:** Pass Algebra I and teacher recommendation

**LENGTH:** YEAR

**GRADE LEVEL:** 10-11

**CREDITS:** 5.00

This course is designed to emphasize the study of the properties and applications of common geometric figures in two and three dimensions, including calculating perimeter, area and volume. Points, segments, planes, triangles, polygons, circles and solid figures are examined and constructed. Basic geometric theorems are proved. The studies of transformations and right

triangle trigonometry are introduced. Inductive and deductive thinking skills are introduced in problem solving and writing proofs. This course also uses probability to evaluate outcomes.

## **Honors Geometry**

**PREREQUISITE:** 90 or better in 8th grade Algebra or 85 or better in 9<sup>th</sup> grade Honors Algebra I and teacher recommendation

**LENGTH:** YEAR

**GRADE LEVEL:** 9-10

**CREDITS:** 5.00

In this course, students cover the same topics included in regular Geometry. The major difference between this course and regular Geometry is the depth to which the topics are investigated, and the pace. The student will be expected to prove answers with logical reasoning.

## **Algebra II**

**PREREQUISITE:** Pass Geometry and teacher recommendation

**LENGTH:** YEAR

**GRADE LEVEL:** 10-12

**CREDITS:** 5.00

This course is designed to build on algebraic and geometric concepts. A deeper understanding of systems, rational expressions, complex numbers, matrix operations, and linear, quadratic, exponential and polynomial functions will be developed. This class will prove and apply trigonometric identities, build, analyze and interpret functions, and use graphs and probability to make real-life decisions.

## **Honors Algebra II**

**PREREQUISITE:** 85 or better in Honors Geometry and teacher recommendation

**LENGTH:** YEAR

**GRADE LEVEL:** 10-11

**CREDITS:** 5.00

In this course students cover topics included in the regular Algebra II course but at a faster pace and in greater depth. Emphasis will be placed on practical applications and modeling.

## **Advanced Algebra and Statistics**

**PREREQUISITE:** Successful completion of Algebra II and teacher recommendation

**LENGTH:** YEAR

**GRADE LEVEL:** 12

**CREDITS:** 5.00

This course is for students who have completed Algebra II. Topics will include an introduction to statistics and probability where students will explore data, plan a statistical investigation, anticipate patterns using probability and predict outcomes. In addition, students will reinforce basic Algebra II skills such as factoring polynomials, graphing functions and basic trigonometry.

## **Pre-Calculus**

**PREREQUISITE:** 80 or better in Algebra II and teacher recommendation

**LENGTH:** YEAR

**GRADE LEVEL:** 11-12

**CREDITS:** 5.00

This course will use the concepts and skills learned in Algebra and Geometry to study functions such as polynomial, trigonometric (including circular functions), and transcendental. Students will also study exponential functions and their inverses, as well as logarithms and their properties.

## Honors Pre-Calculus

**PREREQUISITE: 85 or better in Honors Algebra II and teacher recommendation**

**LENGTH: YEAR**

**GRADE LEVEL: 11-12**

**CREDITS: 5.00**

This course explores polynomial, transcendental, and especially trigonometric functions. Problem solving and graphic interpretations will be stressed. This course is based on the pre-calculus topics required for further study in mathematics.

## Honors Calculus

**PREREQUISITE: 70 or better in Pre-Calculus and teacher recommendation**

**LENGTH: YEAR**

**GRADE LEVEL: 12**

**CREDITS: 5.00**

This course will expand the concepts begun in the Pre-Calculus courses. After a study of limits and continuity the course will then move to differentiation of algebraic, trigonometric and transcendental functions. Implicit differentiation and graphing techniques will then be followed by applications involving optimization and related rates. Following this the course will move onto integration of the types of functions listed above.

## Advanced Placement Calculus (AB)

**RECOMMENDATION: 90 or better in Honors Pre-Calculus and teacher recommendation**

**LENGTH: YEAR**

**GRADE LEVEL: 12**

**CREDITS: 5.00**

This course covers a college level single-variable calculus curriculum. Assuming a strong background in functions, the course will begin with the concept of limits and will proceed to differentiation and integration of algebraic, trigonometric, and transcendental functions, as well as the applications of these concepts. *Students will be required, and will be prepared, to take the Advanced Placement Calculus AB Examination, with the goal of earning credit for and/or placement beyond a semester of college calculus. There is a fee to take this exam. Each student will be expected to bring a graphing calculator to class.*

## Advanced Placement Statistics

**RECOMMENDATION: 90 or better in Algebra II and teacher recommendation**

**LENGTH: YEAR**

**GRADE LEVEL: 11-12**

**CREDITS: 5.00**

This course covers a college level statistics curriculum. It introduces students to the major concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing and drawing conclusions from data. Students will learn how to describe patterns, sample and experiment, plan and conduct a study, explore random phenomena using probability and simulations, estimate population parameters and test hypotheses. *Students will be required, and will be prepared, to take the Advanced Placement Statistics Examination, with the goal of earning credit for and/or placement beyond a semester of college statistics. There is a fee to take this exam.*

# MODERN AND CLASSICAL LANGUAGES

*Note: Evaluation for all courses will be based upon class participation, homework, written quizzes and tests, oral proficiency, and many alternative forms of assessment. The Department of Modern and Classical Languages, upon conference, concurs that every language course taught in this school (French, Latin, and Spanish) is aligned with, and supportive of the Wahconah Mission Statement. The department's curricula also emphasize a yearlong adherence to the five C's of the Massachusetts Frameworks for foreign language studies: (communities, comparisons, connections, cultures, and communication).*

## **French I**

**PREREQUISITE: NONE**

**LENGTH: YEAR**

**GRADE LEVEL: 9-12**

**CREDITS: 5.00**

Students will develop a general understanding and ability in French, with a study of basic language structures and vocabulary. Instruction is presented mostly in the target language, with students expected to participate using the target language. Assessments include daily immersion activities, using current technology. The teacher will use stories, readers, film, songs and internet-based activities to present the target language. The culture and history of French-speaking Canada and France is presented on a regular basis in the form of student-driven projects and teacher-led discussions.

## **French II**

**PREREQUISITE: French I**

**LENGTH: YEAR**

**GRADE LEVEL: 9-12**

**CREDITS: 5.00**

Students will develop a further understanding and ability in French, with a continued study of basic language structures and vocabulary. Instruction is presented in the target language and students are expected to participate using the target language. Assessments include daily immersion activities, using current technology. The teacher will use stories, readers, news articles, film, songs and internet-based activities to present the target language. Cultural awareness of France and its current events will be developed in the form of student-driven projects and teacher-led discussions.

## **French III (Honors)**

**PREREQUISITE: French II**

**LENGTH: YEAR**

**GRADE LEVEL: 10-12**

**CREDITS: 5.00**

This course will be conducted in French, with an expectation that students will use the target language when communicating with the teacher and other students. Instruction includes stories, two literary works, news articles, film, songs and internet-based activities to present the target language and its structure. Grammar and vocabulary lessons will be included, however, much will be presented in the readings. Culture awareness of France and other Francophone countries will be developed in the form of student-driven projects and teacher-led discussions.

## **French IV (Honors)**

**PREREQUISITE: French III and teacher's approval**

**LENGTH: YEAR**

**GRADE LEVEL: 10-12**

**CREDITS: 5 .00**

This course will be conducted in French, with an expectation that students will use the target language for communication. As an honors course, instruction will include higher level grammar study, vocabulary development, and cultural awareness of the Francophone world. The teacher will use two literary works, new articles, film, songs and internet-based activities to practice speaking, listening to, reading and writing in the target language. Student-led project work is an important component of the course.



## **French V (Honors)**

**PREREQUISITE:** French IV and teacher's approval

**LENGTH:** YEAR

**GRADE LEVEL:** 10-12

**CREDITS:** 5.00

Classes are conducted exclusively in French. Students are required to participate regularly in the target language. The course is divided into thematic units, and students will read articles, listen to news and other audio samples, write essays, and present topics that revolve around thematic units. Students will read two current novels. Daily conversation and journals are also used as forms of assessment. Students will conduct independent research projects on a regular basis and present them to the class in the target language. French V may meet in conjunction with French IV.

## **Advanced Placement French Language & Culture**

**PREREQUISITE:** French IV and teacher's approval

**LENGTH:** YEAR

**GRADE LEVEL:** 11-12

**CREDITS:** 5.00

This course is designed to prepare students to take the AP French Language and Culture Examination and is designed for advanced students who have a strong understanding of the language. Classes are conducted exclusively in French. Students are required to participate regularly in the target language. The course is divided into thematic units, and students will read articles, listen to news and other audio samples, write essays, and present topics that revolve around thematic units. Daily conversation and journals are also used as forms of assessment. Students will conduct independent research projects on a regular basis and present them to the class in the target language. Students will read two current novels.

*Students will be prepared for and required to take the Advanced Placement French Language and Culture Examination with the goal of earning credit for and/or placement beyond a semester of college French. There is a fee to take this exam.*

## **Latin I**

**PREREQUISITE:** NONE

**LENGTH:** YEAR

**GRADE LEVEL:** 9-12

**CREDITS:** 5.00

For centuries, Latin has been a language studied by millions of people around the world, and is a virtual looking glass into the lives and times of the ancient Mediterranean, and medieval European world. Its prominence through the Renaissance and now into the 21<sup>st</sup> century is testimony to its critical role in our understanding of how the Indo-European family of languages has evolved, and Latin itself has served as the primary influence behind the so-called Romance Languages including French, Italian, Portuguese, Romanian and Spanish. Its impact on our own English language has been enormous in the areas of vocabulary (more than half of English words come directly from Latin) and the structure of English, as well. During this first year class students will be introduced to hundreds of useful Latin vocabulary words and scores of useful Latin phrases (carpe diem, habeas corpus, etc.) They will also acquire an understanding of how to “put together” Latin sentences and eventually Latin short stories. In addition, students will come to know some of the truly exciting legends of the ancient and medieval world (Midas, Medusa, Medea, the Muses, etc.) that have clearly shaped modern story-telling. Some history will pepper the course, and students will also have the opportunity to dabble in some ancient Greek for enrichment and fun. There is something for everyone in Latin I.

## **Latin II**

**PREREQUISITE:** Successful completion of Latin I

**LENGTH:** YEAR

**GRADE LEVEL:** 9-12

**CREDITS:** 5.00

This second year classical Latin course will build upon what students have learned in Latin I. In addition to a healthy review of basic information, students will increase their levels of proficiency in the language by mastering some of the more advanced, but very practical aspects of Latin. This will include an emphasis on oral reading competency, and the ability to read Latin stories both for practice and at sight. There will be a continued emphasis on the wonderful myths and legends of ancient and Medieval Latin as well as classical Greek. Some of the stories will highlight heroes, gods and monsters, and will never be discussed without the all-important connection to the world in which students are living today. Students will ideally benefit from this second year course as they prepare for the testing that accompanies Massachusetts state law, especially since Latin can contribute significantly to one's knowledge of words and of good writing practices. History will continue to be a focus, especially the military exploits of men like Julius Caesar and Marcus Aurelius that provide us with a glimpse into the sad truth about man's relentless inhumanity to man. Students in Latin II will now be ready for the rewards their efforts at Latin will provide them: some of the world's most important and influential documents they will read and discuss for the next two years.

### **Latin III (Honors)**

**PREREQUISITE: Successful completion of Latin II**

**LENGTH: YEAR**

**GRADE LEVEL: 10-12**

**CREDITS: 5.00**

Students in the third year of classical Latin will continue to fine tune their skills in all areas of the Latin language. They will increase their cache of the hundreds of words in English derived from Latin, and be able to negotiate some of the more complex facets of the structure of Latin. The syllabus for this course will be flexible, and will include readings from such authors as Ovid, the great Roman story-teller, Catullus who wrote poems with which every 21<sup>st</sup> century teenager can identify, and Cicero whose passion for Latin and love for his cherished Republic is truly the "stuff of history." At this level, students will have the opportunity to expand their knowledge of the Greco-Roman world by ideally connecting what they are learning in this course to much of the information they are learning in other Wahconah courses, as well as the critical thinking they are doing when researching Roman (or Greek) mythology, religion, art, architecture, law, political life, military history, the role of women, and even the Roman view of environmental issues. Latin III Year Honors, then, is intended to inspire Latin students to think critically about what they are studying both inside and outside the box!

### **Latin IV (Honors)**

**PREREQUISITE: Successful completion of Classical Latin Third Year**

**LENGTH: YEAR**

**GRADE LEVEL: 11-12**

**CREDITS: 5.00**

The fourth year classical Latin course will continue to provide students with an honors opportunity. The students in this course will, in a natural progression, continue to augment what they know about every oral and written aspect of the Latin language with a constant emphasis on making connections across the Wahconah curriculum. This course will enable them to make useful adaptations of what they are learning as they prepare to leave a high school setting for higher and lifelong learning. As in the third year course, the syllabus will be flexible to meet student needs and interests. Course readings, then, will be taken from both prose and poetry and may involve the letters of Pliny (the only eye witness account we have of the destruction of Pompeii), more works of Cicero (the Essay on Friendship poses questions relevant to everyone's daily life), and the stunning work of the ancient atomist-philosopher Lucretius whose work asks some of the most essential questions possible about human existence and even about life beyond planet earth. The crowning experience for Latin students everywhere takes place in this course when students will have the opportunity to read portions of Vergil's AENEID. This remarkable work has stood the test of time for 20 centuries, has had a profound impact on the literature and art of the Western World for just that long, and poses for students in this course a challenge to decide for themselves what makes great nations great, and what makes them rise, and so predictably as history shows us, eventually fall. It reminds students that men like Franklin D. Roosevelt, Winston Churchill and Nelson Mandela beg the question every generation asks itself: who are our heroes, and why? There is no literary masterpiece that provides a richer diet for its readers than this extraordinary epic poem. For students in Classical Latin Fourth Year, their efforts will surely pay myriad dividends as they prepare to take what they have learned in Wahconah's Latin program into life's next adventure.

## **Spanish I**

**PREREQUISITE: NONE**

**LENGTH: YEAR**

**GRADE LEVEL: 9-12**

**CREDITS: 5.00**

Students will develop a general understanding and ability in Spanish, with a study of basic language structures and vocabulary. Instruction is presented mostly in the target language, with students expected to participate using the target language. Assessments include daily immersion activities, using current technology. The teacher will use stories, readers, film, songs and internet-based activities to present the target language. The culture of Spain and ancient Spanish peoples is presented on a regular basis in the form of student-driven projects and teacher-led discussions.

## **Spanish II**

**PREREQUISITE: Spanish I and teacher's approval**

**LENGTH: YEAR**

**GRADE LEVEL: 9-12**

**CREDITS: 5.00**

Students will develop a further understanding and ability in Spanish with a continued study of basic language structures and vocabulary. Instruction is presented in the target language and students are expected to participate using the target language. Assessments include daily immersion activities using current technology. The teacher will use stories, readers, news articles, film, songs, and Internet-based activities to present the target language. Culture is presented on a regular basis in the form of student-driven projects and teacher-led discussions.

## **Spanish III (Honors)**

**PREREQUISITE: Spanish II (C or better preferred)**

**LENGTH: YEAR**

**GRADE LEVEL: 10-12**

**CREDITS: 5.00**

This course builds on the basic grammar and vocabulary topics covered in the previous two years of language study. Students will have opportunities to review previous grammar topics while deepening their understanding of them through the study of literature. The main focus is the USE of the language. Students will converse with each other and their instructor in Spanish daily to increase comfort in communication. This course centers around two novels specifically levelled to Spanish III students: *Vida y Muerte en la Mara Salvatrucha* and *Hasta la Sepultura*. In order to reinforce the knowledge and use of a body of language, the vocabulary is re-introduced from unit to unit, and becomes an integral part of the course. The course is conducted primarily in Spanish.

## **Spanish IV (Honors)**

**PREREQUISITE: Spanish III (B or better recommended)**

**LENGTH: YEAR**

**GRADE LEVEL: 11-12**

**CREDITS: 5.00**

This course is intended for students who wish to expand their proficiency in the use of the Spanish language. The focus of the course is the use of Spanish to explore peninsular literature and cultural topics (Spain) through literature, film, music, projects and class discussion. Students will be expected to make every effort to communicate in Spanish, both to ask questions, and to contribute to class discussion. Three adapted primary works may be read at this level: *Don Juan Tenorio*; *Don Quijote*; *El Carnaval*. Students may also choose to read *La Guerra Sucia* instead of one of the adapted books. In addition, *Abriendo Paso, Gramática* is used as a general source of review and refinement of grammar principles and details.

## **Spanish V (Honors)**

**PREREQUISITE:** Spanish IV and teacher's approval

**LENGTH:** YEAR

**GRADE LEVEL:** 11-12

**CREDITS:** 5.00

Classes are conducted exclusively in Spanish. Students are required to participate regularly in the target language. The course is divided into thematic units and students will read articles, listen to news and other audio samples, write essays, and present topics that revolve around thematic units. Students will also read and discuss short stories from various Spanish-speaking countries, as well as at least one major literary work or play in the target language. Daily conversation and journals are also used as forms of assessment. Students will conduct independent research projects on a regular basis and present them to the class in the target language.

## **Advanced Placement Spanish Language & Culture**

**PREREQUISITE:** Spanish IV and teacher's approval

**LENGTH:** YEAR

**GRADE LEVEL:** 11-12

**CREDITS:** 5.00

This course is designed to prepare students to take the AP Spanish Language and Culture Examination and is designed for advanced students who have a strong understanding of the language. Classes are conducted exclusively in Spanish. Students are required to participate regularly in the target language. The course is divided into thematic units and students will read articles, listen to news and other audio samples, write essays, and present topics that revolve around thematic units. Students will also read and discuss short stories from various Spanish-speaking countries, as well as at least one major literary work or play in the target language. Daily conversation and journals are also used as forms of assessment. Students will conduct independent research projects on a regular basis and present them to the class in the target language.

*Students will be prepared for and required to take the Advanced Placement Spanish Language and Culture Examination with the goal of earning credit for and/or placement beyond a semester of college Spanish. There is a fee to take this exam.*

# PHYSICAL WELLNESS

*NOTE: Students are required to take and pass one semester of a Physical Wellness class each year for 4 years in order to graduate. Additional Physical Wellness classes can be taken for elective credit.*

## **PE/Health**

**PREREQUISITE: NONE**  
**LENGTH: SEMESTER**  
**GRADE LEVEL: 9 (required for all grade 9 students)**  
**CREDITS: 2.50**

This class looks to improve students in mind, body, and spirit. Through carefully planned lessons, students will learn the necessary skills to make the appropriate decisions to live a healthy lifestyle. Introduction to physical wellness activities may include but are not limited to yoga, fitness, basketball, badminton, archery, lacrosse, flag football, volleyball, tennis, and aerobics. Students will complete FitnessGram testing. During personal health education, students will explore and learn about topics within mental/social health, nutrition, substance abuse, disease prevention, community health, and safety.

## **Physical Wellness**

**PREREQUISITE: PE/Health**  
**LENGTH: SEMESTER**  
**GRADE LEVEL: 10-12**  
**CREDITS: 2.50 (may be taken multiple times for credit)**

This class is geared for the student who enjoys both team and lifetime types of activity. In Physical Wellness, students will choose between offerings of lifetime and team sport activities. Units will typically last 2-3 weeks and may include but are not limited to the following activities: Flag football, tennis, yoga, badminton, basketball, softball, personal fitness, volleyball, street hockey, and snowshoeing. The goal of this class is to offer students options and give them the tools they need to maintain and enjoy a healthy lifestyle beyond their high school years.

## **Lifetime PE**

**PREREQUISITE: PE/Health**  
**LENGTH: SEMESTER**  
**GRADE LEVEL: 10-12**  
**CREDITS: 2.50**

This class is geared for the student who wishes to participate in lifetime activities only. Activities may include but are not limited to yoga, fitness walking, snowshoeing, interval training, and aerobics. Students will gain the skills needed to maintain a healthy lifestyle beyond high school.

## **Yoga/Stress Management**

**PREREQUISITE: PE/Health**  
**LENGTH: SEMESTER**  
**GRADE LEVEL: 10-12**  
**CREDITS: 2.50 (may only be taken once for credit)**

During yoga and stress management students will learn about many of the various forms and types of yoga practice. They will participate in hatha and restorative yoga. Class time will also be spent learning various forms of stress management and time management.

## **Personal Wellness**

**PREREQUISITE: PE/Health**  
**LENGTH: SEMESTER**  
**GRADE LEVEL: 10-12**  
**CREDITS: 2.50 (may only be taken once for credit)**

This class will be a mix of classroom and activity time. Students will explore in depth various concepts of wellness including nutrition, fitness programs, and the conscious and deliberate process by which people are actively involved in

enhancing their well-being: intellectual, physical, social, emotional, occupational. Students will develop their own fitness plan during the semester as well.

## SCIENCE

*\*Note: Three years of science, one of which must be Biology, are required for graduation.*

### **Biology**

**PREREQUISITE: NONE**

**LENGTH: YEAR**

**GRADE LEVEL: 9**

**CREDITS: 5.00**

Biology offers students a progressively larger view of the world around them. A solid understanding of the processes of life allows students to make scientifically informed decisions related to their health and to the health of the planet. Students in Biology study life through cell biology and genetics (molecular level), vertebrate anatomy and physiology (tissue and organ levels), and ecology (organism and population levels). Current issues related to topics of study will also be discussed. A focus of the course will be on developing an understanding of the interrelationships between the topics presented. This course will help students prepare for the MCAS biology test.

### **MCAS Biology Blast**

**PREREQUISITE: NONE**

**LENGTH: SEMESTER 2**

**GRADE LEVEL: 9**

**CREDITS: 2.50**

MCAS Biology Blast is a second semester course designed to help students become better prepared for the Biology MCAS exam. The content of the course will review and supplement the major topics taught in Biology including: Ecology, Human Anatomy, Genetics, Cells, Macromolecules, and Evolution. Student will practice MCAS questions regularly and learn test taking strategies for both multiple choice and open response questions.

### **Biology (Honors)**

**PREREQUISITE: Recommendation of Grade 8 or 9 Science teacher and a 90 or better in Grade 8 Science**

**LENGTH: YEAR**

**GRADE LEVEL: 9**

**CREDITS: 5.00**

Honors Biology offers a more in-depth look at a curriculum similar to that presented in Biology. The pace of the course will allow for more lab work as well as more coverage of current research topics.

### **The Human Body**

**PREREQUISITE: None**

**LENGTH: SEMESTER**

**GRADE LEVEL: 10 and 11**

**CREDITS: 2.50**

Students will explore the major systems of the body through a thematic approach. Topics will include nutrition and the digestive system, human sexuality and the reproductive system, CPR, as well as the respiratory and circulatory systems. Additionally, students will study the integumentary (skin) systems.

## **Everyday Chemistry**

**PREREQUISITE: None**

**LENGTH: Semester**

**GRADE LEVEL: 10 and 11**

**CREDITS: 2.50**

Students will explore the concepts of atomic structure, chemical bonding and reactions, as well as solutions in a thematic hands-on approach. Themes will include Food Chemistry, Material Science, Household Acids and Bases, and Consumer Energy.

## **Chemistry**

**PREREQUISITE: 80 or better in both Algebra I and CP Biology**

**LENGTH: YEAR**

**GRADE LEVEL: 10-12**

**CREDITS: 5.00**

The student will study the properties of the elements and how they react together to form compounds. Topics include the writing and balancing of chemical reactions, relationships between gases, solution chemistry, ionization, oxidation and reduction, electrochemical cells and radioactivity. Laboratory experiences are included and each student is expected to submit written reports

## **Chemistry (Honors)**

**PREREQUISITE: Recommendation of Biology teacher and 85 or better in Algebra I and Biology**

**LENGTH: YEAR**

**GRADE LEVEL: 10-11**

**CREDITS: 5.00**

Honors Chemistry offers a more in depth look at a curriculum similar to that presented in Chemistry College Prep. Additional topics include Thermochemistry, Quantum Theory, and Equilibrium. The increased depth of coverage requires advanced mathematics skills. Students will also have more laboratory opportunities that require more detailed lab reports.

## **Advanced Placement Chemistry**

**RECOMMENDED PREREQUISITE: Honors Chemistry and Concurrent Enrollment in Honors Pre-Calculus**

**LENGTH: YEAR**

**GRADE LEVEL: 11-12**

**CREDITS: 5**

This course is meant for students planning to pursue a college degree in science. The course covers topics in Acids and Bases, Equilibria, Thermodynamics, Organic Chemistry, Kinetics, Electrochemistry, and Nuclear Chemistry. There is an extensive summer assignment to review many of the concepts from the junior level chemistry course. Students are prepared for and required to sit for, the AP Chemistry exam administered by the AP Board. Students must complete the 18 required laboratory experiments included in the AP program of study.

*\*\*Students may receive college credit, however this is dependent upon the college and the grade earned on the AP Chemistry exam. There is an AP exam fee associated with this course.\*\**

## **Physics (Honors)**

**PREREQUISITE: 80 or better in Algebra II and Biology or Chemistry**

**LENGTH: YEAR**

**GRADE LEVEL: 11-12**

**CREDITS: 5.00**

Physics is the study of matter, energy and their interactions. We will ask fundamental questions about the universe and

answer those questions based on experiments and our observations of nature. We use mathematical relationships and graphs to quantify our ideas about the universe and to relate multiple concepts together in a systematic manner. Students enrolled in this course will have the opportunity to think analytically and creatively to solve a variety of challenges.

## **Advanced Placement Physics 1**

**RECOMMENDED PREREQUISITE:** Pre-Calculus

**LENGTH:** YEAR

**GRADE LEVEL:** 12

**CREDITS:** 5.00

AP Physics 1 is an algebra-based, college-level physics course. Physics is the study of matter and its motion through space as influenced by the forces and energies around it. We will explore topics such as Newtonian mechanics (including rotational motion); work, energy, and power; mechanical waves and sound; and introductory, simple circuits. Through inquiry-based learning, students will develop scientific critical thinking and reasoning skills. Students are required to sit for the AP Physics 1 Exam.

*\*\*Students may receive college credit, however this is dependent upon the college and the grade received on the AP Physics 1 exam. There is an AP exam fee associated with this course.\*\**

## **Human Anatomy and Physiology (Honors)**

**PREREQUISITE:** 85 or better in Chemistry

**LENGTH:** YEAR

**GRADE LEVEL:** 11-12

**CREDITS:** 5.00

This course will give students a basic understanding and working knowledge of the human body. While anatomy and associated terminology will be presented, the course will focus on physiological processes and their control mechanisms. Two major themes will be presented throughout the course: homeostasis and pathology. The former describes how dynamic counterbalancing forces maintain normal equilibrium in the body, while the latter relates to disruption of normal functions.

*\*Students who earn a B or better in this course may be eligible for college credit from Berkshire Community College.\**

## **Advanced Placement Biology**

**RECOMMENDED PREREQUISITE:** 90 or better in Biology and recommendation of Biology teacher

**LENGTH:** YEAR

**GRADE LEVEL:** 10-12

**CREDITS:** 5.00

The Advanced Placement Biology curriculum is organized into four Big Ideas by the College Board: The process of evolution drives the diversity and unity of life. Biological systems utilize free energy and molecular building blocks to grow, reproduce, and to maintain dynamic homeostasis. Living systems store retrieve, transmit, and respond to information essential to life processes. Biological systems interact, and these systems and their interactions possess complex properties. In addition to learning about these topics, students will complete 12 laboratory experiments that are required by the College Board. Students are required to sit for the AP Biology Exam.

*\*\*Students may receive college credit, however this is dependent upon the college and the grade received on the AP Biology exam. There is an AP exam fee associated with this course.\*\**



## **Environmental Science (Honors)**

**PREREQUISITE: 80 or better in Biology and recommendation of Biology or Chemistry teacher**

**LENGTH: SEMESTER**

**GRADE LEVEL: 11-12**

**CREDITS: 2.50**

This course will provide students with the core understandings of the interrelationships between humans and the natural world. Topics include ecology, population, resources, and sustainability in our future. Course design includes lecture, long-term research ecological research, projects, outdoor field investigation, homework, guest speakers/field trips, and local inquiry/research. Students will become familiar with ecological systems, analyze environmental problems, and investigate possible solutions. A semester-long field-based learning component is required.

*\*Students who ear a B or better in this course may be eligible for college credit from Berkshire Community College.\**

## **Environmental Science**

**PREREQUISITE: 2 years of science or teacher recommendation**

**LENGTH: SEMESTER**

**GRADE LEVEL: 11-12**

**CREDITS: 2.50**

Environmental Science helps students understand their place on Earth in terms of ecology and conservation. Major topics of this course include: management of natural resources, fossil fuels, alternative energy, nutrient cycling, population, and biodiversity.

## **Greenhouse Management**

**PREREQUISITE: 2 years of science or teacher recommendation**

**LENGTH: SEMESTER**

**GRADE LEVEL: 11-12**

**CREDITS: 2.50**

Greenhouse Management is a hands on course in which students explore the intricacies of plant sciences and obtain the skills necessary to work in a greenhouse. The following areas are explored in this introduction to horticulture: landscaping, plant nutrition, floriculture, soil science, plant structure and function, sustainable farming, greenhouse operations, impact on the environment, and jobs in horticulture.

# SOCIAL STUDIES

*\*Note: Social Studies courses required for graduation are United States History I, United States History II, Modern World History, and U.S Government & Economics. All courses follow Massachusetts Frameworks requirements. Electives are offered based upon faculty availability and enrollment.*

## **United States History I**

**PREREQUISITE: NONE**

**LENGTH: YEAR**

**GRADE LEVEL: 9**

**CREDITS: 5.00**

U.S. History I begins in 1763 with the Treaty of Paris, and concludes with World War I. Studies will include domestic changes such as industrialization and the development of cities, and America's emerging role in world events. Students will develop historical thinking skills while working with primary and secondary sources. They will also create and develop original historical claims using relevant historical evidence and effective analysis. Outside classroom preparation and note-taking skills are essential.

## **United States History I (Honors)**

**PREREQUISITE: Teacher recommendation**

**LENGTH: YEAR**

**GRADE LEVEL: 9**

**CREDITS: 5.00**

Honors U.S. History I contains the same content as U.S. History I, but in greater depth. Outside preparation and research will be required. Students will develop historical thinking skills while working with primary and secondary sources. They will also create and develop original historical claims using relevant historical evidence and effective analysis. Writing will be an integral part of this course.

## **Modern World History**

**PREREQUISITE: NONE**

**LENGTH: YEAR**

**GRADE LEVEL: 10**

**CREDITS: 5.00**

Why is there war and conflict in our modern world? What are the root causes of inequality in our world today? Who has power in our modern society? How is that power wielded? How have humans related to their environment in the past and where does this put us now? Explore these questions and more in this course that focuses on issues and topics in world history from the 18<sup>th</sup> century to the present. We will critically examine primary and secondary sources and other selected readings. While conducting in-depth analyses, we will work together to try to answer these ongoing questions in modern world history. Perhaps most importantly, we will decide what their implications are for today. Students will play an integral role in formulating further questions, seeking out and creating answers, thinking through possibilities, and evaluating how successful we were in our work.

## **Modern World History (Honors)**

**PREREQUISITE:** Teacher recommendation

**LENGTH:** YEAR

**GRADE LEVEL:** 10

**CREDITS:** 5.00

This course is intended to meet the same basic standards of Modern World History. However, Honors Modern World History will differ in its level of intensity and additional requirements. Students will be asked to create and develop original historical claims using relevant historical evidence and effective analysis. This course involves a great deal of writing – including both explanatory and documentary essays. Outside reading and note-taking is required in this course. A summer assignment is assigned in June and submitted in September.

## **United States History II**

**PREREQUISITE:** NONE

**LENGTH:** YEAR

**GRADE LEVEL:** 11

**CREDITS:** 5.00

This course is designed to stimulate your mind about the exciting and frightening times between 1920 and present day. You will express your feelings, backed with facts, through debates about the Sacco and Vanzetti case, the pros and cons of the Treaty of Versailles, dropping the Atomic bombs on Japan, fighting in the Vietnam War, and much more. You will also role play as you will decide how you would have handled the Cuban Missile Crisis, Berlin Crisis, and other international issues. Be prepared as you will investigate the assassination of JFK and conclude who committed this heinous crime—and why? This course will prepare you to think independently as well as with others, come to conclusions supported by facts, write efficiently, and help you understand the roots, controversies and the accomplishments of the United States.

## **United States History II (Honors)**

**PREREQUISITE:** Teacher recommendation

**LENGTH:** YEAR

**GRADE LEVEL:** 11

**CREDITS:** 5.00

This course is intended to meet the same basic standards of U.S. History II. However, Honors U.S. History II differs from U.S. History II in its level of intensity and additional requirements. A higher level of academic expectation and personal responsibility will be demanded of the student in this course. Students will develop historical thinking skills while working with primary and secondary sources. They will also create and develop original historical claims using relevant historical evidence and effective analysis. Outside classroom preparation, note-taking, and time management are essential.

## **Advanced Placement United States History**

**PREREQUISITE:** Teacher recommendation

**LENGTH:** YEAR

**GRADE LEVEL:** 11-12

**CREDITS:** 5.00

This college level course involves the study of U.S. history from colonial times to the present. Students will develop historical thinking skills while working with primary and secondary sources. They will also create and develop original historical claims using relevant historical evidence and effective analysis. This course involves a great deal of writing – including both explanatory and documentary essays. Outside reading and note-taking is required in this demanding course. Students who complete the course also are required to take the A.P. examination given by the College Examination Board in May. A summer assignment is assigned in June and submitted in mid-August.

*\*\*Students may receive college credit; however, this is dependent upon the college and the grade earned on the A.P. U. S. History exam. There is an A.P. exam fee associated with this course.\*\**

## **U. S. Government & Economics**

**PREREQUISITE: NONE**

**LENGTH: YEAR**

**GRADE LEVEL: 12**

**CREDITS: 5.00**

How do citizens create rules and institutions that allow our nation and the world to flourish? How do we ensure that the world's resources are enjoyed by all segments of society? As students approach the end of the high school career, this course asks students to apply the tools of history, political science and economics to examine answers to these enduring questions. This is a required course designed to develop the student's understanding of the federal government and politics in the United States. This course will be broken into essential parts dealing with the Foundations of Government, the Three Branches of Government, and the Political System as well as the basics of the American economic system and the introductory principles of economics.

## **U. S. Government & Economics (Honors)**

**PREREQUISITE: Teacher Recommendation**

**LENGTH: YEAR**

**GRADE LEVEL: 12**

**CREDITS: 5.00**

This course is intended to meet the same basic standards of U. S. Government & Economics. However, Honors U. S. Government & Economics will differ in its level of intensity and additional requirements. Students will engage in extensive research and work towards developing and defending original claims. Outside reading and research is required in this course.

## **Advanced Placement U.S. Government and Politics**

**PREREQUISITE: Teacher recommendation**

**LENGTH: YEAR**

**GRADE LEVEL: 11-12**

**CREDITS: 5.00**

A.P. U.S. Government and Politics will provide an analytical perspective on government and politics in the U.S. We will study general concepts and interpret U.S. politics. This will require familiarity with terms, institutions, groups, beliefs and ideas that constitute U.S. Politics. We will cover Constitutional underpinnings, political beliefs, political parties, political behavior, interest groups, the institutions of national government, public policy and civil rights. Students taking this class will complete a summer assignment. Students are required to take part in online discussion outside of class throughout the year. Students who complete the course are required to take the A.P exam.

*\*\*Students may receive college credit; however, this is dependent upon the college and the grade earned on the A.P. U.S. Government and Politics exam. There is an A.P. exam fee associated with this course.\*\**

## **Basic Law**

**PREREQUISITE: Teacher Recommendation**

**LENGTH: SEMESTER**

**GRADE LEVEL: 10-12**

**CREDITS: 2.50**

This course gives students an introduction to Law and the Legal System in America. By studying cases and conducting research, students gain a basic knowledge of our court system, lawyers, law enforcement officials, criminal law, civil law and juvenile justice. Guest speakers and field trips will be utilized to enhance the learning when possible. Students will be responsible for writing a number of case studies as well as researching and writing one term paper. Supplemental cases and readings will be used in conjunction with the textbook.

# TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION

## Principles of Engineering I

**PREREQUISITE: NONE**  
**LENGTH: SEMESTER**  
**GRADE LEVEL: 9-12**  
**CREDITS: 2.50**

This is a full year course designed to help students learn about the Engineering and Design Process. By challenging students with several exciting hands-on engineering and design challenge activities, students will use and learn about the eight-step problem solving process used by engineers to create the human-made world. The course is intended to help today's high school students understand the ways in which engineers solve technical problems to develop new products and processes for the world of the future – whether or not they pursue technical careers. Students will identify and define engineering and design problems, research these problems, develop solutions, construct prototypes and evaluate the effectiveness of their designs.

## Principles of Engineering II

**PREREQUISITE: NONE (Principles of Engineering I advisable)**  
**LENGTH: YEAR**  
**GRADE LEVEL: 10-12**  
**CREDITS: 5.00**

This is a second level course in technological systems and students will receive more advanced problem solving challenges in these areas:

**Green Construction:** Students will explore the process of environmentally responsible and sustainable construction techniques. Some of the topics that will be covered are electrical efficiency, solar panel installation, thermal efficiency, solar water heating, green plumbing, green materials, energy auditing and waste management.

**Structural Engineering:** Students will study transportation systems and the development and engineering principles of bridge building. They will build virtual and real model bridges of their own design, and will test them to gather data for calculating structural efficiency. The effectiveness of different construction materials and methods will be evaluated through the design and testing of the models.

## Construction Technology

**PREREQUISITE: NONE (Principles of Engineering II advisable)**  
**LENGTH: SEMESTER**  
**GRADE LEVEL: 10-12**  
**CREDITS: 2.50**

This is a one semester intense course for interested students. Learning activities will be centered around the design and construction of small buildings and structures. These may be full-size or 1/8th scale models. Work will include: working with scale measurements and accurate interpretation of construction drawings; study of the main components of residential construction systems; estimating material and materials inventory; using tools and machines safely to fabricate structure parts to specifications; on-site or scale model construction experience.

## **Advanced Construction Technology**

**PREREQUISITE:** Construction Technology (with recommendation)

**LENGTH:** SEMESTER

**GRADE LEVEL:** 11-12

**CREDITS:** 2.50

This is a one semester advanced course for interested and qualified students. Learning activities will be centered on the design and construction of special projects, aligned with the student's level of past skill and experience in this subject area. Students may work individually or in groups. Some projects may be assigned and some projects may involve student choice. Special projects may involve shop improvements in the construction technology lab; community service projects for a school or community group or organization; individual student research projects; marketing and manufacturing projects; or other construction projects of an advanced nature.

## **Automotive Technology**

**PREREQUISITE:** NONE

**LENGTH:** SEMESTER

**GRADE LEVEL:** 11-12

**CREDIT:** 2.50

This is a one semester course designed to introduce students to the main operating systems of the automobile. Individual and group laboratory work will be a combination of academic study and hands-on applied work with principles of safety, inspection, diagnosis and repair. Activities will include the use of tools and equipment for troubleshooting, engine tune-up and automotive system inspection and service. Students are responsible to arrange for some vehicles to be brought in for routine inspection and repair.

## **Advanced Automotive Technology**

**PREREQUISITE:** Automotive Technology (with recommendation)

**LENGTH:** SEMESTER

**GRADE LEVEL:** 11-12

**CREDIT:** 2.50

This is a one semester advanced course for interested and qualified students. Students will have advanced activities in working with the theory and principles of the main operating systems of the automobile. Laboratory work will be both academic and applied, including authentic experiences in troubleshooting, engine tune-up and automotive system inspection and repair. Advanced students will be assigned to advise, assist, lead and guide first level students in repair teams of approximately three to five students when working on vehicles. Advanced students are expected to set a positive work ethic example for the first year students. At times, they will also be assigned to work together as an Advanced Repair Work Group on special advanced diagnostic and repair projects. They will be expected to research and obtain vehicle specific repair data to use in their service activities. The advanced students will also be expected to undertake and complete special projects involved with Auto Lab organization and upkeep.

## **Elective Drafting**

**PREREQUISITE:** Technology Education (advisable)

**LENGTH:** SEMESTER

**GRADE LEVEL:** 9-12

**CREDITS:** 2.50

This course is an introduction to mechanical drawing. Using the manual techniques of drawing with traditional drafting tools and equipment, the student will be introduced to a variety of drawing techniques and standards. The areas of orthographic and isometric projection will be explored as well as dimensioning, developments, sectional

views, revolutions and the techniques used in the practice of descriptive geometry. This course is a prerequisite to computer aided drafting.

### **Computer Aided Drafting and 3D Printing**

**PREREQUISITE:** One semester of Elective Drafting

**LENGTH:** SEMESTER

**GRADE LEVEL:** 9-12

**CREDITS:** 2.50

This course is offered as an introduction to computer aided drafting and does not require previous computer experience. The principles of architectural design and 3D printing will be taught within this course and the student will learn to generate a full set of architectural plans for a small residential structure using a CAD system.

### **Advanced Computer Aided Drafting and 3D Printing**

**PREREQUISITE:** Computer Aided Drafting (with recommendation)

**LENGTH:** SEMESTER

**GRADE LEVEL:** 9-12

**CREDITS:** 2.50

This is a one semester advanced course for interested and qualified students. The student will have advanced design challenges with either an engineering, 3D Printing, or architectural focus tailored to student interest. Activities and responsibilities will include working on special advanced self-study projects and assisting certain regular CAD work groups when necessary.