

# Blacklick Valley Jr. Sr. High School

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## Planned Course of Study

Grades 7-12

2023-2024

### **Mission:**

Build a community of stakeholders who  
Value education and graduate  
Students who are college/career ready and are  
Dedicated to life-long learning.

### **Vision:**

*The Blacklick Valley School District will change the culture of learning by committing to high expectations for learning, engaging in rigorous instructional practice and implementing an aligned and relevant curriculum.*

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## **General Information**

### **Non-Discrimination Policy Statement:**

Blacklick Valley School District will not discriminate in its educational programs, activities, or employment practices based on race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion, ancestry, handicap, union membership or any other legally protected classification. Announcement of this policy is in accordance with state and federal laws, including Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1.0972, and sections 503 and 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1.0973. Employees, students, parents, participants who have an inquiry or complaint of harassment or discrimination, or who need information about accommodations for handicapped persons should contact the Title IX, Section 504 and Support Programs

Coordinator, at the Blacklick Valley School District, 555 Birch Street, Nanty Glo, PA 15943.  
Phone (814) 749-9211..

### **Scheduling:**

The school will consider the individual career choices of each student and plan a course of study that best suits his/her needs. Blacklick Valley Jr. Sr. High School encourages students to take a variety of courses that will fit their individual needs, interests, and aptitudes.

### **Standardized Testing Requirements:**

Grade	TESTS			
7	PSSA ELA	PSSA Math		
8	PSSA ELA	PSSA Math	PSSA Science	
9	Keystone Algebra	Keystone Biology	Keystone Literature	Recommended – PSAT, ASVAB – SAT or ACT
10				
11				
12				

These tests have four performance levels: Advanced, Proficient, Basic, and Below Basic. Student results on these tests will aid in the determination of required remediation coursework or eligibility for advanced coursework for the student.

*\*\*Effective with the graduating class of 2023, students have the option to demonstrate postsecondary preparedness through one of four additional pathways that more fully illustrate college, career, and community readiness.*

### **The new Graduation Pathways beginning with the Graduating Class of 2023**

Beginning in the 2022-23 school year, the statewide graduation requirement will apply in addition to the locally established policies and requirements.

Students can meet the statewide graduation requirement by:

- **Keystone Proficiency Pathway:** Scoring proficient or advanced on each Keystone Exam – Algebra, Literature and Biology.
- **Keystone Composite 3-Score Pathway:** Scoring Proficient on at least one exam and no less than Basic on other two exams. Earning a satisfactory composite score of 4452 on the combination of the three Keystone Exams.
- **Keystone Composite 2-Score Pathway:** Scoring Proficient on at least one exam and no less than Basic on other two exams. Earning a satisfactory composite score of 2939 on the combination of the two Keystone Exams.
- **CTE Pathway:** Earning a passing grade in the courses associated with each Keystone Exam on which the student did not achieve proficiency AND
  - Attainment of an industry-based competency certification related to the CTE Concentrator's program of study or demonstration of a high likelihood of success on an approved industry-based competency assessment or readiness for continued meaningful engagement in the CTE Concentrator's program of study.
- **Alternative Assessment Pathway:** Earning a passing grade in the courses associated with each Keystone Exam on which the student did not achieve proficiency AND one of the following:
  - Attainment of an established score on an alternative assessment (SAT, PSAT, ACT, ASVAB);
  - Attainment of an established score on an AP exam in an academic content area associated with each Keystone Exam in which a student did not achieve at least a proficient score;
  - Successful completion of a Dual Enrollment course in an academic content area associated with each Keystone Exam in which a student did not achieve at least a proficient score,
  - Successful completion of a pre-apprenticeship program; or
  - Acceptance in an accredited 4-year college or university.
- **Evidence Based Pathway:** Earning a passing grade in the courses associated with each Keystone Exam on which the student did not achieve proficiency AND demonstration of three pieces of evidence consistent with the student's goals and career plans, including:  
One of the following:
  - Attainment of an established score on the SAT subject test, or an Advanced Placement Program Exam;
  - Acceptance in an accredited 4-year nonprofit institute of higher education and evidence of the ability to enroll in college-level coursework;
  - Attainment of an [industry-recognized credential](#); or
  - Acceptance in an accredited 4-year college or university; and

Two additional pieces of evidence including; one or more of the options listed above, or satisfactory completion of a service learning project; attainment of a score of proficient or advanced on a Keystone Exam; a letter guaranteeing full-time employment; a certificate of successful completion of an internship or cooperative education program; or satisfactory compliance with the NCAA's core courses for college-bound student athletes with a minimum grade point average (GPA) of 2.0.

### **Junior High School Requirements (7-8):**

Subject	Required Number of Year Length Courses
Language Arts	2
Science	2
Mathematics	2
Physical Education and Health.	0.50 - quarter per year
Social Studies	2
Arts & Humanities	6

Art & Humanities include: Library, Music, Art, STEM, Keyboarding, Computers, Exploratory Spanish, Guidance, Band, and Chorus.

### High School Graduation Requirements (9-12):

#### Changes start with 2023 graduating class

Subject	Required Credits
Language Arts	4.0
Science (at least 3)	7.0
Mathematics (at least 3)	
Health & Phys Ed.	1.0
Social Studies - including Civics	3.0-4.0*
Arts & Humanities/Electives - including Spanish	10 -11.0
Vo-TECH credits	4.0-12.0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>26</b>

\* Students must achieve a passing score on the required Citizenship Test as prescribed under Pennsylvania Act 35 of 2018.

Art & Humanities include: Library, Music, Art, STEM, CADD, Spanish 1 through 4, Guidance, Computers, Band, Chorus, Media and any other Elective Courses offered.

### Grade Point Average:

A cumulative percentage average will be calculated for each student in grades nine through twelve. This percentage is used to determine a student's eligibility or status when applying to institutions of higher learning, class rank, academic honors or awards, and other academically competitive situations. It will be kept in strict confidence. A cumulative percentage average will be included on transcripts sent to institutions of higher learning without a signed request by parent or guardian even if a student is younger than 18. It will begin with the student's first semester average in the ninth grade. A student's semester average will be calculated by adding together all the percentages reported at that semester and dividing by the number of courses. The final grade point average will be an average of all eight previous semester averages.

A percentage GPA will be determined using the formula:

$$\Sigma (\text{Grade Points} \times \text{Adjusted Credit Value}) / \Sigma \text{Adjusted Credit Value}$$

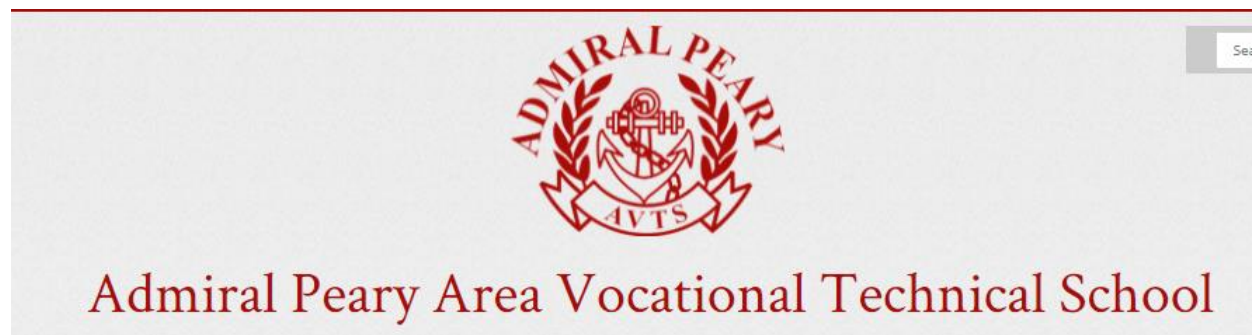
### **Class Ranking:**

Class rank will be determined at semester time and at the end of the year, beginning with the first semester of the 9<sup>th</sup> grade. Class rank is used to determine a student's academic rank within their grade level class. Class rank is also used to determine a student's eligibility or status when applying to institutions of higher learning, academic honors or awards, and other academically competitive situations. Class rank will be reported on a student's transcript. Requests for a student's rank can be made by the student or by their parent/guardian.

### **Promotion Policy:**

Promotion to the next academic year will be determined for each student after reviewing his/her attendance record and grade report.

## **Admiral Peary Vocational Technical School**



Vocational and Technical education is available to students in grade 10, 11, and 12. Bus transportation is provided from Blacklick Valley Jr. Sr. High School to AVTS and back to the school daily. **Students will earn 4.0 credits each year they attend and successfully complete their vo-tech program.**

Visit <http://www.admiralpeary.tec.pa.us> for more information

### **Program Areas**

- Autobody \ Collision Repair
- Automotive Technology Repair

- Carpentry
- Construction Trades
- Cosmetology
- Culinary Arts
- Diesel Mechanics
- Early Childhood Teacher Education
- Electrical Technologies
- Engineering Technology
- Health Assisting
- Heating & Ventilation
- Masonry
- Networking Technology
- Small Engine Repair
- Welding
- Cooperative Education Program

## **Accelerated College Education (ACE) Program**

The Accelerated College Education (ACE) Program is a partnership between Pennsylvania Highlands Community College and the Blacklick Valley Jr. Sr. High School. ACE offers college credits to high school students during the regular school day. ACE courses are taught by certified high school teachers who assure that the academic rigor is equivalent to the same course taught on the Pennsylvania Highlands campus. ACE provides both high school and college credit (concurrent enrollment) allowing students to fulfill high school graduation requirements while earning college credits.

### ACE STUDENT PROFILE

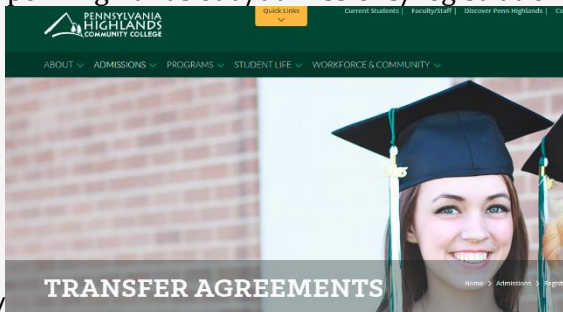
Students who are both capable of completing more advanced work and have a serious commitment to putting forth the required extra effort are encouraged to apply. The ACE program begins in 9<sup>th</sup> grade for students. In May, a parent information meeting will be held for interested 8<sup>th</sup> graders.

### BENEFITS FOR STUDENTS

- Enroll in Pennsylvania Highlands Community College courses while simultaneously earning a high school diploma.
- College equivalent courses are taught by high school faculty on the student's high school campus.
- Earn college credits while attending high school and begin college with transferable credits.
- Improve abilities and skills to complete college work for credit.

- Increase confidence from success in college-level courses.
- Experience college level expectations from equivalent curriculum and assessment.
- Receive an official college transcript.

Visit the link below to discover which ACE credits can be transferred to different colleges/universities: [https://www.pennhighlands.edu/admissions/registration/transfer-](https://www.pennhighlands.edu/admissions/registration/transfer-opportunities/transfer-agreements/)



opportunities/transfer-agreements/

## Language Arts

### Suggested Sequence of Courses:

	Academic/Vocational		Honors
7	MS Literature 1		Honors MS Literature 2
	MS Writing 1		MS Writing 2
8	MS Literature 2		Honors English Language Arts I
	MS Writing 2		
9	English Language Arts I		Honors English Language Arts II
10	English Language Arts II	HS English Language Arts (if exiting Honors)	Honors English Language Arts III Seminar <i>options for:</i> <b>AP Seminar</b> <b>COMM 101 Public Speaking (DE)</b>



11	English Language Arts III	HS English Language Arts (if exiting Honors)	Honors English Language Arts III Seminar <i>options for:</i> AP Seminar <b>COMM 101 Public Speaking (DE)</b>	Honors Language and Composition <i>options for:</i> <b>AP Language and Composition</b> <b>ENG 110 Composition 1 (DE)</b>
12	English Language Arts IV	HS English Language Arts (if exiting Honors)	Honors Language and Composition <i>options for:</i> AP Language and Composition <b>ENG 110 Composition 1 (DE)</b>	Honors Literature and Composition <i>options for:</i> AP Literature and Composition <b>ENG 200 Composition 2 (DE)</b>

### MS Literature 1

#### **Course Description:**

This course explores a variety of literary genres. The primary focus is to study and to employ sound reading strategies in the analysis of literature. Students read, respond to, and extend text based on literal and figurative interpretations. Students also evaluate text and examine reading elements through text-dependent analysis. Students also define, locate, and explain a myriad of literary devices, concentrating specifically on those outlined by the Pennsylvania Department of Education Common Core Standards for Reading, Writing, Speaking and Listening.

#### **Topics Covered:**

Through a reading of fiction (science fiction, fantasy, fables, myths, short stories, novels etc.); nonfiction (essays, biographies, autobiographies, informational writing, persuasive text, etc.); drama, and poetry (narrative poems, structured poems, free verse, epics, etc.) students will glean meaning and demonstrate comprehension through examinations, practice guides, oral feedback, performance assessments and presentations. Students will view and interpret videos and other multi-media that extend and/or supplement classroom readings and/or strategies.

Students will study the role that language plays in written text. This will be accomplished by analyzing vocabulary in text, examining complex new terms, and utilizing grade appropriate vocabulary in original writing. Students will also explore the dictionary in regards to organization, information, and utilization.

### MS Writing 1

**Course Description:**

This course is a general survey of Language Expression, Language Mechanics, and Writing. The course is divided into two major units including grammar and writing. Students explore topics such as note taking, outlining, and reference material and library usage. Upon mastery of those areas, students begin an intensive, systematic application of grammar, usage, and mechanics as a means of furthering writing conventions and style. The primary focus of this study is to enhance oral and written expression.

Students are immersed in a variety of writing exercises to explore the process and purpose of writing. Units include descriptive writing, informative writing, persuasive writing, and narrative writing.

**Topics Covered:**

Students will incorporate proper grammar and usage into speaking and writing, utilize appropriate spelling, define and use the eight parts of speech correctly (in isolation and in the context of writing), explain and employ the writing process, utilize resource materials to research information, increase vocabulary through memorization and context referencing, engage in active listening, and speak and read appropriately in a given context.

**MS Literature 2**

**Prerequisite Course:** Middle School Literature I OR exceptional PSSA and/or IXL diagnostic scores

**Course Description:**

The primary focus of this course is to study and to employ sound reading strategies in the study of literature. Students read, respond to, and extend text based on literal and figurative interpretations. Students also evaluate text and examine reading elements through text-dependent analysis. Students also define, locate, and explain a myriad of literary devices, concentrating specifically on those outlined by the Pennsylvania Department of Education Common Core Standards for Reading, Writing, Speaking and Listening.

**Topics Covered:**

Through a reading of nonfiction, poetry, and novels students will glean meaning and demonstrate comprehension through examinations, practice guides, oral feedback, performance assessments and presentations. Students will also view and interpret videos and other multi-media that extend and/or supplement classroom readings and/or strategies.

Students will study the role that language plays in written text. This will be accomplished by analyzing vocabulary in text, examining complex new terms, utilizing grade appropriate vocabulary in original writing.

Students will study a cross-curriculum unit on the Holocaust. Material will be presented from a historical perspective and from a literary

perspective. Additionally, students will focus on the concept of bullying and how bullying is portrayed and/or resolved in literature.

## **MS Writing 2**

### **Course Description:**

This course integrates a comprehensive, intense review of grammar, mechanics and study skills. Students review topics such as note taking, outlining, and reference material usage. Next, students reinforce grammar applications and mechanics. The purpose is to review and refine skills learned in the English 7 curriculum. Students also define, locate, and explain myriad writing strategies, concentrating specifically on those outlined by the Pennsylvania Department of Education Common Core Standards for Reading, Writing, Speaking and Listening.

### **Topics Covered:**

Students will incorporate proper grammar and usage into speaking and writing, utilize appropriate spelling, define and use the eight parts of speech correctly (in isolation and in the context of writing), explain and employ the writing process, utilize resource materials to research information, increase vocabulary through memorization and context referencing, engage in active listening, and speak and read appropriately in a given context.

## **English Language Arts I**

**Prerequisite Course:** Middle School Literature 2

**Credits:** 1.0

### **Course Description:**

English Language Arts I integrates the topics of grammar, writing, and literature in a comprehensive year-long study. The primary focus of this course is to study and to employ sound reading and literary strategies in the study of literature. Students read, respond to, and extend text based on literal and figurative interpretations through text dependent analysis. Students also define, locate, and explain a myriad of literary devices, concentrating specifically on those outlined by the Pennsylvania Department of Education Common Core Standards for Reading, Writing, Speaking and Listening.

### **Topics Covered:**

During the writing units, students will develop proficiency in five domains: focus, content, organization, style, and conventions. Grammar and mechanics will be addressed in regards to writing conventions. Students will also explore the role of language and vocabulary in literature and in society. Students will complete a research project that explores the method of research as well as appropriate documentation of sources. Students will also read a myriad of literature from genres including short stories, nonfiction, novels, poetry, and drama. The focus of the

literature study is on tolerance, justice, prejudice, and cultural diversity. Students read, respond to, and extend text based on literal and figurative interpretations. Students also define, locate, and explain a myriad of literary devices, concentrating specifically on those outlined by the Pennsylvania Department of Education Common Core Standards for Reading, Writing, Speaking and Listening .

## **Honors English Language Arts I**

**Prerequisite Course:** Middle School Literature 2 or Honors Middle School Literature 2

**Credits:** 1.0

### **Course Description:**

English Language Arts I integrates the topics of grammar, writing, and literature in a comprehensive, rigorously paced year-long study. The primary focus of this course is to study and to employ sound reading and literary strategies in the study of literature. Students read, respond to, and extend text based on literal and figurative interpretations through text dependent analysis. Students also define, locate, and explain a myriad of literary devices, concentrating specifically on those outlined by the Pennsylvania Department of Education Common Core Standards for Reading, Writing, Speaking and Listening.

### **Topics Covered:**

During the writing units, students will develop proficiency in five domains: focus, content, organization, style, and conventions. Grammar and mechanics will be addressed in regards to writing conventions. Students will also explore the role of language and vocabulary in literature and in society. Students will complete a research project that explores the method of research as well as appropriate documentation of sources. Students will also read a myriad of literature from genres including short stories, nonfiction, novels, poetry, and drama. The focus of the literature study is on tolerance, justice, prejudice, and cultural diversity. Students read, respond to, and extend text based on literal and figurative interpretations. Students also define, locate, and explain a myriad of literary devices, concentrating specifically on those outlined by the Pennsylvania Department of Education Common Core Standards for Reading, Writing, Speaking and Listening .

## **English Language Arts II**

**Prerequisite Course:** English Language Arts I

**Credits:** 1.0

### **Course Description:**

The primary focus of this course is to study and to employ sound reading and literary strategies in the study of literature. Students read, respond to, and extend text based on literal and figurative interpretations though text dependent analysis.. Students also define, locate, and explain a myriad of literary devices, concentrating specifically on those outlined by the Pennsylvania Department of Education Common Core Standards for Reading, Writing, Speaking and Listening.

**Topics Covered:**

Students will read a diverse compendium of world literature from genres including short stories, novels, poetry, nonfiction, and drama. The focus of the literature study at this level is to increase reading appreciation. Moreover, students will define vocabulary and comprehension strategies to strengthen independent reading. Students read, respond to, and extend text based on literal and figurative interpretations. Students also define, locate, and explain a myriad of literary devices, concentrating specifically on those outlined by the Pennsylvania Department of Education Academic Standards for Reading, Writing, Speaking and Listening. Students complete extensive writing exercises and prompt to develop proficiency in five domains: focus, content, organization, style, and conventions. Any grammar and mechanics deficiencies should be reinforced through concentrated mini-lessons in context. Students will also explore the role of language in literature and in society. Students will complete a mini research project that explores the method of research as well as appropriate documentation of sources.

**Honors English Language Arts II**

**Prerequisite Course:** English Language Arts I or Honors English Language Arts I  
**Credits:** 1.1

**Course Description:**

The primary focus of this course is to study and to employ sound reading and literary strategies in a rigorously paced study of literature from around the world. Students read, respond to, and extend text based on literal and figurative interpretations as demonstrated through text dependent analysis.. Students also define, locate, and explain a myriad of literary devices, concentrating specifically on those outlined by the Pennsylvania Department of Education Common Core Standards for Reading, Writing, Speaking and Listening.

**Topics Covered:**

Students will read a diverse compendium of world literature from genres including short stories, novels, poetry, nonfiction, and drama. The focus of the literature study at this level is to increase reading appreciation. Moreover, students will define vocabulary and comprehension strategies to strengthen independent reading. Students read, respond to, and extend text based on literal and figurative interpretations. Students also define, locate, and explain a myriad of literary devices, concentrating specifically on those outlined by the Pennsylvania

Department of Education Academic Standards for Reading, Writing, Speaking and Listening. Students complete extensive writing exercises and prompt to develop proficiency in five domains: focus, content, organization, style, and conventions. Any grammar and mechanics deficiencies should be reinforced through concentrated mini-lessons in context. Students will also explore the role of language in literature and in society. Students will complete a research project that explores the method of research as well as appropriate documentation of sources.

### **English Language Arts III**

**Prerequisite Course:** English Language Arts I and II or Honors English Language Arts I and II

**Credits:** 1.0

#### **Course Description:**

The study American literature scrutinizes language and literature from the Native Americans to the present day. The primary focus of this course is to study and to employ sound reading and literary strategies in the study of American literature. Students read, respond to, and extend text based on literal and figurative interpretations. Students also define, locate, and explain a myriad of literary devices, concentrating specifically on those outlined by the Pennsylvania Department of Education Common Core Standards for Reading, Writing, Speaking and Listening.

#### **Topics Covered:**

Students will examine short stories, novels, nonfiction, poetry, and drama in the historical context of the development of the United States and the conceptual development of the “American Dream.” Units will address the skills of vocabulary, reading comprehension, literary interpretation, and social influence in historical sequence. Students read, respond to, and extend text based on literal and figurative interpretations. Students also define, locate, and explain a myriad of literary devices, concentrating specifically on those outlined by the Pennsylvania Department of Education Common Core Standards for Reading, Writing, Speaking and Listening. Students complete extensive writing exercises to develop proficiency in five domains: focus, content, organization, style, and conventions. Any grammar and mechanics deficiencies should be reinforced through concentrated mini-lessons in context. Students will also explore the role of language in literature and in society. Students will complete a research project that explores the method of research as well as appropriate documentation of sources.

### **Honors English Language Arts III Seminar**

**Prerequisite Course:** English Language Arts I, II and III or Honors English Language Arts I and II

**Credits:** 1.3

**College Credit Options:** AP Seminar and/or COMM 101 Public Speaking (Dual Enrolment Penn Highlands)

**Course Description:**

Honors English Language Arts Seminar is an inquiry-based course that aims to engage students in cross-curricular conversations that explore real-world topics and issues from multiple perspectives. Students are empowered to collect and analyze information with accuracy and precision in order to craft and communicate evidence-based arguments.

It provides students with a framework that allows students to develop, practice, and hone their critical and creative thinking skills as they make connections between issues and their own lives. While helping students to develop and strengthen their critical and creative thinking skills, students learn to consider multiple points of view to develop their own perspectives on complex issues and topics through inquiry and investigation. The inquiry process exposes students to a variety of primary and secondary print and non-print sources such as articles, research studies, and foundational literary and philosophical texts; speeches, broadcasts, and personal accounts; and artistic works and performances. The wide variety of academic sources provide the opportunity to gain a rich appreciation and understanding of issues as students collaboratively or independently analyze and evaluate the evidence to consider options, alternatives, solutions, or resolutions of real-world or academic problems.

**Topics Covered:**

During the study of writing, students will complete specific exercises and to develop proficiency in five domains: focus, content, organization, style, and conventions. Any grammar and mechanics deficiencies should be reinforced through concentrated mini-lessons (preferably in context).

When studying literature, students will examine short stories, novels, nonfiction, poetry, and drama in the historical context of the development of the United States. Units will address the skills of vocabulary, reading comprehension, literary interpretation, and social influence in historical sequence. Students read, respond to, and extend text based on literal and figurative interpretations. Students also define, locate, and explain a myriad of literary devices, concentrating specifically on those outlined by the Pennsylvania Department of Education Common Core Standards for Reading, Writing, Speaking and Listening.

**English Language Arts IV**

**Prerequisite Course:** English Language Arts I, II and III or High School English Language Arts

**Credits:** 1.0

**Course Description:**

The study of English at the senior level emphasizes the functional techniques of reading, writing, listening and speaking as they relate to vocational trades and career goals.

Editing skills and the use of correct grammar and mechanics are also emphasized. Instruction will also focus on technical writing skills necessary to compose a business letter, a memo, a resume, forms, applications, and/or a public service announcement.

**Topics Covered:**

Throughout the course of the year, students will review the practice of Standard English grammar, punctuation, mechanics, and usage as they relate to writing in the workplace. .

Students will develop and employ research skills including gathering of information from sources; evaluation of sources as related to financial literacy and career requirements and expectations.

Students will also complete a variety of public presentation assignments that will focus on speech delivery skills such as eye contact, poise, diction, phrasing, pacing, volume, and overall effectiveness of delivery.

Students will also read and respond to literature using critical thinking skills and higher level analysis skills.

**HS English Language Arts**

**Prerequisite Course:** English Language Arts I, II or Honors English Language Arts I, II

**Credits:**1.0

**Course Description:**

The primary focus of this course is to study and to employ sound reading and literary strategies in a more intensive study of literature from around the world. Students read, respond to, and extend text based on literal and figurative interpretations as demonstrated through text dependent analysis.. Students also define, locate, and explain a myriad of literary devices, concentrating specifically on those outlined by the Pennsylvania Department of Education Common Core Standards for Reading, Writing, Speaking and Listening.

**Topics Covered:**

Students will examine short stories, novels, nonfiction, poetry, and drama. Units will address the skills of vocabulary, reading comprehension, literary interpretation, and social influence in historical sequence. Students read, respond to, and extend text based on literal and figurative interpretations. Students also define, locate, and explain a myriad of literary devices, concentrating specifically on those outlined by the Pennsylvania Department of Education Common Core Standards for Reading, Writing, Speaking and Listening. Students complete writing exercises to develop



proficiency in five domains: focus, content, organization, style, and conventions. Any grammar and mechanics deficiencies should be reinforced through concentrated mini-lessons in context. Students will also explore the role of language in literature and in society. Students will complete a research project that explores the method of research as well as appropriate documentation of sources.

### **Honors Language and Composition**

**Prerequisite Course:** English Language Arts I, II, and III or Honors English Language Arts I & II and Honors English Language Arts Seminar

**Credits:** 1.3

**College Credit Options:** AP Language and Composition and/or ENG 110 English Composition I (Dual Enrolment Penn Highlands)

#### **Course Description:**

Language and Composition emphasizes the techniques of writing expository essays with stress upon careful thinking, word choice, sentence structure, and methods of organization. Students practice the writing of clear, coherent, and unified paragraphs and essays. Students are also taught research skills and are required to write an argumentative research paper. Editing skills and the use of correct grammar and mechanics are also emphasized. Instruction will also focus on technical writing skills necessary to compose a business letter, a memo, a resume, forms, applications, and a public service announcement.

#### **Topics Covered:**

Throughout the course of the year, students will review the practice of Standard English grammar, punctuation, mechanics, and usage, including the following: parts of speech; fragments; run-ons; pronoun agreement, reference, and case; consistency in tense, person, sentence structure, mood, and voice; subject-verb agreement; modifiers: misplaced and dangling modifiers, adjective and adverb usage; punctuation: comma, semicolon, colon, dash, brackets, parentheses, ellipsis marks, quotation marks; mechanics: hyphen, apostrophe, italics; spelling, capitalization, and numbers.

Students will write essays that include the use of a thesis statement and topic sentences, adequate support, unity, coherence, and suitable organization. Moreover students will write in all of the following rhetorical modes: narration, description, process, definition, cause/effect, exemplification, comparison/contrast, and argumentation. Students are also required to write an analytical research paper. Students will also employ critical reading and thinking skills and strategies including evaluation of research sources, persuasion, avoidance of fallacies in reasoning, and analysis and refutation of opposing views. Students will develop and employ research skills including gathering of information from sources; evaluation of sources; summary, paraphrase, and quotation from sources; documentation, using MLA format; creation of outline and bibliography; avoiding plagiarism; analysis and synthesis of information; basic understanding of MLA and APA format. Students will also complete a variety of public presentation assignments that will

focus on speech delivery skills such as eye contact, poise, diction, phrasing, pacing, volume, and overall effectiveness of delivery.

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

**Prerequisite Course:** Honors English Language Arts Semina, and Honors Language and Composition

**Credits:** 1.3

**College Credit Options:** AP Literature and Composition and/or ENG 200 English Composition II: Studies in Literature (Dual Enrolment Penn Highlands)

#### **Course Description:**

This course includes intensive study of representative works from various genres and periods, concentrating on works of recognized literary merit. In the course, students read deliberately and thoroughly, taking time to understand a work's complexity, to absorb its richness of meaning, and to analyze how that meaning is embodied in literary form. In addition to considering a work's literary artistry, students reflect on the social and historical values it reflects and embodies. Careful attention to both textual detail and historical context provides a foundation for interpretation, whatever critical perspectives are brought to bear on the literary works studied.

Students write to understand a literary work. Work may involve writing response and reaction papers, along with annotation, free writing and keeping some form of a reading journal. Writing to explain a literary work involves analysis and interpretation and may include writing brief focused analyses on aspects of language and structure. Writing to evaluate a literary work involves making and explaining judgments about its artistry and exploring its underlying social and cultural values through analysis, interpretation and argument.

#### **Topics Covered:**

- Reading

The approach to analyzing and interpreting the material involves students in learning how to make careful observations of textual detail, establish connections among their observations, and draw from those connections a series of inferences leading to an interpretive conclusion about the meaning and value of a piece of writing.

The principal focus is to allow students to gain awareness that the English language that writers use has changed dramatically through history, and that today it exists in many national and local varieties. They also become aware of literary tradition and the complex ways in which imaginative literature builds upon the ideas, works and authors of earlier times. Because the Bible and Greek and Roman mythology are central to much Western literature, students should have some familiarity with them. These religious concepts and stories have influenced and informed Western literary creation since the Middle Ages, and they continue to provide material for modern writers in their attempts to give literary form to human experience. Additionally, the growing body of works

written in English reflecting non-Western cultures may require students to have some familiarity with other traditions.

- **Writing**  
Writing assignments focus on the critical analysis of literature and include expository, analytical and argumentative essays. Although critical analysis makes up the bulk of student writing for the course, well-constructed creative writing assignments may help students see from the inside how literature is written. Writing instruction includes attention to developing and organizing ideas in clear, coherent and persuasive language. Throughout the course, emphasis is placed on helping students develop stylistic maturity. Students will employ sound research strategies including gathering of information from sources; evaluation of sources; summary, paraphrase, and quotation from sources; documentation, using MLA format; creation of outline and bibliography; avoiding plagiarism; analysis and synthesis of information. This research will culminate in the writing of the analytical research paper.

## **Functional English**

**Credits:**1.0

**Course Description:**Functional English is a course designed to prepare students for Introduction to Literature Studies. This course provides additional instruction based on core ELA topics.

### **Topics Covered:**

Reading Comprehension  
Written Expression  
Supporting Detail  
Vocabulary  
Text Dependent Analysis

Genre Identification  
Main Idea  
Text Analysis  
Grammar

## **HS English Language Arts**

**Credits:**1.0

### **Course Description:**

This course is designed for students to learn basic reading skills to apply to everyday life. Students will practice with word recognition, reading comprehension,

sequencing, and reading for a purpose. Students will also practice spelling everyday words, alphabetizing words, and learn basic writing skills

**Topics Covered:**

Students will learn to read everyday materials such as schedules, recipes, directions, menus, instructions, ads, coupons, labels, packaging, grocery lists, catalogs, newspapers, guides, maps, phone books, magazines, and dictionaries. Students will learn to write complete sentences, paragraphs, and friendly and business letters.

<b>Mathematics</b>
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**Suggested Sequence:**

Students may take courses from both the General and Accelerated Columns.

MATH	General	<i>Accelerated</i>	Additional Math Requirements
7 <sup>th</sup> grade	Math 7 Functional Math	Pre-Algebra	PSSA Math 7 Exam
8 <sup>th</sup> grade	Math 8 Functional Math	Algebra 1	PSSA Math 8 Exam And/or Keystone Algebra 1 Exam
9 <sup>th</sup> grade	Algebra 1 Algebra 1A Functional Math	Geometry	Keystone Algebra 1 Exam
10 <sup>th</sup> grade	Algebra 1B Geometry Functional Math Fundamental Algebra	Geometry OR Algebra 2	Algebra 1B – Keystone Exam
11 <sup>th</sup> grade	Algebra 2 Fundamental Algebra Functional Math Geometry Consumer Math	Precalculus with TRIG Prereq. – Algebra 2 College Algebra	Fundamental Algebra

12 <sup>th</sup> grade	Algebra 2 Pre-Calc with TRIG Fundamental Math Functional Algebra Consumer Math	Calculus Or College Algebra	
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### **Math 7 & Math 8**

#### **Course Description:**

In this course students will explore the language of algebra, geometry, data analysis, probability, and statistics in verbal, tabular, graphical, and symbolic form. Students will apply their knowledge in problem solving activities that will encourage students to model patterns and relationships with variables, and functions and to construct, draw, measure, and classify geometric figures.

#### **Topics Covered:**

Expressions, Operations and Equations with Integers and Rational Numbers  
Multi-Step Equations and Inequalities  
Ratio, Proportion, and Similar Figures  
Linear Functions and Graphs  
Powers, Square Roots, Real Numbers, Right Triangles and the Pythagorean Theorem  
Area, Perimeter, Surface Area and Volume  
Odds and Probability

### **Pre-Algebra/Math Accelerated**

#### **Course Description:**

In this course students will explore the language of algebra, geometry, data analysis, probability, and statistics in verbal, tabular, graphical, and symbolic form. Students will build skills from both grade 7 standards as well as grade 8 standards in order to be prepared for Algebra 1. Students will apply their knowledge in problem solving activities that will encourage students to model patterns and relationships with variables, functions, and to apply this to real world problems. Students will also dig deeper into geometry through basic concepts as well as advanced concepts like surface area and volume. Students will make connections to other topics of study in order to see the universality of mathematics.

#### **Topics Covered:**

Rational Numbers and Exponents

Proportionality and Linear Relationships  
Algebraic Expressions, Equations, and Inequalities  
Statistics and Probability  
Congruence, Similarity, and Transformations  
Volume and Surface Area

## **Algebra 1**

**Prerequisite Course:** Pre-Algebra or Math Course 3

**Credits:** 1.0

### **Course Description:**

In this course students will explore the language of algebra, geometry, data analysis, probability, and statistics in verbal, tabular, graphical, and symbolic form in a continuation from Pre-Algebra. Students will apply their knowledge in problem solving activities that will encourage students to model patterns and relationships with variables, and functions. Students will focus on linear relationships and apply linear functions to real-world applications. Students will connect mathematics to other topics they are studying such as biology, geography, art, history, and health, through problems that are rich in algebraic concepts.

### **Topics Covered:**

Expressions, Equations, and Functions  
Linear Equations  
Linear Functions and Relations  
Linear Inequalities  
Systems of Linear Equations and Inequalities  
Polynomials  
Factoring and Quadratic Equations  
Quadratic and Exponential Functions  
Radical Functions and Geometry  
Rational Functions and Equations  
Statistics and Probability

## **Algebra 2**

**Prerequisite Course:** Algebra I

**Credits:** 1.0

### **Course Description:**

In this course students will relate and apply algebraic concepts to statistics, data analysis, probability, and discrete mathematics. Students will apply their knowledge in problem solving activities that will encourage students to model

patterns and relationships with variables and functions. Students will explore and apply various types of relations including quadratic, polynomial, exponential, logarithmic, and radical functions. Students will connect mathematics to other topics they are studying such as biology, geography, art, history, and health, through problems that are rich in algebraic concepts.

**Topics Covered:**

Linear Relations, Equations and Inequalities  
Quadratic Relations, Functions and Graphs  
Exponential and Logarithmic Functions and Relations  
Arithmetic and Geometric Sequences and Series  
Systems of Equations and Inequalities  
Probability and Statistics

**College Algebra**

**Prerequisite Course:** Algebra 2

**Credits:** 1.3

**College Credits Available:** Penn Highlands Community College

**Course Description:**

In this course students will relate and apply algebraic concepts to pre-calculus, statistics, data analysis, probability, and discrete mathematics. Students will use graphing calculators as an integrative tool to assist in the development of advanced topics. Students will apply their knowledge in problem solving activities that will encourage students to communicate and model patterns and relationships with variables and functions. Students will be introduced to calculus topics including limits, derivatives, and integrals.

**Topics Covered:**

Radical, Rational, and Logarithmic Expressions  
Solving Equations and Inequalities  
Polynomial, Rational, Exponential, and Logarithmic Functions and Graphing  
Circles

**Fundamental Algebra**

**Prerequisite Course:** Algebra I

**Credits:** 0.5

**Course Description:**

In this course students will explore the language of algebra, geometry, data analysis, probability, and statistics in verbal, tabular, graphical, and symbolic form in a continuation of Algebra I.

**Topics Covered:**

Expressions, Equations, and Functions  
Linear Equations  
Linear Inequalities  
Systems of Linear Equations and Inequalities  
Polynomials  
Factoring and Quadratic Equations  
Quadratic and Exponential Functions  
Radical Functions and Geometry  
Rational Functions and Equations  
Statistics and Probability

**Consumer Math/Financial Literacy**

**Credits:** 1.0

**Course Description:**

Consumer Math is a course designed for secondary education students who have a grasp of basic mathematical computation. This course provides additional instruction for applying computational skills as a consumer. The instruction provided uses a variety of realistic, consumer-oriented applications which reinforce and extend students' mastery of basic mathematical applications. In this course students will make and apply a budget and learn banking skills including writing checks and reconciling a bank statement. Students will gain an understanding into the world of credit cards, finance charges, and simple and compound interest, as well as completing income taxes. Students will also learn real-life skills as they apply to purchasing and maintaining a house and automobile as well as differentiate between buying, renting or leasing an automobile. Students will be introduced to the concepts behind buying and selling stocks.

**Topics covered:**

Earning Money	Buying Food
Shopping for Clothing	Managing a Household
Buying and Maintaining a Car	Traveling
Budgeting Your Money	Banking and Investing
Paying Taxes	Preparing for Careers

**Geometry**

**Prerequisite Course:** Algebra I

**Credits:** 1.0



**Course Description:**

In this course students will relate and apply algebraic concepts to geometry, statistics, data analysis, probability, and discrete mathematics. Students will connect mathematics to other topics they are studying such as biology, geography, art, history, and health, through problems that are rich in algebraic concepts. Students will apply their knowledge in problem solving activities that will encourage students to communicate and model patterns and relationships with variables and functions and to construct, draw, measure, and classify geometric figures.

**Topics Covered:**

Tools of Geometry  
Reasoning and Proof  
Parallel and Perpendicular Lines  
Congruent Triangles  
Relationships in Triangles  
Quadrilaterals  
Proportions and Similarity  
Right Triangle and Trigonometry  
Transformations and Symmetry  
Circles  
Area, Perimeter, Volume, and Surface Area of Two and Three Dimensional Figures

**Precalculus with Trigonometry**

**Prerequisite Course:** Algebra I and Algebra II

**Credits:** 1.3

**College Credits Available:** Penn Highlands Community College

**Course Description:**

In this course students will learn the fundamentals of trigonometry. Trigonometry is developed from a right triangle perspective and also by utilizing a unit circle approach. Students will explore radian and degree measure, triangle properties, and the graphs of the trigonometric functions and their inverses using traditional paper and pencil methods as well as through the use of graphing technology. Students will become familiar with various trigonometric identities and their use in verifying other identities as well as in solving trigonometric equations. This course is designed as a preparation for Calculus and higher mathematics that rely heavily on the concepts of trigonometry.

**Topics Covered:**

Angle measure in degrees/radians.  
Special right triangles.

Trigonometric functions in the coordinate plane.  
Fundamental identities.  
Verifying trigonometric identities.  
Solving right triangles.  
Applications of static trigonometry.  
Arc length, velocity, and the area of a circular sector.  
The Unit Circle and trigonometry of real numbers.  
Trigonometric graphs and models.

## **Calculus**

**Prerequisite Course:** Precalculus with Trigonometry

**Credits:** 1.3

**College Credits Available:** Penn Highlands Community College

### **Course Description:**

In this course students will expand upon and apply algebraic concepts to pre-calculus, statistics, data analysis, probability, and discrete mathematics. Students will use graphing calculators as an integrative tool to assist in the development of advanced topics. Students will apply their knowledge in problem solving activities that will encourage students to communicate and model patterns and relationships with variables and functions. Students will be introduced to calculus topics including limits, derivatives, and integrals.

### **Topics Covered:**

Polynomial and Rational Functions and Their Graphs  
Exponential and Logarithmic Functions and Their Graphs  
Analyzing Graphs of Functions  
Combinations of Functions  
Inverse Functions  
The Fundamental Theorem of Algebra  
Limits and Their Properties  
Finding Limits Graphically, Numerically, and Analytically  
Continuity and One-Sided Limits  
Definition of Derivative  
Basic Differentiation Rules  
The Product and Quotient Rules, Chain Rule and Implicit Differentiation  
Related Rates  
Applications of Differentiation  
Antiderivatives and Indefinite Integration  
Area Under a Curve  
Integration by Substitution  
Fundamental Theorem of Calculus

## **HS Math (Life Skills)**

**Credits:** 1.0

### **Course Description:**

This course is designed to provide students with the math skills they will need in everyday life. The students will learn basic math concepts such as math facts, simple math calculations, money, time, and measurement. They will then apply those basic concepts to daily living skills.

### **Topics Covered:**

Addition, subtraction, and simple multiplication math facts, solving addition and subtraction calculations, counting money, making change, solving money calculations, budgeting money, writing and managing checks, telling time, time management, elapsed time, using a calendar, measuring units of liquid and dry, measuring height and weight, comparing measurements, and temperature.

## **Functional Math 1**

**Credits:** 1.0

### **Course Description:**

Functional math 1 is a course designed as the first class in preparation for Algebra courses. This course provides additional instruction on methods to solve problems and apply strategies to real life applications. The styles of instruction includes a combination of traditional paper/pencil as well as inclusion of technology based practice.

### **Topics Covered:**

Algebraic Language  
Understanding Integers

Exponents and Roots  
Algebraic Expressions

Geometry: Congruence & Transformations

Percents

One/Two Step Equations

One/Two Step Inequalities

Statistics/Probability

Perimeter/Area

## **Functional Math 2**

**Credits:** 1.0

### **Course Description:**

Functional math 2 is a course designed as the second class in preparation for Algebra courses. This course provides additional instruction on methods to solve problems and apply strategies to real life applications. The styles of instruction

includes a combination of traditional paper/pencil as well as inclusion of technology based practice.

**Topics Covered:**

Review of Functional Math 1 Topics  
 Linear Functions/Slope  
 Ratios, proportions, similar figures  
 Multi-step inequalities  
 Subtracting Linear Expressions

Percents Equations  
 Multi-Step Equations  
 Adding Linear Expressions

<b>Science</b>
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**Suggested Sequence:**

Students may take courses from both the General and Accelerated Columns.

Science	General	<i>Accelerated</i>	Additional Science Requirements
7 <sup>th</sup> grade	Science 7		
8 <sup>th</sup> grade	Science 8		PSSA Science Exam
9 <sup>th</sup> grade	Science 9 A & B	Honors Biology 1	Keystone – Biology Exam
10 <sup>th</sup> grade	Biology 1 Contemporary Environmental Science	Biology 2 with LAB Applied Chemistry	Keystone – Biology Exam
11 <sup>th</sup> grade	Applied Chemistry STS – Health Care Contemporary Environmental Science	Biology 2 with LAB  Anatomy & Physiology  Chemistry I with LAB	Keystone – Biology Exam

12 <sup>th</sup> grade	STS – Health Care Science 12 Applied Chemistry	Biology 2 with LAB  Anatomy & Physiology  Chemistry I with LAB AP Chemistry with LAB  Physics with LAB	
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## **SCIENCE 7:**

### **Course Description:**

The seventh grade science course is an introductory exploration of Earth and Space Science, Physical Science and Life Science through lecture, demonstration and laboratory activities. The scientific method will be emphasized throughout the course.

The Physical Science Units explores basic concepts of chemistry and physics. The relationships of matter and energy form the fundamental laws that govern all interactions and are basic to all sciences. Topics covered in Physical Science include: motion, forces, simple machines, matter, substances, mixtures, atoms, elements, and physical and chemical properties and changes.

In the Earth systems unit, students are introduced to the Earth's biosphere, lithosphere, atmosphere and hydrosphere and learn the many ways in which they interact. Topics covered in Earth and Space Science include: Earth's Atmosphere, Weather and Climate, Earth Layers, Fossils and Soil, Earth's Water, the Solar System, Stars and Galaxies and Sun-Earth-Moon System. Students will visit the school planetarium as part of the curriculum.

In the life science unit, students will focus on the commonality of life. Topics covered in Life Science include : Classifying Life, Cell Structure, From a Cell to an Organism, populations, communities, symbiotic relationships and biomes.

## **SCIENCE 8**

### **Course Description:**

In Grade 8, students will be exposed to the following branches of science: Life Science, Physical Science and Earth and Space Science. These branches of science all establish a foundation for further success throughout high school and provide exposure to science and the natural world. The branches of science are taught through formal lecture, laboratory/hands-on activities, demonstrations and projects. The goal of the course is to consistently carry the idea of the scientific method throughout the year. The beginning of the year will be an overview of the Nature of Science with a review of laboratory techniques. In addition, students will complete a science fair project following the nature of science guidelines-required as part of the course.

The Life Science Units will cover the topics of Cells, Cell structure/function, Cell Cycle (mitosis/meiosis), Genetics (genes, chromosomes, inheritance and punnett squares), the Environment (matter and energy), Ecosystems (producers/consumers) and Energy flow and Biomes.

The Physical Science Units will cover the topics of The Periodic Table of Elements (elements, matter, drawing atoms, Law of conservation of Mass- balancing equations, formulas- compounds, mixtures), Density, Review of chemical and physical properties/changes, Conservation of Energy, Energy (potential/kinetic), Review of motion (speed, velocity, acceleration, distance/displacement, work, power, simple machines, Review forces, Newton's Laws

The Earth and Space Units will cover the topics of Tectonics, Earthquakes, Volcanoes and Hurricanes, Rocks and Minerals, Review of Atmosphere, Weather/Climate, Seasons/Moon Phases

## **SCIENCE 9A**

**Credits:** 0.50

### **Course Description:**

Science 9A is a semester course offered to 9th grade students who are not taking Honors Biology. The course broadly addresses ecology and will cover topics such as the transfer of energy through systems, biomes and environments, relationships between organisms in a system, natural selection, and evolution.

## **SCIENCE 9B**

**Credits:** 0.50

### **Course Description:**

Science 9B is a semester-long course for students in 9th grade who are not taking Honors Biology. It is intended to explore the connections of chemical principles to biology. The course content includes reviewing the atomic structure and the periodic table, chemical bonds, energy and biochemical reactions, enzymes, water and solutions, and macro molecules. The accompanying laboratory sessions reinforce the concepts covered.

## **SCIENCE 12**

**Credits:** 1.0

### **Course Description:**

Science 12 is a year-long general science course offered to 12th grade students who are on the vocational track. This course broadly addresses how science principles are applied in everyday life. Topics include Astronomy, Renewable Energy, Optics, and Simple Machines.

## **Honors Biology 1**

**Credits:** 1.0

### **Course Description:**

This introductory biology course provides an overview of the basic principles of biology including ecology, the structure and function of the cell, bioenergetics, cellular respiration, photosynthesis, mitosis, meiosis, DNA, genetics and evolution. This biology course deals with the variety of living things in the world and is designed to cover all of the major forms of life but heavily emphasizes the basic similarities and patterns found in nature. The student is helped to discover his/her place in the world of life in regard to their effect on the world and, in turn, its effect on him or her. Units are developed from centrality of the cell in structure and function, as well as the basic commonness of all life at this level.

### **Topics Covered:**

Ecology  
Characteristics of living things  
Levels of organization  
Biochemistry  
Cell membrane  
Cell transport  
Cell structure  
Cell organelles  
Bioenergetics - cellular respiration and photosynthesis

Mitosis  
Meiosis  
Genetics  
DNA  
Evolution

## **Biology 1**

**Prerequisites:** Science 9 A & B

**Credits:** 1.0

### **Course Description:**

This introductory biology course provides an overview of the basic principles of biology including the structure and function of the cell, biochemistry, bioenergetics, cellular respiration, photosynthesis, mitosis, meiosis, DNA, genetics and evolution. This biology course deals with the variety of living things in the world and is designed to cover all of the major forms of life but heavily emphasizes the basic similarities and patterns found in nature. The student is helped to discover his/her place in the world of life in regard to their effect on the world and, in turn, its effect on him or her. Units are developed from centrality of the cell in structure and function, as well as the basic commonness of all life at this level.

### **Topics Covered**

Biochemistry  
Cell membrane  
Cell transport  
Cell structure  
Cell organelles  
Bioenergetics - cellular respiration and photosynthesis  
Mitosis  
Meiosis  
Genetics  
DNA  
Evolution

## **Biology 2 with LAB**

**Prerequisites:** Honors Biology or Biology 1 with a 93% or better average



Credits: 1.0

**Course Description:**

This course is a weighted honors course for juniors and senior students. Participants need to have successfully completed general Biology 1.0 with a 93% or better. The course content is a phylogenetic approach (i.e. the major grouping of living things) along with a review of basic biological concepts. All six kingdoms are discussed as to classification and diversity at the beginning of the course and then there is a major emphasis on the animal kingdom. Investigation of similarities and differences in the living world is the major emphasis. Dissection of representative organisms for practical application of information is stressed.

**Topics Covered:**

Mini Biology I Review

The Six Kingdoms of Classification

- Animals
- Plants
- Protists
- Fungi
- Eubacteria
- Archaeobacteria

Classification and Taxonomy

Cell Biology (review)

Genetics (review)

Mitosis (review)

Meiosis (review)

Vertebrate Animal Tissues

Animal Development

Animal Kingdom

- Phyla Porifera
- Phyla Cnidaria
- Phyla Platyhelminthes
- Phyla Nematoda
- Phyla Mollusca
- Phyla Annelida
- Phyla Arthropoda
- Phyla Echinodermata
- Phyla Chordata

**Anatomy and Physiology**

**Prerequisites:** Honors Biology I, or Biology 1 with a B average

**Credits: 1.0**

**Course Description:**

This human anatomy and physiology course is intended for any student who is considering a future in a medical or health services related field who has successfully completed Biology 1.0 with a B average. There is emphasis on terminology and the awareness of "root" words, prefixes and suffixes that make up medical/physiological terminology. Each of the major systems is covered - first in terms of anatomy and then applied physiology. A substantial amount of time is spent on information basic to all systems. Application of information and exposure to careers is an important supplement to the overall course design as permitted.

**Continued on the next page...**

**Topics Covered:**

Mini Biology I Review

Topic 1.0 – Structure and function of the body

Topic 2 – Cells and Tissues

Topic 3 - Integumentary System

Topic 4 – Skeletal System

Topic 5 – Muscular System

Topic 6 - Nervous System

Topic 7 – Endocrine System

Topic 8 – The Heart and Heart Disease

Topic 9 - Respiratory System

Topic 10 - Digestive System

**Contemporary Environmental Science**

**Credits: 1.0**

**Course Description:** This year-long course will address scientific topics currently making headlines. Hands-on projects and labs will provide the students with an authentic perspective of the world in which they live. Exploring such topics will allow the students to make informed decisions throughout the course of their life. This course is intended for students who are not pursuing a career in a science related field. ALSO, this course serves as an introduction to and covers broad aspects of environmental science and environmental studies, especially pertaining to Pennsylvania. For all cases, the resulting environmental impacts are studied in detail. Specifically, this course examines the risks associated with growth in a developing world; environmental impact of population growth on natural resources; mineral and resource extraction; water resource uses; and renewable and non-renewable sources for power generation. Emphasis is placed on a holistic approach

to environmental science using laboratory exercises, environmental surveys, and class discussions to reinforce scientific principles.

**Topics Covered:** Genetic Modification of Food, Alternative Energy, Sustainability, Seed Banking, 3D printing of human organs. Topics may vary with new discoveries. Also:

- Kinds of Ecosystems
- Water Management
- Soil and its uses
- Air Quality issues
- Population
- Energy and Civilization
- Nonrenewable Energy
- Renewable Energy

### **Science, Technology, and Society (STS) - Healthcare**

**Prerequisite completed/passed Bio 1 or 1B and are in 11/12 grade**  
**Credits:** 1.0

**Course Description:** This class is set up to help students who are looking to go into the field of health care as technicians. Students will be instructed through lecture, laboratory/ hands-on activities, demonstrations and project based learning. Students will learn a vast variety of different science related topics such as: overview of body systems, medicines/ diseases, nursing care/ hospital care/medical case studies, and basic anatomy/ physiology. Along with bringing in concepts from all branches of science: Biology, Ecology, Chemistry, Anatomy. Students will have numerous opportunities to dissect specific body structures (ie: heart, kidney, eye, brain). Students will also be exposed to utilizing medical equipment: stethoscopes, BP cuffs, pulse meters, suture kits, etc..These students will also be required to complete the CPR certification course-they will be CPR certified in the Spring.

### **Applied Chemistry**

**Prerequisite Course:** 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade Science  
**Credits:** 1.0

**Course Description:**

This one year course is intended to introduce basic concepts in Chemistry and connections of Chemistry principles to everyday life. This course is also intended for

students taking Introductory Chemistry as well as to prepare students for upper level science courses. The accompanying laboratory sessions reinforce the theories covered and practical applications in Chemistry in addition to training students in techniques for conducting science experiments. **Topics covered:** Scientific method and measurements, basic laboratory skills, atomic theory and periodic table, Chemical bonding and Lewis dot diagrams, and Chemical reactions.

### **Chemistry 1 with LAB**

**Prerequisites:** Applied Chemistry with a B average and currently taking or completed Algebra 2

**Credits:** 1.3

**College Credits Available:** Pennsylvania Highlands -**CHM 106 Introductory Chemistry**

**Course Description:**

This one year course is designed to introduce basic concepts in Chemistry. Students have the opportunity to obtain 4 college credits through Pennsylvania Highlands Community College ACE program. This honors level Chemistry course is a prerequisite for Advanced Chemistry (General Chemistry I) course. Students are expected to have a sound knowledge in algebra. The accompanying laboratory sessions reinforce the theories covered and emphasize general techniques in conducting science experiments. **Topics Covered:** Scientific methods and measurements, atomic structure, periodic table, Chemistry reactions, stoichiometry, properties of gasses, matter and energy, Chemistry bonding, acids and bases, nuclear Chemistry, and organic Chemistry.

### **AP Chemistry with LAB**

**Prerequisites:** Chemistry 1 with a B average or above.

**Credits:** 1.3

**College Credits Available:** Pennsylvania Highlands Community College -**CHM 120 General Chemistry I** or St. Francis University -**CHEM 113 Human Chemistry I**

**Course Description:** This one year course is intended for college bound students to learn and master advanced chemistry topics to facilitate taking college science courses. Students have the opportunity to obtain 4 college credits through Pennsylvania Highlands Community College ACE program or St. Francis University College in High School program. This honors level course is organized as a continuation of Chemistry I course. Students are expected to have a sound knowledge in algebra. The accompanying laboratory sessions reinforce the theories covered and emphasize general techniques in conducting science experiments.

**Topics Covered:** Chemical reactions in aqueous solutions, stoichiometry, atomic theory, quantum theory, periodic properties, bond theory and molecular structure, thermochemistry, chemical kinetics, chemical equilibrium, electrochemistry, and

gas laws.

### **Physics with LAB**

**Prerequisite Course/Co Requisite:** Algebra II

**Credits:** 1.0

**Course Description:**

This is a one year course designed for the college preparatory student who will go on to take college physics and the student who needs an understanding of the physical world around them that eventually will lead to the improvement in the human condition, a knowledge of the principles or concepts on which physics is based, and an ability to solve problems. The course will cover the most basic ideas in physics – mechanics, materials, waves (including light and sound), electricity and magnetism and introduce some concepts of modern physics.

**Topics Covered:**

Introduction to Mathematical Concepts

Kinematics in One Dimension

Kinematics in Two Dimensions

Forces and Newton's Laws of Motion

Dynamics of Circular Motion

Work and Energy

Impulse and Momentum

Rotational Kinematics

Rotational Dynamics

Simple Harmonic Motion

Electric Circuits

Mirrors and Lenses

<b>Social Studies</b>
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**Suggested Sequence:**

Students may take courses from both the General and Electives columns during their Junior and Senior years.

Social Studies	General	Electives	REQUIRED ASSESSMENTS
7 <sup>th</sup> grade	Pennsylvania History AND Geography	N/A	

8 <sup>th</sup> grade	American History 1	N/A	
9 <sup>th</sup> grade	American History 2	N/A	
10 <sup>th</sup> grade	World Civilizations	Current Events Civil War	
11 <sup>th</sup> grade	Civics Civil War Modern American History 2	Psychology Sociology Modern American History AP US History Current Events	Students must achieve a passing score on the required Citizenship Test as prescribed under Pennsylvania Act 35 of 2018.
12 <sup>th</sup> grade	Civics Modern American History 2 Current Events AP US History	Psychology Sociology Modern American History Civil War	Students must achieve a passing score on the required Citizenship Test as prescribed under Pennsylvania Act 35 of 2018.

### **Elective Course Descriptions:**

#### **Current Events**

**Credits:** 0.50

**Course Description:** This class is designed to provide students with the opportunity to discuss, understand, and explore local, national, international, political, economic and social issues in a respectful, meaningful, and active way. Throughout the term, students will stay up to date on current issues and trends.

#### **Civil War**

**Credits:** 0.50

**Course Description:** This class is designed to provide students with the opportunity to discuss in depth the prelude to the US Civil War, the war itself, and the period of Reconstruction that followed.

### **Psychology**

**Credits:** 0.50

**Course Description:** This class is designed to introduce students to the basic principles and theories of psychology. Topics including personality, learning, intelligence, and the history of human behavior will be discussed.

### **Modern American History II**

**Credits:** 0.50

**Course Description:**

This class is designed to provide students with the opportunity to discuss more recent United States history covering the time period from the Reagan Presidency (1980's to the George H.W. Bush Presidency (2000's)

### **Geography**

**Course Description:**

This is a one semester course that examines the Geography of North America and Europe. While focusing on each part of the world, students are able to recognize characteristics distinguishing regions in each of these areas of the world. Each regional study encompasses a study of the physical geography, culture, economy, government, and social dynamics defining the land and people. An historical element is intertwined into the physical studies and how the people in these places survived and advanced with available resources in these areas.

**Topics Covered:**

1. Physical Features of North America and Europe.
2. Study the major cities, rivers, mountain ranges found in these regions of the world
3. Energy Resources found in these regions
4. Environmental issues of these regions
5. Study the people and the cultures of these region

### **Pennsylvania History**

**Course Description:**

Pennsylvania History is a one semester course that examines the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania from early settlement to the French and Indian War. Through meaningful lessons and activities students will gain a deeper understanding of how Pennsylvania's history has played a key role in the development of the United States.

**Topics Covered:**

1. Understanding Geography of Pennsylvania
2. Studying Native Americans found in Pennsylvania
3. Early Explorers to the Pennsylvania area
4. The life of William Penn
5. The development of the colony of Pennsylvania
6. Pennsylvania role in the French and Indian War
7. Pennsylvania during the time of Rebellion against England

**American History 1 (Exploration - Civil War)**

**Prerequisite Course:** Geography and PA History

**Credits:** 1.0

**Course Description:**

This is a full year course broken down into two semester-long courses. In this course, students will examine the United States from the early settlements of Roanoke and Jamestown through the American Civil War. In addition to the study of historical events within this timeframe, the course encompasses an in-depth study of the colonization of the New World by European nations up to the Civil War. The course assists students in developing an understanding of the important events in America's past and their connections to the world.

**Topics Covered:**

1. Early Settlers and the New World
2. Colonization of the United States
3. American Revolution
4. The Federalist Era
5. Manifest Destiny
6. Problem of Slavery in the United States
7. Presidential Elections from 1840's to 1865
8. American Civil War



## **American History 2 (United States becomes a World Power to End of World War II)**

**Prerequisite Course:** American History 1

**Credits:** 1.0

### **Course Description:**

This is a full year course broken down into two semester-long courses. This course provides students with a comprehensive understanding of all aspects of American History dealing with the United States becoming a World Power to the end of World War II. During this course, students will examine the role that the United States played in the imperialism of Latin America and the Pacific. The students will study the causes of World War I and the role of the United States in the Great War and ensuing peace. This course will also introduce students to the 1920's and the Great Depression. They will examine the United States' involvement in World War II and the challenges that our nation faced at home following the war. Students will develop an understanding of important events in America's past and their connectedness to world events.

### **Topics Covered:**

1. The United States expanding Imperialism in Latin America and Pacific
2. Spanish-American War
3. Causes of World War I
4. Americans join the Allies
5. The Jazz Age
6. Great Depression
7. New Deal
9. Causes and outcomes of World War II

## **Western Civilization**

**Prerequisite Course:** American History 2

**Credits:** 1.0

### **Course Description:**

This course is a full year course that examines past cultures in order to compare their experiences and make us aware of the opportunities and limitations of modern cultures. Major political, social, economic, and cultural trends and their influences on modern civilization are examined. As an introduction, this course begins in the

Ancient Near East and proceeds through the Central Middle Ages. Western Civilization examines the period from the 17th century to present.

**Topics Covered:**

1. The Ancient Near East, (4000-300 BC)
2. Ancient Egypt (4000 - 500)
2. Greco-Roman Civilization (1200 BC-AD 500)
3. The Early Middle Ages, (500-1000)
4. The Central and Late Middle Ages (1000-1500)
5. The Renaissance (1500-1600s)
6. Absolutism and Monarchies – Scientific Age (1660 – 1725)

**Civics**

**Prerequisite Course:** None

**Credits:** 1.0

**Course Description:**

This course is a full year course that outlines and promotes citizenship qualities within the United States and also other nations to compare similar and different practices. Students will be utilizing events from the past and present to analyze citizenship throughout history in the United States and abroad. The goal of the course is to promote positive citizenship values that students can implement into their daily lives.

**Topics Covered:**

1. Responsibilities of Citizenship
2. American Government
3. US Constitution
4. Bill of Rights
5. Branches of Government (Legislative, Executive, Judicial)
6. Political Parties
7. Voting and Elections

**Modern American History (1950's to current times)**

**Prerequisite Course:** American History 2

**Credits:** 1.0

**Course Description:**

Students will explore and evaluate the significant historical events and the consequences from the Cold War to President Johnson AND then from the ending of the Vietnam War to the end of the Cold War, the fall of Communism in Europe and the United States developing new policies in shaping the World. This course provides an examination of historical themes to analyze how events continue to shape our nation today.

**Topics Covered:**

1. The Cold War with Soviet Union
2. Postwar Politics dealing with the Soviet Union in Europe
3. Korean War
4. America Culture in the 1950's
5. Civil Rights Movement in the United States
6. Cuban Missile Crisis
7. President Kennedy Assassination
8. President Johnson's War on Poverty
9. The Counter Cultures
10. The Vietnam War
11. President Nixon's Foreign Policies dealing with China and the Soviet Union
12. Watergate
13. President Ford's Domestic Policies
14. President Carter and the Middle East
15. Iran Crisis
16. President Reagan's Foreign and Domestic Policies
17. The Ending of the Cold War
18. The Fall of the Soviet Union and End of Communism

**Sociology**

**Prerequisite Course:** None

**Credits:** 0.5

**Course Description:**

This semester course will familiarize the student with the basic principles and theories associated with the social science of Sociology. It will introduce students to the academic examination of culture and look critically at a variety of social issues. Critical thinking is emphasized as students are provided thought provoking opportunities to challenge them in examining their diverse world.

**Topics Covered:**

1. Identifying and defining basic sociological concepts and theories.
2. Analyzing contributions and theoretical perspectives of the founders of sociology
3. Exploring sociological perspectives and theories as they relate to societal norms and various social issues

**AP History****Prerequisite Jr/Sr, American History 1 and 2, Western Civilization****Credits:** 1.3**Course Description:**

This is a full year course in which students learn advanced topics and concepts related to early American History. In this course, students will examine the United States from the early settlements of Jamestown Virginia all the way through the American Civil War. In addition to the study of historical events within this timeframe, the course also includes supplemental readings, extensive look at our system of government, and Supreme Court Cases. A good background in writing is recommended.

**Topics Covered:**

1. Early Settlers and the New World
2. Colonization of the United States
3. French and Indian War
4. American Revolution
5. The Constitution and Bill
  
6. Louisiana Purchase
7. Problem of Slavery in the United States
8. Presidential Elections from 1840's to 1865
9. American Civil War

## Suggested Sequence

Arts & Humanities	RECOMMENDED	<i>Other Electives</i>
7 <sup>th</sup> grade	Phys. Ed. 7    Health 7    Art 7   Computer 7   Music 7 Computer 7       STEM 7	Band Chorus
8 <sup>th</sup> grade	Exploratory Spanish    Phys. Ed. 8 Art 8    STEM 8    Computer 8 Music 8       Health 8	Band Chorus
9 <sup>th</sup> grade	Spanish 1 Art 1 Phys. Ed. 9 Computer 9	Band Chorus Microcomputer Apps Library Science Elective Ensemble
10 <sup>th</sup> grade	Spanish 1 or Spanish 2 Physical Education Art 1, 2 Elective Ensemble	Band Chorus Micro Computer Apps Library Science
11 <sup>th</sup> grade	Spanish 2 or Spanish 3 Physical Education Art 1, 2 Elective Ensemble Accounting I	Band Chorus Microcomputer Apps Library Science Media Google Applications
12 <sup>th</sup> grade	Spanish 4 Physical Education Art 1, 2 Music Theory Art History Elective Ensemble Accounting I	Band Chorus Microcomputer Apps Library Science Media Intro to Coding Google Applications

## Media

**Credits:** 0.50

**Course Description:**

This course will teach the concepts of media and editing. It is a semester-long course. enables students to create and edit media art works using available and emerging technologies such as digital imaging video, and a variety of media. Students will explore the elements and principles of media arts and the importance of using responsible practices when engaged in the creative process. Students will develop the skills necessary to create and interpret media art works, including, but not limited to BVTV.

### **Art 7**

#### **Course Description:**

This course is a combination of art history, art appreciation, and a studio setting. Students will explore different artists and artworks throughout history while creating their own works of art. Mediums explored include paint, graphite, sharpie, clay, and sculpture. This course enables the student to become more familiar with art tools and materials. **Topics Covered:** Drawing, Zentangles, PlasterKraft/ Sculpture, Painting, Clay, Artists and their works of art

### **Art 8**

#### **Course Description:**

In this course, we delve even deeper into the student's creativity and self-expression. We continue to cover famous artists and art history while exploring different mediums that will allow students to create their own works of art. Students are encouraged to develop their talents even further than last year. **Topics Covered:** Drawing, Painting, Zentangles, Recycled Sculpture, Marker, Artists and their works of art

### **Ceramics**

**Credits:** 0.5

**Course Description:** This course would be using low fire clay and glazes. Students would explore multiple building techniques including, but not limited to, hand, slab, and coil building as well as wheel throwing on the potter's wheel. Students will learn about different glaze and surface application techniques.

### **Art 1**

**Credits:** 0.50

**Course Description:** This course introduces basic skill sets around drawing, painting, and sculpture. Several examples of projects would include acrylic paintings, graphite drawings, and found object sculptures. Grading would stem from ceramic projects produced by the student and would be focused more on participating and willingness to try new techniques than craftsmanship.

## **Art 2**

**Credits:** 0.50

**Course Description:** A prerequisite for this course would be Art 1. Students will investigate more advanced art mediums like stained glass and mosaics, oil painting, charcoal drawing, and subtractive sculpture. Grading would stem from works of art produced by the student and would be focused more on skill and technique.

## **Art History**

**Credits:** 0.5

**Course Description:** Students will be introduced to art styles and influential artists. Students will be expected to understand the cultural context of the style of art, how it influenced future art, and general details of the artists associated most famously with the style. Grading would be two elements; tests or written class assignments, presentations and a final work of art that is inspired by their favorite style or artists.

## **Music 7**

### **Course Description:**

This 45 day, rotating course will allow students to explore two of the most widely used instruments: guitar and piano. The students will learn about the way these instruments create sound, and will play simple songs that showcase various techniques. They should expect to gain an appreciation for professional musicians, as well as a respect for music itself.

### **Topics Covered:**

Melody, harmony, chordal structure, limited music theory, tuning, instrument maintenance, practice techniques, playing techniques, performance, note reading (treble and bass clef).

## **Music 8**

### **Course Description:**

This nine week course will be an extension of the concepts learned in 7th grade music. The students should be able to play more difficult songs on the guitar and/or the piano. They will also explore music composition by using the computer mixing program, Music Creator 5. Students may also have the opportunity to record their performances.

### **Topics Covered:**

Melody, harmony, chordal structure, tuning, instrument maintenance, practice techniques, playing techniques, performance, note reading (treble and bass clef), TAB, fingerstyle picking, more advanced music theory, composition.

## **Band**

**Prerequisite Course:** None--musical experience recommended

**Credits:** 0.50 (year-long course)

### **Course Description:**

During this year-long course students will learn music of different genres. They will learn music written specifically for a concert ensemble. Styles will include both standard band literature, and adaptations of recent popular hits. Students will learn how to balance their sound and produce the proper tone for an indoor ensemble. They will also perform concerts in the fall and spring.

Students will be expected to attend private or small group lesson sessions, as well as each concert. Students will also be expected to arrive on time for class, bring all their materials (instrument, music, pencil, extra reeds, valve oil, etc.), and help set up/tear down the room for rehearsals. At times, there will be extra assignments that will be posted to the teacher webpage which will need to be completed.

### **Topics Covered:**

Note reading (treble and bass clef), rhythm, dynamics, tempo, form, chordal structure, theory, tuning, tone quality/timbre, style, articulation, how to listen, teamwork, performance.

## **Chorus**

**Prerequisite Course:** None

**Credits:** 0.50 (year-long)

### **Course Description:**

Students will attend Chorus for an entire year. They will learn a variety of songs that may cover several centuries. Students will be challenged to learn pieces that are multi-part, and cover a large range. They will learn how to listen across the group and to the accompaniment parts (if available) in order to determine the importance of their own vocal part. They will perform a concert in the fall and spring, which they are required to attend.

Students may be expected to attend private or small group lesson sessions. Students will also be expected to arrive on time for class, bring all their materials (music, water bottle, pencil, etc.), and help set up/tear down the room for



rehearsals. Students will also be required to utilize the recordings provided on the teacher webpage. This may be shown by a sign-in or a response section.

**Topics Covered:**

Vocal health, breathing, phrasing, dynamics, rhythm, note reading (treble and bass clef), tempo, chord structure, music theory, articulation, tone quality/timbre, teamwork, performance, listening skills, style.

**Elective Ensemble**

**Credits:** 0.25

**Course Description:**

The primary goal of this course is to teach students authentic, performance-based musical

skills. Ensemble and solo activities are designed to develop elements of musicianship

including, but not limited to, (1) tone production, (2) technical skills, (3) intonation, (4) music

reading skills, (5) listening skills, (6) analyzing music, (7) blending sounds, (8) articulation, (9)

phrasing, and (10) studying historically significant styles of music literature.

This is a performance ensemble that should expect to present their work before an audience.

Exact Ensemble configuration may vary. Ensembles can include, but are not limited to: percussion ensemble, brass ensemble, woodwind ensemble, trumpet ensemble, etc.

**Music Theory**

**Credits:** 0.25

**Course Description:**

The Music Theory course is designed to enhance music skills and basic music fundamentals.

The essential aspects of melody, harmony, rhythm, and form are studied.

Throughout the

course, the students will study concepts such as: basic notation, scales, key signatures,

intervals, triads, cadences, non-chord tones, form, part-writing and analysis of a score. Aural

dictation and ear training are also an integral part of the course and will be taught throughout

the year. Individual creativity is nurtured through both rhythmic and melodic composition.

## **Library 7**

### **Course Description:**

Students will start to build a foundation in Library Science class. Students will select appropriate resources that will relate to a topic and compile notes; write a 2 page research paper in MLA format complete with Works Cited page and turn in to the Library Department.

**Main Topics Covered:** Plagiarism, MLA research and writing formats.

## **Library 8**

### **Course Description:**

Students will build upon the skills they learned in prior Library Science classes. As collaboration with the Science Department, students will select appropriate resources that will relate to a topic from their History class and compile notes; write a 3 page research paper in MLA format complete with Works Cited page and turn in a copy to both the Library and the History Departments

**Main Topics Covered:** Plagiarism, MLA research and writing formats

## **Library Science /Information Resources**

**Credits:** 0.50 credits

### **Course Description:**

This course is conducted in part as a lecture-type environment. Students will use both quantitative and qualitative methods (i.e. action research, human information behavior and statistical analysis of database results) in identifying and evaluating information including use of online databases, print materials, personal information retrieval techniques, and Internet navigation. Annotated bibliographies will be created to assess student understanding of resource materials. **Main Topics**

**Covered:** MLA, APA citation formats, plagiarism, annotated bibliographies, rubric creation.

## **Guidance 7**

### **Course Description:**

The Botvin *LifeSkills Training* Middle School program is a groundbreaking substance abuse and violence prevention program based on more than 35 years of rigorous scientific research. Proven to be the most effective evidence-based program used in schools today, *LifeSkills Training* is comprehensive, dynamic, and developmentally

designed to promote mental health and positive youth development. In addition to helping kids resist drug, alcohol, and tobacco use, the *LifeSkills Training* Middle School program also effectively supports the reduction of violence and other high-risk behaviors. **7th grade students will start at Foundation Level 1.** This program is aligned to the National Health Education standards and to CASEL's social and emotional learning (SEL) competencies.

#### Program Learning Objectives for Guidance 7/8/9

- **Personal Self-Management Skills** – Students develop skills that help them enhance self-esteem, develop problem-solving abilities, reduce stress and anxiety, and manage anger for better mental health.
- **General Social Skills** – Students gain skills to meet personal challenges such as overcoming shyness, communicating clearly, building relationships, and avoiding violence.
- **Drug Resistance Skills** – Students build effective defenses against pressures to use tobacco, alcohol, and other drugs.

### **Guidance 8**

#### **Course Description:**

The Botvin *LifeSkills Training* Middle School program is a groundbreaking substance abuse and violence prevention program based on more than 35 years of rigorous scientific research. Proven to be the most effective evidence-based program used in schools today, *LifeSkills Training* is comprehensive, dynamic, and developmentally designed to promote mental health and positive youth development. In addition to helping kids resist drug, alcohol, and tobacco use, the *LifeSkills Training* Middle School program also effectively supports the reduction of violence and other high-risk behaviors. **8th grade students will start at Foundation Level 2.** This program is aligned to the National Health Education standards and to CASEL's social and emotional learning (SEL) competencies.

### **Guidance 9**

**Course Description:** The Botvin *LifeSkills Training* Middle School program is a groundbreaking substance abuse and violence prevention program based on more than 35 years of rigorous scientific research. Proven to be the most effective evidence-based program used in schools today, *LifeSkills Training* is comprehensive, dynamic, and developmentally designed to promote mental health and positive youth development. In addition to helping kids resist drug, alcohol, and tobacco use, the *LifeSkills Training* Middle School program also effectively supports the reduction of violence and other high-risk behaviors. **9th grade students will start at Foundation Level 3.** This program is aligned to the National Health Education standards and to CASEL's social and emotional learning (SEL) competencies.

**In addition the following topics will be covered:** Free Application for Federal Student Aid, Federal Student Aid ID, College Entrance Exams (SAT & ACT), Scholarship Searches, [www.raise.me](http://www.raise.me) website, College Application Process, Financial Aid Programs (Federal and State), College Award Letter Comparison

## **Computer 7**

### **Course Description:**

Keyboarding is offered to students at the junior high level in such a manner as to improve their efficiency and accuracy in using the computers and other devices with keyboards. This is a skill that almost everyone must use at one time or another--in school, on the job, and at home. The alphabet and finger arrangement is the same on nearly all keyboards; therefore, skills acquired in the class will transfer directly to other devices. Upon completion of the course, the student will have a solid base upon which further skills can be readily built. Course uses both textbook and computerized instruction.

**Topics Covered:** Alphabetic, punctuation, and number keys.

## **Computer 8**

**Prerequisite Course:** Computer 7

### **Course Description:**

1. This course introduces students to the touch operation of keyboard characters through the use of computer software. Focus of the course is the development of accuracy and speed at the keyboard.
2. Code.org® is a nonprofit dedicated to expanding access to computer science in schools and increasing participation by women and underrepresented minorities. Our vision is that every student in every school has the opportunity to learn computer science, just like biology, chemistry or algebra. Code.org provides the leading curriculum for K-12 computer science in the largest school districts in the United States.

**Topics Covered:** Alphanumeric keyboard, punctuation, proofreader marks, any/all 8th grade computing needs, coding, while/until loops, if/else loops, nested loops, sprites, text boxes, conditions, and functions

## **Intro to Coding**

**Prerequisite Course:** Computers 8

**Credits:** 0.65

**College Credits Available:** Pennsylvania Highlands

**Course Description:**

1. This course introduces students to Web Design. The students will learn HTML, also known as HyperText Markup Language, Python and JAVA. The students will also be working on the district web page in this class.
2. This course will have the students work on the District Web Page.

**Topics Covered:** Using the three languages–HTML, Python and JAVA–students will use Top Down Design, functions, loops, comments, if/else statements, links, tables, CSS, images, DNS, Internet Addresses, routing, editing district web page

**Google Applications**

**Prerequisite Course:** Computer 7 & 8

**Credits:** 0.50

**Course Description:**

This course will focus on Google Apps. Google Apps uses school and workplace themes to introduce students to the basics of Google's productivity apps: Gmail, Docs, Sheets, Slides, Forms, Drawings, and Sites. This class is segmented into hands-on lessons that instantly engage today's interactive, visual learner.

**Topics Covered:** Digital Citizenship and Technology Readiness will also be taught using Docs, Sheets, Slides, Forms, Drawings and Sites.

**Microcomputer Applications**

**Prerequisite Course:** Computers 8/9

**Credits:** 0.65

**College Credits Available:** Pennsylvania Highlands

**Course Description:**

This hands-on course introduces the student to the more popular microcomputer software packages available including Windows, word processing, spreadsheets, and presentations. This course provides students with a working knowledge of these software packages to accomplish the more common tasks. The Microsoft Office suite, MS Word, MS Excel and MS PowerPoint is used.

**Topics Covered:** Word-Creating a document, Selecting and Editing, Formatting Characters, Writing Tools, Formatting Paragraphs, Tabs, Move and Copy, Find and Replace, Margins and Printing, Page/Section Breaks, Page Numbers, Headers and Footers, Styles, Themes, Tables, Graphics, Columns, Charts Excel-Workbooks, Editing and Style Tools, Tab Commands, Exploring Formulas, Functions, Logical and Financial Functions, Rounding and Nesting Functions, Charts PowerPoint-

Presentation Text, Revising, Graphics, Tables, Charts, Diagrams, SmartArt, Original Illustrations

### **Accounting 1**

**Credits:** 0.50

**Course Description:** Accounting 1 thoroughly prepares first-year accounting students for the future. It exposes them to the entire accounting cycle for a variety of business situations. It covers the complete accounting cycles for two of the three major business organizations: sole proprietorships, partnerships, and corporations. This course teaches students the basic accounting practices and procedures for operating a business. Concepts taught include journalizing and posting transactions, preparation of financial statements, petty cash, and payroll. In addition, students will learn about ethics and social responsibility.

### **Technology Education 7 (Wood Technology) 9-weeks:**

#### **Course Description:**

In this course students will learn how to use some of the wood working tools and equipment as they are introduced to the safe and proper procedures needed to operate the equipment. This is an introductory course that will require the students to be involved in the hands-on activities and learning experiences needed to create a small wooden bluebird birdhouse, while the main focus is on wood shop safety. Students must also learn how to accurately measure to the nearest 1/16" as they measure, mark and cut the different pieces for the birdhouse project.

### **Technology Education 8 (Intro to CAD) 9-Weeks:**

#### **Course Description:**

In this course students will be introduced to the CAD software, Autodesk Inventor, as they learn how to use the computers to develop and design Part models, assemblies, and technical drawings necessary to manufacture a component. Students will explore the three dimensional design software and learn the different techniques and software capabilities. This course will be one of the prerequisites for the Advanced Manufacturing Elective Course.

### **CADD I:**

**Credits:** 0.50

**Course Description:**

Students in this course will start with the basics of Computer Aided Design (CAD) and progress into the more complex functions of the Autodesk Inventor Software. This is an intermediate level CAD course where students will spend more time learning how to properly design and create 3-Dimensional part files of basic and complex parts. After learning individual part design, students will progress to assembly drawings where two or more parts are assembled together to make up a sub-system or overall system of a design. Finally, students will learn how to create highly detailed Technical Drawings, which are necessary for the manufacturing of any given part design. If time permits, students may also be introduced into Computer Assisted Manufacturing (CAM) as an introduction into the Computer Numerical Controlled (CNC) manufacturing of the parts.

**Advanced Manufacturing Elective (Wood Design & Development):**

**Credits:** 0.50

**Prerequisites:** "Wood Technology"

**Course Description:**

In this course students will use what they have learned in the prerequisite class (Wood Technology) to manufacture the wooden parts for a mission style rocking chair. The safe and proper procedures will be used and expanded to other wood-working machines required to manufacture the different parts. Students will be instructed how to create the specific CAD part files and technical drawings for this project. Students will be shown the entire process from the CAD drawings to the manufacturing and finishing of the wooden project. Students may also have the opportunity for an enrichment activity where they will use the laser engraver to customize parts of the rocking chair project.

**Research & Design 11 th - 12 th Grade Elective (Independent Projects) 18-Weeks:**

**Credits:** 0.50

**Prerequisites:** "Wood Technology" and "Intro to CAD" classes (Lab Fee dependent upon project selection)

**Course Description:**

In this course students will be required to have taken both prerequisite courses as they research and select a wooden project to draw with the CAD software, then proceed into the manufacturing of the wooden parts of their design. Students must have a strong understanding of the woodworking machines and the safe and proper use, as they will set up and use the equipment to create their project. This course will be challenging, yet rewarding for the student as they will have more options in selecting the wood working project. Projects will need to be selected based on the limitations of the wood shop equipment, the complexity of the design, time required

to complete, and may also require a lab fee to purchase special hardware or materials that are not typically provided.

## **Physical Education & Health**

### **Physical Education Grades 7 & 8**

#### **Course Description:**

The physical education program in the 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grades is designed to improve the overall physical fitness of the students and to develop basic skills. The students learn how physical activity can contribute to their well-being throughout their lives by helping them to acquire knowledge, sportsmanship, attitudes, and skills involved in recreational activities. Seventh graders are exposed to lifetime sports and team sports. **Topics Covered:** Wellness, football, hockey, soccer, softball, Ultimate Frisbee, Speedball, Gatorball, Badminton, Pickleball, Pilo Hockey, Volleyball, Eclipse Ball, Track and Field..

### **Physical Education grades 9, 10, 11, and 12**

#### **Lifetime Sports and Team sports**

**Credits:** 0.25 – 1.0

#### **Course Description:**

The physical education program is designed to improve the overall physical fitness of the students and to develop basic skills. The students learn how physical activity can contribute to their well-being throughout their lives by helping them to acquire knowledge, sportsmanship, attitudes, and skills involved in recreational activities. 1.00<sup>th</sup> graders are exposed to lifetime sports and team sports. **Topics Covered:** Specific units for the 1.00<sup>th</sup> grade physical education program include Wellness, football, hockey, soccer, softball, Ultimate Frisbee, Speedball, Gatorball, Badminton, Pickleball, Pilo Hockey, Volleyball, Eclipse Ball, Track and Field..

### **Health 7**

**Course Description:** The course is broken into three separate health units. Students are introduced to health & wellness, human growth & reproduction, and diseases and disorders units during their 45-day class rotation. This course emphasizes the importance of understanding the dangers teenagers face throughout their lifetimes and creating decision making skills. In order for students to make life-long decisions regarding their own individual healthy lifestyle, current topics



are always discussed. Topics discussed during this class will include, but are not limited to, the following: components of the health triangle, wellness, goal setting, stress, male and female reproductive systems, sexually transmitted diseases, and HIV/AIDS.

## **Health 8**

**Course Description:** This course focuses on diet and nutrition, CPR/First Aid, and mental health during their 45-day class rotation. This course emphasizes the importance of creating a healthy eating pattern to maintain health and reduce the risk of disease. Everything we eat and drink — the food and beverage choices we make day to day and over our lifetime — matters. Students will demonstrate understanding of hands-only CPR, practicing on individual mannequins, the Heimlich Maneuver, and basic first-aid techniques. Current topics may also be discussed as deemed necessary.

<h2><b>Foreign Language</b></h2>
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### **Exploratory Spanish**

**Course Description:**

This 9-week introductory course will cover the following topics:

- Communicate with basic Spanish vocab
- Communicate in Spanish about everyday routines, discuss celebrations and holidays, school related topics, and shopping.
- Describe natural events and accidents.
- Compare food and programs
- Discuss everyday life
- Discuss events
- Debate current events
- Communicate opinions
- Making plans for dining out and ordering
- Plan a trip
- Communicate in Spanish about everyday routines, discuss cultures(present and past), famous artists and authors, sports, family and friends, relationships, careers, job applications, volunteering, and myths.

### **Spanish I**

**Credits: 1.0**

**Course Description:**

This class is an intro to Spanish. The objective is to give students an understanding and appreciation of foreign languages. Throughout the year we will focus on the five C's: **communicating** in Spanish, discussing the **culture** of Spanish speaking countries, **connecting** the studying of Spanish to other subject areas, **comparing** Spanish to the students' native language, and connecting Spanish to the **community**.

**Topics Covered:** This will be addressed by studying basic vocabulary themes such as: numbers, greetings, time, dates, colors, people, verbs, adjectives, nouns, countries, food, school, spelling, sports, pastime activities, shopping, weather, buildings, and families. We will also compare Spanish grammar to English grammar by studying verbs (present tense), adjectives, and nouns. As a result of studying the vocabulary and grammar the students will be able to develop conversations in Spanish, write in Spanish (limited-present tense), listen to Spanish, and read Spanish. They will demonstrate this by skits, reading lessons, writing lessons, research projects, tests, quizzes, homework, and listening comprehension exercises.

**Spanish II**

**Prerequisite Course:** Spanish I

**Credits:** 1.0

**Course Description:**

This class is a continuation of the previous year. The objective is to expand on the foundations set from the first year of Spanish and to further develop an understanding and appreciation for foreign languages. Throughout the year we will continue to focus on the five C's: **communicating** in Spanish, discussing the **culture** of Spanish speaking countries, **connecting** the studying of Spanish to other subject areas, **comparing** Spanish to the students' native tongue, and connecting Spanish to the **community**.

**Topics Covered:** This will be addressed by reviewing basic and key points from Spanish I and studying basic vocabulary themes such as: nationalities, school, home, pass time activities, food, geography, locations, sports, ordinal/cardinal numbers, travel, hygiene, and shopping. We will continue to compare Spanish grammar to English grammar by studying verbs (present tense, past tense, future tense, commands, and reflexive), adjectives, nouns, pronouns, direct objects, and indirect objects. As a result of studying the vocabulary and grammar the students will be able to develop more detailed conversations in Spanish, write in Spanish, listen to and read Spanish. They will demonstrate this by skits, reading lessons, writing lessons, research projects, tests, quizzes, homework, and listening comprehension exercises.

**Spanish III**

**Prerequisite Course:** Spanish I & II

**Credits:** 1.3

**College Credits Available:** St. Francis University

**Course Description:**

This class is a continuation of the previous year. The objective is to expand on the foundations set from the first and second years of Spanish and to further develop an understanding and appreciation for foreign languages. Throughout the year we will continue to focus on the five C's: **communicating** in Spanish, discussing the **culture** of Spanish speaking countries, **connecting** the studying of Spanish to other subject areas, **comparing** Spanish to the students' native tongue, and connecting Spanish to the **community**.

**Topics Covered:** This will be addressed by reviewing basic and key points from Spanish I and II and studying basic vocabulary themes such as: food, hygiene, health, communication, weather, entertainment, music, art, geography, celebrations/holidays, archeology, news, current events, and animals. We will continue to compare Spanish grammar to English grammar by studying verbs (present tense, past tense, future tense, commands, and reflexive, progressive, conditional, and subjunctive), adjectives, nouns, pronouns, direct objects, and indirect objects. As a result of studying the vocabulary and grammar the students will be able to develop more detailed conversations in Spanish, write in Spanish, listen to and read Spanish. They will demonstrate this by skits, reading lessons, writing lessons, research projects, tests, quizzes, homework, and listening comprehension exercises

## **Spanish IV**

**Prerequisite Course:** Spanish I, II, and III

**Credits:** 1.3

**College Credits Available:** St. Francis University

**Course Description:**

This class is a continuation of the previous year. The objective is to expand on the foundations set from the first, second, and third years of Spanish and to further develop an understanding and appreciation for foreign languages. Throughout the year we will continue to focus on the five C's: **communicating** in Spanish, discussing the **culture** of Spanish speaking countries, **connecting** the studying of Spanish to other subject areas, **comparing** Spanish to the students' native tongue, and connecting Spanish to the **community**. This will be addressed by reviewing basic and key points from Spanish I, Spanish II, and Spanish III, and studying basic vocabulary themes such as: current events, entertainment, animals, holidays/traditions, travel, ancient civilizations, art, music, literature, and geography. We will continue to compare Spanish grammar to English grammar by studying verbs (present tense, past tense, future tense, commands, reflexive, progressive, conditional, and subjunctive), adjectives, nouns, pronouns, direct objects, and indirect objects. As a result of studying the vocabulary and grammar the students will be able to develop greater detailed conversations (proficient level) in

Spanish, write in Spanish, listen to and read Spanish. They will demonstrate this by skits, reading lessons, writing lessons, research projects, tests, quizzes, homework, and listening comprehension exercises

**Topics Covered:** This will be addressed by reviewing basic and key points from Spanish I, Spanish II, and Spanish III, and studying basic vocabulary themes such as: current events, entertainment, animals, holidays/traditions, travel, ancient civilizations, art, music, literature, and geography. We will continue to compare Spanish grammar to English grammar by studying verbs (present tense, past tense, future tense, commands, reflexive, progressive, conditional, and subjunctive), adjectives, nouns, pronouns, direct objects, and indirect objects. As a result of studying the vocabulary and grammar the students will be able to develop greater detailed conversations (proficient level) in Spanish, write in Spanish, listen to and read Spanish. They will demonstrate this by skits, reading lessons, writing lessons, research projects, tests, quizzes, homework, and listening comprehension exercises.