

Okemos High School

COURSE DESCRIPTION GUIDE



2024-2025

Table of Contents

Business and Computer Education	2
English	5
Fine Arts - Music	10
Fine Arts - Visual	14
Life Management Education	18
Mathematics	19
Physical Education	24
Science	26
Social Studies	30
Special Education	33
Technology Education	34
World Language	36
Wilson Talent Center	40
Graduation Requirements	42

The high school administration reserves the right to alter the schedule of classes and to limit class size to ensure safety and to facilitate optimal instructional conditions. Courses will be offered on student interest and staff availability. Thus, not all courses listed in this catalog will be offered each year.

BUSINESS AND COMPUTER EDUCATION

Courses in this section apply toward the 1 credit of Visual, Performing, or Applied Arts required for graduation.

BUSINESS

COURSE: Accounting
FOR: 10/11/12
CREDIT: ½ Elective or Math Related Credit
PREREQUISITES: None

Students learn basic accounting principles and apply these principles to various business simulations and other accounting projects. This course covers the entire accounting cycle and the necessary information to handle most of the record keeping skills in today's accounting atmosphere. Students will also apply the skills they learn through serving as the accountant in practice sets to simulate business events and transactions as they occur. Automated Accounting Software will be used to simulate business events and transactions. The Internet will be used as a research tool for accounting projects. This course is designed to prepare the student who is entering the business field in college or the student who is seeking an entry-level position in the accounting field.

COURSE: Personal Finance
FOR: 9/10/11/12
CREDIT: ½ Elective or Math Related Credit
PREREQUISITES: None

It is essential in today's economic climate to have a good working knowledge of the fundamentals of personal finance. Today's teenagers, in adulthood, will be required to take more personal responsibility for actively managing their finances than people of any previous generation. The corporate pension plans and generous employee benefits enjoyed by the parents of today's youth likely will not exist, and saving for long-term goals, such as retirement, will be up to each individual. Those who understand financial planning concepts and investment principles will have a significant advantage over those who do not. This course will teach the basic concepts of personal finance using a practical approach. Students will identify and prioritize their personal money management goals, develop a working spending plan, complete actual state and federal tax forms, become aware of banking and credit card fraud and learn how to avoid becoming a victim, learn about the impact of time on money, understand the costs of credit, and learn to use credit cards wisely, learn to protect their assets through savings and investments, and how to avoid risk by purchasing the proper types of insurance. They will also learn to become wise consumers when considering purchasing a home, car, food, clothing, etc. Students will do research online, play the stock market game, and compile an individual financial planning notebook.

COURSE: Investing 101
FOR: 9/10/11/12
CREDIT: ½ Elective or Math Related Credit
PREREQUISITES: None

Investing 101 is designed to introduce students to personal investment options. The course will delve into topics involving investing and savings, and familiarize them with key investment terminology. The course consists of five units: savings and understanding the difference between saving and investing; understanding a variety of investments with particular emphasis on the stock market: mutual funds: investing for retirement (social security, traditional IRAs, pension plans, Roth IRAs, 401K/403B, Roth 401K): and the role of the Federal Reserve. The intent of the course is to help students understand the investing process, understand the basic tools of investing, and give practical experience in establishing and monitoring a portfolio.

COURSE: **Entrepreneurship**
FOR: 10/11/12
CREDIT: ½
PREREQUISITES: None

Running the OHS Spirit Shop provides an intensive, hands-on approach to entrepreneurship. Actual products are marketed in the store environment. Marketing skills such as economics, entrepreneurship, sales, promotion, display, buying, human relations, accounting, and inventory control are acquired in the classroom setting. Students are encouraged to work together as they rotate through the various store positions helping to foster qualities such as leadership, resourcefulness, initiative, and teamwork. May be repeated for credit.

COMPUTER EDUCATION

COURSE: **Advanced Placement Computer Science**
FOR: 10/11/12
CREDIT: 1 Elective or Math Related Credit
PREREQUISITES: Successful completion of Algebra II, good working knowledge of computers and software, teacher approval

AP Computer Science teaches the fundamentals of computer science with an emphasis on programming in Java. This class is intended for the student who has a strong interest in computer programming and the desire to learn the concepts, the functions, and the implementation of different computer ideas. These concepts will include the study of fundamental operators, decision-making processes, strings, data handling, structures, Java Events, recursion, and common algorithms.

COURSE: **Advanced Placement Computer Science Principles**
FOR: 10/11/12
CREDIT: 1 Elective or Math Related Credit
PREREQUISITES: Successful completion of Algebra I, good working knowledge of computers and software, teacher approval

AP Computer Science Principles offers a multidisciplinary approach to teaching the underlying principles of computation. The course will introduce students to the creative aspects of programming, abstractions, algorithms, large data sets, the Internet, cybersecurity concerns, and computing impacts. AP Computer Science Principles gives students the opportunity to use technology to address real-world problems and build relevant solutions. Together, these aspects of the course make up a rigorous and rich curriculum that aims to broaden participation in computer science.

COURSE: **Python**
FOR: 9/10/11/12
CREDIT: ½ Elective or Math Related Credit
PREREQUISITES: Knowledge of Computers

This course offers an introduction to computer science. Students will learn the basics of computer programming in Python. Python is a general-purpose programming language great for beginners. It is syntax friendly and quite powerful. Python is used by many large organizations, including Google and NASA, to do just about everything, including building apps, analyzing data, and system administration. The materials in this course will emphasize computational thinking and help develop the ability to solve complex problems. The course covers the basic building blocks of programming along with other central elements of computer science. At many universities, Python is the introductory course and this class will give students the tools they will need to be successful after high school.

COURSE: **Computer Technology**
FOR: 10/11/12
CREDIT: ½ Elective or Math Related Credit
PREREQUISITES: Keyboarding or knowledge of the keyboard suggested

Computer Technology is a hands-on course in which students will understand, explore, and master the most up-to-date computer concepts. Students will also learn how to take apart a PC and update different parts of the CPU including memory, RAM, hard drive, etc. During the semester, students will learn how to utilize online applications, open source software, iPad/iPhone Apps, and Google Apps that are located in the Google Apps Store. This course is great for the student that is interested in the latest and greatest applications that are currently available online.

COURSE: **AI Assisted Programming**
FOR: 9/10/11/12
CREDIT: 1/2
PREREQUISITES: None

This course combines traditional programming with cutting-edge AI tools. It provides personalized learning experiences, adjusting to each student's proficiency level. With AI assistance, students will learn Python programming concepts. Advanced learners tackle complex topics, while beginners receive tailored support to establish a strong foundation. Through adaptive learning models and real-time assistance, students will gain problem-solving skills crucial for programming success.

ENGLISH

Complete reading lists for each course listed in the English Department are available from the teacher of the course and will be distributed to parents/guardians at Open House each fall.

COURSE: **Literature and Composition 9**
FOR: 9
CREDIT: 1 NCAA Credit
PREREQUISITES: This course is required of all 9th grade students

Literature and Composition 9 approaches literature both thematically and by genre. Major topics are the journey through life, coming of age, and cultural diversity. Course texts will include the anthology *Fresh Ink*, *The Odyssey*, *A Raisin in the Sun*, and additional texts chosen by teacher discretion from the following: *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Nighttime*, *A Step from Heaven*, *To Kill a Mockingbird*, *March*. Various writing experiences and projects are part of this course (such as creative, expository, and reflective writing). Information gathering through libraries and databases, along with English usage instruction, are also covered.

COURSE: **Literature and Composition 10**
FOR: 10
CREDIT: 1 NCAA Credit
PREREQUISITES: Lit/Comp 9
This course is required of all tenth grade students

This course focuses on applying and expanding concepts introduced in Literature and Composition 9. Students will be asked to produce a wide variety of written products (including creative, expository, research, and reflective writing). These products will demonstrate an understanding of traditional and contemporary literature as well as modern media. Course texts may include *Of Mice and Men*, a Shakespearean text (*Much Ado About Nothing* or *Julius Caesar*), one of the following: *The Hate U Give*, *Dear Martin*, or *Persepolis*, along with other texts and/or literature circles at the teacher's discretion.

COURSE: **Reading, Writing, and Reflecting**
FOR: 11
CREDIT: 1 NCAA Credit
PREREQUISITES: Lit./Comp.10

This course will offer a study of literature and writing for students planning to attend a two-year or four-year college. The curriculum is appropriate for students who want to read contemporary literature and who are seeking intensive, individualized writing instruction. Writers in this class explore a variety of genres ranging from journaling to poetry, personal narratives, and short stories. Students can expect to write daily and will reflect regularly on their own growth as writers throughout the course. Course readings center on reasons to write and the writer's journey; they may include works such as *The House on Mango Street* and *On Writing*.

COURSE: **American Literature**
FOR: 11/12
CREDIT: 1 NCAA Credit
PREREQUISITES: Lit./Comp 9 and Lit./Comp 10.
This elective is designed for college bound students

This course offers a comprehensive study of American literature from pre-colonial times to the present. In addition to reading poems, stories, essays, and novels, students can expect to be challenged by the material and the assignments which include essay writing, class presentations, and essay testing. Texts for this course may include *The Great Gatsby*, *The Firekeeper's Daughter*, *Their Eyes Were Watching God*, *The Crucible*, *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*, *The Scarlet Letter*, *A Prayer for Owen Meany* and other novels and several supplemental shorter works. Daily discussion and preparation for class are expected.

COURSE: **British Literature**
FOR: 11/12
CREDIT: 1 NCAA Credit
PREREQUISITES: Lit/Comp 9 and Lit/Comp 10 or American Literature
This elective is designed for college bound students.

This course offers a humanities based approach to the study of British Literature; historical facts, religious trends, art, music, and ideas which correspond to the various literary movements. The emphasis is on group projects and preparation for college writing assignments. This course covers topics and texts such as *Beowulf*, an intensive study of Shakespeare, the Enlightenment, Romantic Poetry, along with Victorian, Edwardian, 20th Century, and post colonial literature. This course will also emphasize the emergence of the novel as a genre. Daily discussion and preparation for class are expected.

SENIOR COURSE OPTIONS

Senior English credit can be earned with the following courses:

1 full year course: American Literature (in 12th grade), British Literature (in 12th grade), Advanced Placement Literature, Journalism (in 12th grade)
OR two ½ year courses: College Prep. Expository Writing, Creative Writing, Grammar and the English Language, Impact of Non-Fiction, Contemporary Literature

COURSE: **College Prep. Expository Writing**
FOR: 12
CREDIT: ½ NCAA Credit
PREREQUISITES: Freshman and sophomore English credit and (or concurrent with) junior English credit

Expository Writing is writing that informs the reader—it defines, it explains, it illustrates. Students will study, practice, and refine writing skills, including sentence variety, rhetorical techniques, grammar and punctuation, introductions and conclusions, effective use of description and narration, research skills—including framing research questions and finding relevant resources, evaluating sources, integrating many sources into one document, and reviewing MLA documentation format—and the different types of arguments and their components.

COURSE: **Creative Writing**
FOR: 12
CREDIT: ½ NCAA Credit
PREREQUISITES: Freshman and sophomore English credit and (or concurrent with) junior English credit

This class will provide models, instruction, and experiences in a variety of creative writing genres, including poetry, creative nonfiction, and short stories. Students enrolling in this course should plan to write every day. This course is designed for those students who really enjoy writing.

COURSE: **Grammar and the English Language**
FOR: 12
CREDIT: ½ NCAA Credit
PREREQUISITES: Freshman and sophomore English credit and (or concurrent with) junior English credit

This elective course focuses on grammar, mechanics, usage, rhetoric, American English dialects, and linguistics. Additionally, students will consider the ways in which code-switching, register shifting, and rhetorical choices affect written and verbal expression from primary sources and current media. This course is designed for students who want to refine their writing; investigate the history, structure, and power of the English language; and explore how language and culture intersect.

COURSE: **Contemporary Literature**
FOR: 12
CREDIT: ½ NCAA Credit
PREREQUISITES: Freshman and sophomore English credit and (or concurrent with) junior English credit

This course will center on outstanding and award-winning contemporary literature reflecting several genres. A variety of books will stimulate exploration, discussion, and reflection of themes in relation to social justice and current issues. Students will reflect on the reading material using group discussions, literary circles, creative projects, analytical essays, book reviews and journal entries. The course is designed for students who enjoy reading and are willing to stretch their present scope of literary taste. Selections will vary from year to year, but may include the following: *The Kite Runner*, *About a Boy*, *Wit*, *The Lovely Bones*, *The House on Mango Street*, *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone*, *City of Thieves*, *Looking for Alaska*, *The Perks of Being a Wallflower*, *The Hunger Games*, and *Where'd You Go, Bernadette*, and choice novels.

COURSE: **Impact of Non-Fiction**
FOR: 12
CREDIT: ½ NCAA Credit
PREREQUISITES: Freshman and sophomore English credit and (or concurrent with) junior English credit

This English elective focuses on leadership and service, with a strong component of non-fiction literature. Students will read current and traditional texts and watch documentary films that have made an impact on the way we see the world and our responsibilities to the human environment. Books may include *The Glass Castle*, *Tuesdays With Morrie*, *Maus I and II*, *Bringing Down the House*, *Me Talk Pretty One Day*, *Born a Crime*, *Atomic Habits*. Additionally, students may view *Miracle*, *The Bucket List*, *The Pianist*, *The Pursuit of Happyness [sic]*, *Invictus*, *The Social Network*, *Moneyball*, *Hoosiers*, *Remember the Titans*. Students will also participate in and lead daily Energizers, building and practicing leadership skills studied.

COURSE: **Advanced Placement Literature**
FOR: 12 Application Required
CREDIT: 1
PREREQUISITES: American Lit. or British Lit. AP Literature students are required to take the AP Exam. AP students are strongly encouraged to have taken both American and British Literature courses.

Designed for students of superior reading and writing ability and an appreciation for the analysis of literature. Students must go through the application process, which begins in the third term of the previous year. Advanced Placement students should expect to take a regular part in class discussion and in the presentation of material. Regular examinations and essays will prepare the student to take an examination for college credit at the end of the year. The class will proceed at an accelerated pace, and the plays, novels, stories, and poems studied will be consistent with the adult level of reading and analysis that is required of college students.

APPLIED ENGLISH

The following courses do not meet NCAA Clearinghouse requirements. Most colleges will not accept these as English credit and they do not satisfy Okemos High School English graduation requirements.

COURSE: College Preparatory Seminar (CP Seminar)
FOR: 9/10/11/12
CREDIT: ½ Elective Credit

This self-improvement class exposes students to various skills necessary for success in high school. Students will learn study skills, goal-setting methods, test-taking skills, note-taking strategies, time management skills, organizational approaches (a three-ring binder and planner are required), vocabulary, writing revision, and reading comprehension skills in fiction and non-fiction texts. College preparation through Latin and Greek roots, prefixes and suffixes; general higher education information; and SAT/ACT vocabulary and test question examples are also part of the curriculum. Individual student conferences with the teacher are used weekly to monitor grades and discuss specific concerns.

COURSE: Literacy Lab
FOR: 9/10/11/12
CREDIT: ½
PREREQUISITES: Multiple School Based Sources/teacher and counselor recommendation

This class utilizes research-based strategies for developing fluency, comprehension, and word study skills to promote reading and writing independence across content areas. Activities used are student-centered and focused on active student engagement. Regular progress monitoring is used to track student growth. Part of each class period will provide students with teacher-guided time to practice the skills and strategies learned and apply them to their current learning in their general education courses.

COURSE: English as a Second Language
FOR: 9/10/11/12
CREDIT: ½ (May be repeated for credit)
PREREQUISITES: Eligibility determined by faculty assessment

English Language Learners will be assessed for English proficiency at or near the time of registration to determine whether placement in an “English as Second Language” (ESL) class is appropriate. Students enrolled in the ESL class will be permitted to drop the class upon passing an exit exam at the end of a semester.

The ESL Class will be offered on a credit/no credit basis and letter grades will not be issued. The student’s grade-point average is not affected by the credit/no credit designation.

An English Language Learner enrolled in ESL can elect to take all classes on a credit/no credit basis. As with the ESL class, a credit/no credit designation will not affect the student’s grade-point average. To receive a credit, a student must earn a minimum of 60%. A student will be allowed to repeat a course to improve proficiency and/or to earn a letter grade, but credit can only be earned once for the class. The class taken for credit will be replaced on the transcript with the graded class.

If the English Language Learner intends to graduate from Okemos High School, the student must earn 22 credits and satisfy specific OHS course requirements.

COURSE: **Speech**
FOR: 9/10/11/12
CREDIT: ½ Elective Credit
PREREQUISITES: None

This course focuses on communication centering on public speaking and speech writing. Students will study and present a wide array of speeches, including impromptu, informative, oratory/argument, sales, and demonstration speeches. Skills and techniques outside of speaking and writing will focus on calming anxieties related to presentations, body posture, breathing, “blocking,” and memorization techniques (although students will not be required to have their entire speech memorized). Additionally, students will analyze TED talks and other professional/historical speeches.

COURSE: **Exploring Songs as Poetry**
FOR: 11/12
CREDIT: ½ Elective Credit
PREREQUISITES: None

This course delves into the captivating realm of song lyrics, uncovering their poetic essence and literary significance. In this interdisciplinary exploration, we will analyze songs from various genres and eras, treating them as pieces of poetry to decipher the emotions, stories, and themes they convey. Through the analysis of songs, students will not only improve their language and critical thinking skills but also gain insights into the themes of love, identity, and personal growth. This course is open to all juniors and seniors; no prior knowledge of music or poetry is required. Join us on a lyrical journey through the world of songs as poetry and uncover the profound emotions, stories, and messages hidden within the music we love.

COURSE: **Media Studies I**
FOR: 9/10/11/12
CREDIT: ½ Elective Credit
PREREQUISITES: None

This course explores the theories/methods of media and film across industries. Students will work in a shared classroom/studio space, studying the practices of visioning, scripting, storyboarding, casting, directing, filming, and editing to produce a variety of projects throughout the semester. This course may be repeated for credit.

COURSE: **Journalism**
FOR: 10/11/12 Application Required
CREDIT: 1 (can be repeated for credit as Advanced Journalism with teacher approval)
PREREQUISITES: B average or above in English classes

This course focuses on news, feature, advertising, and editorial writing for the OHS student publication, The OHS Press. Students will also use programs for design, editing, layout, photography, and art. Students will be responsible for writing, selling advertisements, and producing print and online publications. This course requires after-school time commitment.

FINE ARTS

MUSIC

Courses in this section apply toward the 1 credit of Visual, Performing, or Applied Arts required for graduation.

Instrumental Music - Band

COURSE: **Freshman Band**
FOR: 9
CREDIT: 1
PREREQUISITES: Approval of instructor

COURSE: **Concert Band**
FOR: 10/11/12
CREDIT: 1
PREREQUISITES: Approval of instructor

COURSE: **Symphonic Wind Ensemble**
FOR: 10/11/12
CREDIT: 1
PREREQUISITES: Audition with instructor

Freshman Band, Concert Band, and Symphonic Wind Ensemble are the three concert band offerings at OHS. These bands combine to form the Okemos High School Marching Band from early August (prior to the start of school) to approximately November 1. The Band program is structured to encourage students involved in athletics and other school activities to participate fully. During the **Marching Season**, the Marching Band learns popular music and traditional Okemos High School tunes in indoor music rehearsals. Specially written drills are learned outdoors on a lined practice field. Music and drill are combined to produce pregame and halftime shows of high caliber. Leadership is developed through the selection of band leaders including: Drum Major, Assistant Drum Major and Color Guard Captain and section leaders, as well as student band staff. Color Guard is open to all band members in grades 9, 10, 11, and 12. Color Guard members are selected by tryout in the spring of the previous school year. Oboe and bassoon players consult with the director for an alternate instrument, usually saxophone or flute. Percussionists audition in the spring to determine instrument assignments in the drum line. Individual responsibility and teamwork are among the qualities emphasized and developed. After school commitments include Pre-Season Drills (a week scheduled prior to the opening of school), Tuesday evening rehearsals during the marching season, home varsity football games, the Grand Ledge Marching Exhibition, and other special performances.

At the conclusion of the marching season, the **Concert Season** begins. Membership in the Concert Band and Symphonic Wind Ensemble is determined by audition for all in 10/11/12 grades. All ensembles rehearse and perform the finest in band literature. All styles of music are studied, including serious, light classic, marches, contemporary and popular. High standards of achievement in the areas of performance, musical knowledge, responsibility, self-discipline, teamwork, and leadership are emphasized and developed. In addition to full band performances, including winter and spring concerts, Fine Arts Festival and band festivals, students have the option of performance opportunities in Okemos Jazz Ensemble, Okemos Jazz Band, Pit Orchestra, various ensembles, and participation in solo and ensemble festivals and honors bands. Many students elect to study privately at this level. However, private lessons are by no means a requirement for participation, nor are they necessary to earn the highest grades.

Selected woodwind, brass and percussion players from the Symphonic Wind Ensemble meet with the string players once during school and once after school each week to form the Philharmonic Orchestra (Full Orchestra). These rehearsals begin at the conclusion of the marching season in November. As a performance based class, attendance is required at public appearances such as home football games, the Grand Ledge Exhibition, winter and spring concerts, band and orchestra festival, and the Fine Arts Festival.

Instrumental Music - Orchestra

COURSE:	Freshman Orchestra
FOR:	9
CREDIT:	1
PREREQUISITES:	Approval of the Instructor

Freshman Orchestra is a year-long course consisting of all 9th grade string players. Freshman Orchestra allows musicians in their first year of the high school orchestra program to rapidly develop and hone their technical and musical skills. Emphasis is placed on advanced technique including 3-octave scales, complex bowings, reading treble clef (viola) and tenor clef (cell/bass), as well as sight reading. Students will study and perform a wide variety of repertoire ranging from popular string arrangements to the classics with a focus on instrument technique, ensemble skills, as well as music theory and history. Students will have the opportunity to experience several performance settings including full ensemble, chamber ensembles, and solos. Freshman Orchestra serves as a key training ground for the Concert and Philharmonic Orchestras. Attendance is required at public appearances such as fall, winter, and spring concerts as well as MSBOA Festival.

COURSE:	Concert Orchestra
FOR:	10/11/12
CREDIT:	1
PREREQUISITES:	Approval of the Instructor

Concert Orchestra is a year-long course open to all 10th, 11th, and 12th grade string players through sign up. Concert Orchestra allows students to continue to develop and hone their musical skills through a wide range of orchestral repertoire ranging from popular string arrangements to the classics with continued focus on instrument technique, ensemble skills, and music theory and history. Students will have the opportunity to experience a variety of performance opportunities including full ensemble, chamber ensembles, and solos. Attendance is required at public appearances such as fall, winter, and spring concerts as well as MSBOA Festival.

COURSE:	Philharmonic Orchestra
FOR:	10/11/12
CREDIT:	1
PREREQUISITES:	Audition with Instructor

Philharmonic Orchestra is a year-long course open to all 10th, 11th, and 12th grade string players with membership through audition only. Philharmonic Orchestra rehearses and performs a wide variety of advanced literature including masterworks by well-known composers. Members are expected to achieve and maintain a high level of proficiency, preparation and performance through a mature rehearsal process. Students will have the opportunity to experience a variety of performance opportunities including full orchestra, chamber ensembles, and solos. In addition to daily rehearsals, Philharmonic Full Orchestra rehearses every Wednesday after school from 2:50-4:30pm beginning in late October. Auditions are held each February for current orchestra members with earned membership the following academic year. Attendance is required at public appearances such as fall, winter, and spring concerts as well as MSBOA Festival.

Vocal Music

COURSE: **Cantus**
FOR: 9/10/11/12
CREDIT: 1
PREREQUISITES: None

Cantus is a year-long course in choral music for all students who are interested in choral singing. No previous singing experience is necessary, and there are no auditions for the choir. Vocal and musical development is achieved through the singing of classical, seasonal, and contemporary music. As a performance based class, attendance is required at public appearances such as fall, winter, and spring concerts, along with Fine Arts Festival Week performances, and Michigan School Vocal Music Association festivals.

COURSE: **Treble Ensemble**
FOR: 9/10/11/12
CREDIT: 1
PREREQUISITES: Audition with instructor

Treble Ensemble is a year-long course, designed to further develop vocal technique and musicianship in treble singers. A variety of classical and contemporary styles of choral music are studied and performed by the group. Many students at this level choose to take private voice lessons. Attendance is required at school and public concerts, as well as at Michigan School Vocal Music Association festivals. Auditions for the Treble Ensemble are held in February for the coming year. As a performance based class, attendance is required at public appearances such as fall, winter and spring concerts, Fine Arts Festival Week Performances, and Michigan School Vocal Music Association festivals.

COURSE: **Chorale**
FOR: 9/10/11/12
CREDIT: 1
PREREQUISITES: Audition with Instructor

Chorale is a year-long course, designed to further develop vocal technique and musicianship. A variety of classical and contemporary styles of choral music are studied and performed by the group. Many students at this level choose to take private voice lessons. Attendance is required at school and public concerts, as well as at Michigan School Vocal Music Association festivals. Auditions for the Chamber Choir are held in February for the coming year. As a performance based class, attendance is required at public appearances such as fall, winter and spring concerts, Fine Arts Festival Week Performances, and Michigan School Vocal Music Association festivals.

COURSE: **Someko Singers**
FOR: 10/11/12
CREDIT: 1
PREREQUISITES: Audition with Instructor

This is a year-long course, focused on the study and performance of musically and vocally demanding choral literature. High standards of achievement are emphasized and developed in the areas of vocal performance, musicianship, responsibility, self-discipline, leadership and teamwork. After-school commitments include school/public concerts and Michigan Schools Vocal Music Association festivals, as well as several performances throughout the greater Lansing area. Many students at this level choose to take private voice lessons. Auditions for the Someko Singers are held in February for the coming year.

General Music Electives:

COURSE: **Fundamental Music for All**
FOR: 9/10/11/12
CREDIT: 1
PREREQUISITES: none

Fundamental Music for All is an inclusive, non-performance based music class offered for students without prior or recent musical experience. Students will gain foundational musical education through participating in daily musical creation and activities. Several musical genres will be explored from around the world and throughout history. Any instruments used in class will be provided by the school.

VISUAL ARTS

Courses in this section apply toward the 1 credit of Visual, Performing, or Applied Arts required for graduation.

COURSE: **Advanced Placement Art**
FOR: 11/12
CREDIT: 1

PREREQUISITES: Juniors and seniors with a strong background in art. Two out of the four of the following classes are required to apply for AP Art: Drawing & Design I, Drawing & Design II, Painting, or Mixed Media. Students must receive an 80% or better in previous art courses to be considered. Drawing II is highly recommended. Students must submit four completed pieces of art with their application.

A full year in AP Studio Art is equivalent to that of an introductory college art course. Students will submit either the Drawing Portfolio or the 2-Dimensional Portfolio to the AP College Board for credit. Each portfolio contains a minimum of 15 pieces of college-level artwork created within the school year. The portfolio addresses the process of using the elements and principles of design. Projects include drawing, painting, collage, and printmaking.

COURSE: **Advanced Senior Art**
FOR: 12
CREDIT: 1
PREREQUISITES: Senior with good art background and departmental approval

A full year course designed for the senior who is interested in a concentrated exposure to art or in developing a personal portfolio. This course accompanies the Advanced Placement course but does not incur the expectations of Advanced Placement as the portfolio of work is not submitted for evaluation or college credit. Two dimensional projects are established and individualized projects may be worked out as well. Full ranges of artistic media are up for consideration.

COURSE: **Computer Arts**
FOR: 9/10/11/12
CREDIT: ½
PREREQUISITES: None

This course is the artistic study of design, advertisement, illustration, and layout using digital media. Adobe Photoshop is the main software used for this class. Computer assignments include digital self-identity collage, digital color wheels, program covers for school events, short children's stories, logo design, typography, and cartooning.

COURSE: **Drawing & Design I**
FOR: 9/10/11/12
CREDIT: ½
PREREQUISITES: None, introductory course

This is an introductory art class that explores the two main areas of art: Drawing and Two Dimensional Design. The drawing projects include portraits, perspective, and still life. The Two Dimensional Design projects include cartooning, pen & ink design, printmaking, watercolor, and acrylic painting. This class is not repeatable for credit.

COURSE: **Drawing & Design II**
FOR: 9/10/11/12
CREDIT: ½
PREREQUISITES: Completion of Drawing and Design I with a final grade of 70% or higher

This course is an advanced semester of two-dimensional art. The class combines advanced drawing, painting, and printmaking techniques. A variety of drawing mediums, watercolor, acrylic, and relief printmaking processes are explored. Many artistic styles are studied through art history lessons. A digital portfolio will be created at the end of the semester. Projects should be used for the Advanced Placement Art Portfolio the following school year. This class is not repeatable for credit.

COURSE: **Multi-Cultural Art**
FOR: 9/10/11/12
CREDIT: ½
PREREQUISITES: None, introductory course

This is an introductory art class exploring the crafts, fine and folk art from many regions around the world. These areas include: Africa, Asia, the Middle East, Latin America, Europe, Australia, and Native Americans. Projects include masks, copper tooling, painting, collage, clay sculpture, puppets, glass etching, and mosaics. This class is open to all artistic abilities and interests. This class is not repeatable for credit.

COURSE: **Photo I**
FOR: 9/10/11/12
CREDIT: ½
PREREQUISITES: None. A strong background in basic computer skills is recommended. This course is not repeatable for credit.

This course is a study of photography as a fine art. Technical practices include the use of digital photography. Students will need to bring their student devices daily for this course. Students learn how to manually control a DSLR camera. Photographic composition and lighting are taught. Photoshop projects include basic editing, color manipulation, filters, surrealist collages, and mirroring of images using Adobe Photoshop. Creative projects include monochromatic paintings, hand woven photos, and making prints in a traditional darkroom.. Students will also create a final portfolio showcasing all digital prints and creative projects.

COURSE: **Photo II**
FOR: 9/10/11/12
CREDIT: ½
PREREQUISITES: Completion of Photo I with a final overall grade of 70% or higher. This class is not repeatable for credit.

This course is an in-depth study advancing all techniques learned in Photo I. Students will need to bring their student devices daily for this course. Points of emphasis include advanced digital photography and manipulations, fine art, photography, and independent creative explorations using Adobe Photoshop. Taking pictures outside of school is mandatory. Students will also create and present a final portfolio showcasing all digital prints and creative projects.

COURSE: **Ceramics/Sculpture**
FOR: 9/10/11/12
CREDIT: ½
PREREQUISITES: None, introductory course

This is an introductory art class focusing on three-dimensional forms. Functional ceramic pieces and sculpture, as well as the potter's wheel will be considered. Ceramic projects include clay hand built vessels such as vases, Animal Head, Medieval Fantasy Creature, and Clay Boxes. Sculptural projects include plaster masks, papier-mache forms, assemblage, carving, and life casting. Historical works are studied as examples. This class is not repeatable for credit.

COURSE: **Mixed Media Arts & Crafts**
FOR: 9/10/11/12
CREDIT: ½
PREREQUISITES: None, introductory course

Explore color, texture, surface design and composition in a fun and creative way! Make functional pieces you can take home and use or give as gifts. Projects might include mosaic stepping stones, wall hangings, candles, jewelry, planters, digital art and wall art. In this class, we will mix wet and dry media, learn how to combine materials and understand how different materials work alone and together. Projects may incorporate jewelry techniques, mosaic techniques, printmaking, wood, glass, collage, computer art and more. Personal direction and independent thinking are emphasized. Beginner through advanced skill levels are welcome. This class is not repeatable for credit.

COURSE: **Painting**
FOR: 9/10/11/12
CREDIT: ½
PREREQUISITES: None, introductory course

This course is a study of color composition, form and space through the medium of painting, watercolor, tempera, oil and acrylic painting techniques will all be explored. Painters from the past and present will be studied. This course is open to all artistic skill levels. This class is not repeatable for credit.

LIFE MANAGEMENT EDUCATION

Courses in this section apply toward the 1 credit of Visual, Performing, or Applied Arts required for graduation.

COURSE: **Baking**
FOR: 9/10/11/12
CREDIT: ½ Elective Credit
PREREQUISITES: None

Students learn the basics of baking including terminology, nutrition, measuring, etiquette, safety and sanitation, equipment and how to read a recipe. With this knowledge, students will study and learn the techniques of baking using a hands-on approach. Students will become proficient in producing quick breads, yeast breads, cakes and frosting, pies and tarts, cookies, specialty desserts and more. Creativity and teamwork will be encouraged and food related careers will be explored. Each student will produce a cookbook, which they may keep for future reference.

*Students previously enrolled in Cuisines of the World do not need to retake the basics test. *This class can be repeated for credit.

RELATED OCCUPATIONS: Baker, chef, restaurateur.

COURSE: **Child Development**
FOR: 9/10/11/12
CREDIT: ½ Elective Credit
PREREQUISITES: None

For those who plan to become parents/guardians, enjoy children, or are interested in a career working with children; this course will provide students with an understanding of the aspects of human growth and development. Human reproduction will be taught along with the readiness for parenting and the responsibilities that go along with it. Students will learn the causes of birth defects and understand how to plan for a healthy baby. Students will examine the physical, emotional, and social development from birth through the ten years. Students will observe the behaviors of infants and young children by taking part in a "Toddler Day". "Toddler Day" is where students are responsible for planning activities for visiting toddlers. Students will also have the opportunity to care for a "Real Care Doll" (computerized infant). Issues such as child abuse, effective parenting, and special needs children will be discussed.

RELATED OCCUPATIONS: Parent/guardian, teacher, daycare provider, child psychologist, pediatrician, nurse, and counselor.

COURSE: **Foods**
FOR: 9/10/11/12
CREDIT: ½ Elective Credit
PREREQUISITES: None

Students will learn culinary basics and will be provided with a hands-on approach to preparing appetizers, main courses, desserts, and more. Students will be able to develop cuisines and prepare food specific to different cultures of the world. Cultural implications in the preparations of foods and the selection of menu items will be emphasized. Focus will be on Italian, Asian, Greek, Mexican, and Caribbean cuisines. Each student will produce a cookbook, which they will keep for future reference.

*Students previously enrolled in Baking do not need to retake the basics test. *This class can be repeated for credit.

RELATED OCCUPATIONS: Restaurateur, chef, travel agent, food editor/writer, and international business.

COURSE: **Fashion Design**
FOR: 9/10/11/12
CREDIT: ½ Elective Credit
PREREQUISITES: None

This course is designed for students who have interests in the fields of design, apparel, textiles, and clothing construction. Experiences may include pattern design, surface design, principles of clothing construction, fitting and alteration, custom sewing, home decorating, and other entrepreneurial opportunities. Students will gain knowledge on career choices as well as information on fashion designers and up to date fashion trends. The student will conclude the class by planning a fashion show using student designed apparel. Materials may need to be purchased throughout the semester.

*This course can be repeated for credit. Students taking it a second or third time will begin more advanced work.

RELATED OCCUPATIONS: Fashion Designer, Buyer for a Department Store, Stylist, etc.

COURSE: **LINKS**
FOR: 9/10/11/12
CREDIT: ½ Elective Credit (can repeat for credit)
PREREQUISITES: None

The student enrolled in LINKS is a support, role model, and friend to a fellow OHS peer who is on the autism spectrum (or who has another disability). LINKS help promote skills in the areas of socialization and independence. LINKS is a unique class in that the LINK student is paired with their assigned peer each day (*in the student with ASD's class*) with the exception of Training Day. The LINK student attends a training class one day of the week to learn about autism and neurodiversity, as well as methods/techniques for working with friends and colleagues with disabilities. LINKS are responsible for completing assignments each week and periodic assessments. The final exam for this class includes going on an outing with your peer somewhere in the community before the final exam window. If you are interested in learning more about disabilities, this course is for you.

*This class can be repeated for credit.

COURSE: **LINKS 2**
FOR: 9/10/11/12
CREDIT: ½ Elective Credit (can repeat for credit)
PREREQUISITES: LINKS

The student enrolled in LINKS 2 serves as a peer support, role model and friend to students at OHS with disabilities, and helps promote skills in the areas of socialization and independence. LINKS 2 is a non-traditional class in that students DO NOT MEET DURING THE SCHOOL DAY. LINKS 2 students are responsible for completing at least 10 hours of contact time with their assigned peers OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL HOURS over the course of the semester. Assignments include creating plans and fliers for outing activities, attending those activities, and writing pre and post-outing reports. If you are interested in supporting your peers outside of the OHS building, this course is for you.

COURSE: **Yearbook**
FOR: 10/11/12
CREDIT: 1 Elective Credit
PREREQUISITES: Approval of instructor ONLY. Applications available from the teacher during the same time period as AP applications.

Be part of history in the making! Students will enter the exciting world of publishing and produce the Okemos High School Yearbook using the latest computer technology to produce a high quality, all color yearbook. Students are responsible for taking and cropping photographs, covering school events, conducting interviews, designing and producing layouts, and learning to operate a small business. If you enjoy working on the computer, photography, writing, business, and the excitement of design-we need you! This course can be repeated for credit. This is a year-long class.

MATHEMATICS

Students are recommended for courses based on teacher assessment of student ability as well as data collected in the previous year. This may involve use of diagnostic tests. Placement in all courses is based on **teacher recommendation** and academic performance of a student in the previous course. Most mathematics courses are sequential and require the completion of the previous course in the sequence before continuing.

Online and summer math experiences can be valuable for enrichment and remediation but should not be viewed as a substitute for a course in the math sequence. In most cases, a student would not have learned comparable concepts to meet the prerequisite to go to the next level course and we would encourage that student to test out to determine appropriate placement. Students who wish to test out of a particular course must have successfully completed all the prerequisites for that course (see flow chart).

Please note that our studies courses deliver the Algebra 1 and Algebra 2 curriculums over a period of 3 years rather than 2 years (Studies in Algebra 1, Introduction to Algebra 2 and Continuing Algebra 2). A student who completes our studies sequence meets all state requirements for graduation and is prepared to take math at the collegiate level.

COURSE: **Studies in Algebra I**
FOR: 9
CREDIT: 1 (0.67 NCAA Credit)
PREREQUISITES: Teacher recommendation

This class is the first course in a 3-year Algebra I/Algebra 2 sequence. It is designed for students who need a “longer runway” to find success with the traditional mathematics curriculum. The course begins with strengthening the students' number sense, such as work with fractions, integers, order of operations, and properties of real numbers. The course introduces students to properties of exponents, simplifying square/cube roots, properties of radicals, evaluating variable expressions, solving linear equations, graphing linear functions, solving and graphing linear inequalities, introduction to solving and graphing systems of linear equations, introducing work with polynomials, and basic introduction to quadratics. Class size is limited, and the course is co-taught.

COURSE: **Algebra I**
FOR: 9
CREDIT: 1 NCAA Credit
PREREQUISITES: Successful completion of Math 8/Math 8 Honors and teacher recommendation

This is the first course in the algebra sequence. Some of the topics include: using variables, number systems, operations with real numbers, graphing, solving equations and inequalities, relations and functions, systems of equations and inequalities, using and factoring polynomials, exponential, radical and quadratic equations. A thorough understanding of fractions, percentages and decimals without a calculator is strongly suggested.

COURSE: **Algebra 2 Honors**
FOR: 10
CREDIT: 1 NCAA Credit
PREREQUISITES: Successful completion of Geometry Honors and teacher recommendations

This course continues the study of algebra and is designed particularly for the student with high interest in mathematics and a solid algebra foundation. Topics include: functions, linear and quadratic equations and inequalities, polynomial and rational functions, exponential and logarithmic functions, trigonometric functions and their applications, analytic trigonometry, analytic geometry, systems of equations and inequalities, and sequences.. Graphing calculators are used extensively and each student is encouraged to have his/her own.

COURSE: **Geometry**
FOR: 9/10
CREDIT: 1 NCAA Credit
PREREQUISITES: Successful completion of Math 8 Honors, Algebra 1 or Intro to Algebra Two and teacher recommendation

This course is designed to introduce the student to the concept of a mathematical proof, provide an understanding of logical reasoning, and provide a working knowledge of geometrically related vocabulary, theorems, postulates, calculations and their application to practical problems. Also included are transformations, circles, and right triangle trigonometry. A thorough understanding of fractions and decimals is required.

COURSE: **Geometry Honors**
FOR: 9
CREDIT: 1 NCAA Credit
PREREQUISITES: Successful completion of Math 8 Honors and teacher recommendation

This course is designed for students who are highly interested in mathematics. This course primarily consists of geometry topics including a rigorous study of geometric concepts through the use of deductive and inductive proof as well as, and coordinate geometry. The class will study both two and three-dimensional figures. Algebra 1 topics are used extensively and a thorough knowledge of linear equations, factoring and solving systems of equations is expected.

COURSE: **Introduction to Algebra 2**
FOR: 10/11
CREDIT: 1 (0.67 NCAA Credit)
PREREQUISITES: Successful completion of Studies in Algebra 1 and teacher recommendation

This class is the second course in a 3-year Algebra I/Algebra 2 sequence. It is designed for students who need a “longer runway” to find success with the traditional mathematics curriculum. The course continues to build upon the topics covered in Studies in Algebra I and extends into the first Semester of Algebra 2. The course introduces students to the families of functions, including translations. Factoring and solving quadratic equations as well as graphing quadratic functions and inequalities are thoroughly explored. Work with rational and radical expressions/equations continues. Multiplying and factoring polynomials along with complex numbers are introduced.

COURSE: **Algebra 2**
FOR: 10/11
CREDIT: 1 NCAA Credit
PREREQUISITES: Successful completion of Algebra I and Geometry and teacher recommendation

This is the second course in the algebra sequence. This course builds and extends knowledge, concepts, and skills obtained in the previous algebra course. As such, students should come to this class with an understanding of how to solve linear equations and graph lines. Topics in Algebra Two include: linear, quadratic, polynomial, radical, exponential, logarithmic and trigonometric functions and relations, statistics and conics. A thorough understanding of fractions and decimals without a calculator is required.

COURSE: **Precalculus**
FOR: 11/12
CREDIT: 1 NCAA Credit
PREREQUISITES: Successful completion of Algebra 2 and teacher recommendation

This course is designed for the student who intends to take Calculus and possess a strong algebra foundation. The course builds on the topics acquired from prerequisite courses with focus on the characteristics of common functions and transformations of their graphs. The functions studied will be rational, exponential, logarithmic, and trigonometric. Semester two topics include: systems of equations, sequences and series, matrices, conics, polar equations, parametric equations, vectors, and an introduction to calculus.

COURSE: **Precalculus Honors**
FOR: 11
CREDIT: 1 NCAA Credit
PREREQUISITES: Successful completion of Geometry Honors and Algebra 2 Honors and teacher recommendation

This course is designed for the student who has a high interest in math or areas related to math. This is a precalculus course that builds on the advanced concepts already introduced in Algebra 2 Honors and Geometry Honors: complex numbers, determinants, inverse functions, circular trigonometry and statistics. It introduces vectors, polar coordinates, matrix theory, limits, more discrete mathematics and an introduction to Calculus. Graphing calculators are used in parts of the course and each student is encouraged to have his/her own.

COURSE: **Continuing Algebra 2**
FOR: 12 only
CREDIT: 1 (0.67 NCAA Credit)
PREREQUISITES: Successful completion of Algebra 1 and Geometry or Studies in Algebra 1, Studies in Geometry, and Intro. To Algebra 2

This third and final course in a 3-year Algebra I/Algebra 2 sequence follows Geometry. It is designed for students who need a "longer runway" to find success with the traditional mathematics curriculum. The course continues to build upon the topics covered in Introduction to Algebra 2 and concludes with completing the exploration of Algebra 2. Algebra 2 topics covered include solving and graphing higher degree polynomials, exponential and logarithmic functions, and rational functions. Students will explore trigonometry as well as an introduction to topics in probability and statistics. When students successfully complete the 3-course sequence they will have a solid mathematical foundation on which to begin Precalculus

COURSE: **Functions, Systems, and Trigonometry (FST)**
FOR: 11/12
CREDIT: 1 NCAA Credit
PREREQUISITES: Successful completion of Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra 2

This course is designed to strengthen and extend a student's higher order thinking skills in Algebra 2 and Trigonometry in preparation for precalculus. The course builds on the topics acquired from prerequisite courses with focus on the real and complex number systems, systems of equations and inequalities, solving and graphing polynomials, radicals, relations and families of functions, properties of exponents and logarithms and conic sections. Trigonometric functions and its related topics are covered extensively. **A student will not receive credit for this course if the student has already received credit for precalculus.** The use of applications and technology are emphasized with graphing calculators being used extensively.

COURSE: **Calculus**
FOR: 12
CREDIT: 1 NCAA Credit
PREREQUISITES: Successful completion of Precalculus/Precalculus Honors, and teacher recommendation

This course contains introductory calculus with elementary functions. It is intended for students who have a thorough knowledge of college preparatory mathematics, including algebra, axiomatic geometry, trigonometry, and analytic geometry (rectangular coordinates, equations and graphs, lines and conics). The main topics include: limits and continuity, derivatives, applications of the derivative, integrals, applications of the integral, and techniques of integration.

COURSE: **Advanced Placement Statistics**
FOR: 11/12
CREDIT: 1 NCAA Credit
PREREQUISITES: Successful completion of (at least) Algebra 2 and AP committee approval

Note: Students enrolled in this course are **required** to take the AP Examination. AP Statistics is a course designed to introduce students to the major concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing and drawing conclusions from data. It is intended for students with a strong background in algebra and high quantitative reasoning ability. The main themes are: exploring data (observing patterns and departure from patterns), planning a study (deciding what and how to measure), anticipating patterns (producing models using probability theory and simulation), and statistical inference (confirming models and determining the confidence that can be placed in the model). See description of AP Statistics in the AP section.

COURSE: **Advanced Placement Calculus AB**
FOR: 12
CREDIT: 1 NCAA Credit
PREREQUISITES: Successful completion of Precalculus/Precalculus Honors, AP committee approval

Note: Students enrolled in this course are required to take the AP Calculus AB Examination. Advanced Placement Calculus AB is a course in introductory calculus with elementary functions. It is intended for students who have a thorough knowledge of college preparatory mathematics, including algebra, geometry, trigonometry, and analytic geometry (rectangular coordinates, equations and graphs, lines and conics). The main topics include: limits and continuity, derivatives, applications of the derivative, integrals, applications of the integral, and techniques of integration. (See investing description of AP Calculus in the AP section).

COURSE: **Advanced Placement Calculus BC**
FOR: 12
CREDIT: 1 NCAA Credit
PREREQUISITES: Successful completion of Precalculus Honors and AP committee approval

Note: Students enrolled in this course are required to take the AP Calculus BC Examination. The Advanced Placement Calculus BC course is intended for students who have a thorough knowledge of college preparatory algebra, geometry, and trigonometry as well as analytic geometry including rectangular and polar coordinates, equations and graphs, lines and conics and elementary functions. The main topics include: limits and continuity, derivatives, applications of the derivative, integrals, applications of the integral, techniques of integration, parametric, polar and vector functions, and series. (See description of AP Calculus in the AP section).

COURSE: **Statistics**
FOR: 10/11/12
CREDIT: ½ Credit
PREREQUISITES: Successful completion of Algebra 2

This is a semester introductory statistics course designed to give students a foundational understanding of statistics while offering an elective mathematics credit. Students will gain valuable skills for interpreting and analyzing information in various real-world contexts. Topics include data analysis, probability and statistical reasoning. The interactive and practical nature of the course aims to make statistics accessible and engaging for students with diverse mathematical backgrounds.

COURSE: **LIFE-Logic, Investing, Financial Literacy, and Engineering**
FOR: 11/12
CREDIT: ½ Credit
PREREQUISITES: Successful completion of Algebra 1 and Geometry

“When will I ever use this?” L.I.F.E. is designed to provide exposure to topics that often are not discussed in a traditional high-school curriculum. This course will provide students the opportunity to explore topics that they will come across in their own lives, revolving around the concepts of logic, investing, financial literacy, and engineering, all while viewing these topics through a mathematical lens that requires foundational knowledge from Algebra 1 and Geometry. An emphasis will be put on the underlying skills that math classes promote, such as developing perseverance, critical thinking, problem-solving, and collaboration. This course is designed to promote student success outside of the mathematics classroom and to use mathematics as a platform to comprehend life decisions. Fundamental and technical analysis, understanding a balance sheet, social justice mathematics, and exploratory/practical projects are core components to this course. A strong interest in finance and various industries of engineering is encouraged.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

COURSE: **Skills for Health and Life**
FOR: 9/10/11/12
CREDIT: ½
PREREQUISITES: None

The Skills for Health and Life course at Okemos High School was developed to increase students' knowledge and insight concerning health issues while meeting the district's and the state's one semester Health education requirement for graduation. This requirement is usually satisfied in the ninth grade year.

The primary goal of Skills for Health and Life is to give the student critical health information and opportunities to build health skills that will develop life-long habits related to nutrition, physical activity, safety, drug and violence prevention, social and emotional health, and personal health and wellness. Students are taught the concept of holistic health, that is, in order to be healthy an individual must be physically, mentally, and socially well. Critical Health Topics that will be covered include:

- Self-Awareness and Self-Respect
- Healthy and Unhealthy Relationships
- Stress Management
- Healthy Nutrition and Physical Activity
- Violence Prevention-including Bullying
- Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drug Prevention
- Safety, Including Distracted Driving
- Getting and Giving Help

This course also includes a comprehensive Reproductive Health-Education unit.

COURSE: **Foundations of Physical Education**
FOR: 9/10/11/12
CREDIT: ½
PREREQUISITES: None

The Foundations of Physical Education course at Okemos High School was developed to increase students' knowledge and insight concerning physical education activities while meeting the district's and state's one semester physical education requirement for graduation. This requirement is usually satisfied in the ninth grade year.

The Foundations course will enable students to gain practical experience in a wide range of activities through exposure to a variety of physical education and fitness units. These units will provide the student with knowledge, skills, and an understanding of the relationship between exercise and overall health and well-being. This experience will impact the student's health and well-being not only in the present but also into the future.

COURSE: **Personal Conditioning**
FOR: 9/10/11/12
CREDIT: ½
PREREQUISITES: May be repeated

COME ENJOY OUR NEW STRENGTH AND CONDITIONING FACILITY!!

This course is designed to help the student develop and maintain a level of physical fitness in the areas of strength, muscular structure, endurance, flexibility, and cardiovascular efficiency. It is important for the student to understand that this is a rigorous conditioning program. Students will develop a personalized training routine pertaining to personal goals or specific sports activities.

COURSE: **Team Sports**
FOR: 9/10/11/12
CREDIT: ½
PREREQUISITES: May be repeated

This course will be designed for the student who enjoys participation in team-related sport activities. The course will be based on participation, skill level, improvement, and attitude. Grades will be based on knowledge of skills, strategy and rules, improvement, and most importantly, participation.

SCIENCE

COURSE:	Physical and Earth Science
FOR:	9/10
CREDIT:	1 NCAA Credit
PREREQUISITES:	None. This course, or its equivalent, is required of all 9 th grade students and is a prerequisite for Biology, Chemistry, and most other science courses.

Basic concepts in physics, chemistry, and earth science are studied in this course, along with an Investigation of the nature of science and the problem solving approach of engineering. Content of the course is selected to meet state science standards, to prepare students for the state proficiency test, and to provide the basic content knowledge that will be built upon in more advanced science courses in high school. It specifically includes: patterns among chemical elements; chemical bonding and reactions; nuclear chemistry; star life cycles; energy and forces; electromagnetic waves; plate tectonics and some Earth history; interconnections of Earth systems including climate science.

COURSE:	Biology
FOR:	10/11
CREDIT:	1 NCAA Credit
PREREQUISITES:	Students must have passed both semesters of Physical Science (or receive at least a “B” in both semesters of General Physical Science and have a teacher recommendation.

This course is designed for college preparatory students and includes significant laboratory work. In addition to an introduction to scientific instruments and methods, the course includes such topics as cellular biology, biochemistry, genetics, evolution, ecology, and physiology.

COURSE:	Chemistry
FOR:	10/11/12
CREDIT:	1 NCAA Credit
PREREQUISITES:	Algebra II or Algebra II (H), or concurrent enrollment in Algebra II or Continuing Algebra II; 9 th grade Physical Science with a “C” or higher; Biology or concurrent enrollment in Biology

This course is designed with emphasis on chemical theory and on problem solving strategy. It is especially useful to students who will take chemistry in college. Laboratory exercises provide the student with hands-on experience in chemical principles as well as with various types of chemical apparatus. They may take Semester 2 only after successfully completing Semester 1 in a subsequent year.

COURSE:	Science Research Seminar
FOR:	10 th and 11 th Grade Students
CREDIT:	1 NCAA Credit
PREREQUISITES:	A- in freshman math course, A- in PES or Biology (exceptions by departmental approval). Students must complete an application form and be approved by the Science Department.

The Science Research Seminar enables students to perform authentic and original scientific research in an independent manner. This two-three-year program, beginning in grade 10, affords students the opportunity to participate in the community of scientific research and scholarship as part of their high school experience. This course encourages students to work in conjunction with researchers in life sciences, physical sciences, earth sciences, and mathematics. With successful completion of the first year’s work, additional credit can be earned in the second year.

COURSE: **Botany & Greenhouse Horticulture**
FOR: 10/11/12
CREDIT: 1/2
PREREQUISITES: Physical Science or General Physical Science (or concurrent), Biology or General Biology (or concurrent)

Here is a course for students interested in biology, research with plants, horticulture or gardening. Plants are the foundation of almost every ecosystem on Earth-the source of our food, oxygen, and a great deal of enjoyment. In this course you will learn how to propagate and grow a wide variety of plants representing many settings. In addition, students will design and conduct controlled experiments, as well as develop a landscape plan. (Students who are receiving credit for this class and would like more such experiences are encouraged to apply to the instructor for directed independent study and additional credit).

COURSE: **Advanced Earth Science**
FOR: 10/11/12
CREDIT: ½ or 1 NCAA Credit
PREREQUISITES: Physical Science, one credit in Biology or General Biology (or Biology taken concurrently)

Advanced Earth science is a science course focused on geology content allowing students to gain a better understanding of the different physical geological processes that affect Earth. Major topics studied in the course include: topographic mapping, rock cycle, minerals, and rock identification, plate tectonics, volcanoes, earthquakes, weathering and soils, mountain building, karst formation and exploration, geological dating techniques, Geologic time, glaciers and effects water has on the environment. Includes a field trip to Grand Ledge to look at geologic rock structures and Mammoth Cave Kentucky to learn about cave systems and sedimentary rocks. Toward the end of the course, students will take an exam with the opportunity to earn an introductory Geology or Geography credit at select Universities. This course should be considered by the student with a strong interest in these subjects or in exploring careers in one of the earth sciences, as well as students who want to broaden their science education.

COURSE: **Environmental Science & Wildlife Biology**
FOR: 10/11/12
CREDIT: 1
PREREQUISITES: Passed both semesters of Physical Science and completion or concurrent enrollment in Biology

Environmental science is the study of the interactions between the physical, chemical, and biological components of nature. It is multidisciplinary, involving a number of disciplines such as zoology, ecology, geology, agriculture, and the social sciences. Wildlife biology is the study of wild animals and their habitats, including topics such as identification, behaviors, and adaptations. This course provides an overview of some of the many topics and issues in both environmental science and wildlife biology. An understanding of these topics will give students a greater awareness of the interdependence of life on Earth and how human beings impact and rely upon the environment.

This course runs in school years that are odd in the fall (2025-26, 2027-28, etc.)

COURSE: **Forensic Science**
FOR: 11/12
CREDIT: 1/2 NCAA Credit
PREREQUISITES: Credit in Physical and Earth Science and Biology

This course is a one semester integrated science course, which will introduce students to application of science to crime scene investigation. The major topics of study include: processing the crime scene and collection of physical evidence, and analysis of various types of evidence such as fingerprints, fibers, documents, blood splatter, anthropology, etc.... The semester ends with a crime that students solve using knowledge and techniques from the course. **The ability to work cooperatively in groups is required for this course.** Most of the work in this course is lab work. *This course can be taken one semester only.*

COURSE: **Human Anatomy and Physiology**
FOR: 11/12
CREDIT: ½ or 1 NCAA Credit
PREREQUISITES: Biology or General Biology; Physical Science or General Physical Science

Human Anatomy and Physiology is a course offered for any student who is interested in how and why the body works the way it does. This course will study the various systems of the human body: Integument, nervous, skeletal, muscular, circulatory, excretory, respiratory, digestion and endocrine. It will also focus on diseases of these systems, why they occur and how they are treated. Class grades will be based on tests and on lab work (includes dissection).

COURSE: **Meteorology**
FOR: 10/11/12
CREDIT: ½
PREREQUISITES: Physical Science or General Physical Science and Biology (may be taken concurrently)

Meteorology is a one semester science elective course explaining how basic meteorology affects our everyday lives. Major topics studied in the course include: atmosphere, air pressure, wind, weather patterns, clouds, precipitation, storms and extreme storms. The goal is for students to gain an understanding of local, national and world weather patterns they are affected by in their everyday lives through the study of basic weather elements and surface weather systems.

COURSE: **Physics**
FOR: 11/12
CREDIT: 1 NCAA Credit
PREREQUISITES: Algebra I, Physical Science (or General Physical Science); Biology (or General Biology)

This course is an introduction to the concepts of Physics through examples, laboratory experiences, and demonstrations. Topics include motion, energy, fluids, gravity, light, sound, electricity, magnetism, and others. This course focuses primarily on concepts. However, some basic algebra is required. Students should be able to solve equations such as $F = ma$ for any of the variables.

COURSE: **Honors Physics**
FOR: 11/12
CREDIT: 1 NCAA Credit
PREREQUISITES: Physical Science and Biology; concurrent enrollment in Calculus or Precalculus

Honors Physics is a course for mathematically capable students interested in the details of the physical world around them. Like our Physics course, this is a broad survey of the physical world, but the emphasis is placed on calculation and problem solving. The course will cover all topics included on the AP Physics 1 Exam. Taking the exam is optional. Students wishing to take the AP Exam are encouraged to practice for the test independently. Topics beyond the AP 1 Exam that may be covered include; fluids, waves, electricity and magnetism, circuitry (primarily DC and digital), and special relativity.

COURSE: **Advanced Placement Biology**
FOR: 12; qualified juniors may be enrolled if spaces are available
CREDIT: 1 NCAA Credit
PREREQUISITES: Biology and Chemistry, with no grade below "B+"

AP Biology is an introductory college-level biology course. Students cultivate their understanding of biology through inquiry-based investigations as they explore the following topics: evolution, cellular processes, energy and communication, genetics, information transfer, ecology, and interactions. Students are required to take the AP Biology test in the spring.

COURSE: **Advanced Placement Chemistry**
FOR: 11/12
CREDIT: 1 NCAA Credit
PREREQUISITES: Students must have completed Chemistry and Algebra 2 with a minimum of an A-

This Advanced Placement chemistry course is designed to be the equivalent of the general chemistry course usually taken during the first college year. For some students, this course enables them to undertake, as freshmen, second-year work in the chemistry sequence at their institution or to register for courses in other fields where general chemistry is a prerequisite. The course will contribute to the development of the students' abilities to think clearly and to express their ideas, orally and in writing, with clarity and logic. Students are required to take the AP Chemistry test in the Spring.

COURSE: **Advanced Placement Environmental Science**
FOR: 11/12
CREDIT: 1 Credit
PREREQUISITES: Biology & Physical and Earth Science with no grade below B+; Algebra 1; Chemistry recommended; Approval through the AP application process

AP Environmental Science is an introductory college-level environmental science course. It is designed to engage students with the scientific principles, concepts, and methodologies required to understand the interrelationships within the natural world. The course requires that students identify and analyze natural and human-made environmental problems, evaluate the relative risks associated with these problems, and examine alternative solutions for resolving or preventing them. Students are required to take the AP Environmental Science test in the spring, which could earn them college credit depending on student score and college selection.

This course runs in school years that are even in the fall (2024-25, 2026-27, etc.)

COURSE: **Astronomy**
FOR: 10/11/12
CREDIT: 1/2 Credit
PREREQUISITES: S1 of Physical and Earth Science

This course is a one semester science elective course on basic Astronomy. Students will gain a better understanding of our night sky, the history of astronomy, and spaceflight. This course will also build upon our Physical and Earth Science coursework in studying our solar system and stars. Students can take this as an elective in grades 10-12.

SOCIAL STUDIES

COURSE: United States History & Geography
FOR: 9 Required/Open to 10/11/12
CREDIT: 1 NCAA Credit
PREREQUISITES: None

This course covers United States history from 1877 to the present. Units include westward expansion, industrialization, reform movements, the U.S. in World Affairs, the World Wars, Isolationism, the 1920's the Great Depression and the New Deal, the Cold War, Civil Rights, the Vietnam War, and Watergate's legacy. Emphasis is placed on people, events, and major themes rather than dates and definitions. Geography, economics, and civics are integrated with history. Successful completion of this course fulfills the State of Michigan U.S. History & Geography requirement and the Okemos High School graduation requirement.

COURSE: World History & Geography
FOR: 10 Required/Open to 11/12
CREDIT: 1 NCAA Credit
PREREQUISITES: None

This course includes a study of the world's major civilizations found in Europe, Asia, Africa, the Middle East, and Latin America within a chronological and regional framework. The course emphasizes the interconnection of civilizations and the development of the modern Global Age. The course examines various topics, eras, and places from political, economic, social, cultural, religious, and geographical perspectives. The chronology follows the aforementioned geographical regions beginning with a brief unit reviewing the world's ancient cultures and religions through the end of the Cold War. Successful completion of this course prepares students for the Social Studies MME as well as fulfilling the World History & Geography requirement for the State of Michigan Core Curriculum and the Okemos High School graduation requirement.

COURSE: United States Government and Politics
FOR: 11/12
CREDIT: ½ NCAA Credit
PREREQUISITES: None, required for graduation

This course will allow students to review and enhance their knowledge of the foundations of United States democracy: popular sovereignty, constitutional government, federalism, separation of powers, checks and balances, individual rights and liberties, and majority rule and minority rights. The forms and functions of national, state, and local government are examined. They emphasize the three branches of the national government: the legislative, executive, and judicial branches, and their accompanying bureaucracies. Study of current events is incorporated regularly into the curriculum areas. Successful completion of this course fulfills both the Okemos High School government graduation requirement and the State of Michigan Civics requirement.

COURSE: Economics
FOR: 11/12
CREDIT: ½ NCAA Credit
PREREQUISITES: None

Economics is the science of decision making. Students study how economic theory and research provide the key to logical decision making for businesses, policy makers and individuals. Business organizations, economic systems, and the structure of the United States' economy are major topics. Students also study how government decisions about taxation, spending and regulation impact what is produced and who receives the benefits. Stock market analysis and international trade are also included in the course. Successful completion of this course fulfills both the Okemos High School economics graduation requirement and the State of Michigan economics requirement.

COURSE: **Advanced Placement United States History**
FOR: 11/12
CREDIT: 1 NCAA Credit
PREREQUISITES: 9th grade U.S. History, 10th Grade World History & Geography.
Approval through the application process, which could include: AP committee approval; AP Entrance Exam; teacher recommendations; G.P.A.; completion of summer assignments

Designed for students of superior reading and writing ability. The accelerated course schedule leaves no time for remediation. This course will consist of a review of U.S. history with in-depth work on selected important historical events, personalities, and themes. The course will help prepare students to pass the Advanced Placement exam in United States History and prepare the students for college by improving reading interpretation and writing skills. Students are required to take the AP U.S. History test in the spring.

COURSE: **Advanced Placement World History**
FOR: 11/12
CREDIT: 1 NCAA Credit
PREREQUISITES: 9th grade U.S. History, 10th grade World History & Geography
Approval through the application process, and completion of summer assignments.

This course examines the time period of 1200 C.E. to the present through the lens of human/environment interaction, cultural/social development, economic and governmental systems, and technological innovation. Students will analyze primary and secondary sources, discover historical connections, develop historical arguments, and examine historical developments. The course prepares students to pass the Advanced Placement exam for World History: Modern and prepares them for college by improving their reading, interpretation, and writing skills. Extensive reading and writing is required. Students are required to take the AP World History test in the spring.

COURSE: **Advanced Placement in United States Government**
FOR: 12
CREDIT: 1 NCAA Credit
PREREQUISITES: 9th Grade U.S. History, 10th Grade World History & Geography (AP World or AP U.S. History and U.S. government and Politics are strongly recommended)
Approval through the application process, which could include: AP committee approval; AP Entrance Exam; teacher recommendations; G.P.A.; completion of summer assignments

Designed for students of superior reading and writing ability. The accelerated course schedule leaves no time for remediation. This class will help students prepare for the Advanced Placement Exam and also to prepare for college political science classes. Students will study the U.S. government and its operations, the constitution and political philosophy, political parties and interest groups, civil rights, and intergovernmental relations. Successful completion of this course fulfills both the Okemos High School government graduation requirement and the State of Michigan Civics requirement. Students are required to take the AP U.S. Government test in the spring.

COURSE: **Advanced Placement Psychology**
FOR: 11/12
CREDIT: 1 NCAA Credit
PREREQUISITES: None

This course will instruct students in the study of the mind and behavior at a first year college level. Students will study human maturation, the brain and its link to behavior, motivation and emotions, learning, memory and language, social psychology, and the development of personality. Intermediate concepts and methods of investigation and research will also be taught. Furthermore, they will learn how disorders can occur, what methods of treatment are often used, and the professional roles of those involved in treating these disorders. The course will help prepare students to pass the Advanced Placement exam in Psychology and will prepare the students for college by improving analytical skills. Students are required to take the A.P. Psychology test in the spring.

COURSE: **Psychology**
FOR: 10/11/12
CREDIT: ½ NCAA Credit
PREREQUISITES: None

This course will acquaint students with the study of human behavior. Students will explore concepts such as learning processes, emotions, states of consciousness, personality development, and the roles of heredity and environment on behavior. Basic concepts and methods of investigation, research, and statistical analysis will also be taught. Students will also develop an understanding of the philosophical and historical approaches to psychology and how psychology developed as a science.

COURSE: **Street Law**
FOR: 11/12
CREDIT: ½ NCAA Credit
PREREQUISITES: None

This course will help the student become knowledgeable of current issues facing the judicial system with areas of emphasis including an understanding of law, the legal system, civil liberties, criminal and juvenile justice, and family law. Concepts to be understood are justice, tolerance, fairness, authority, responsibility, diversity, and equality.

COURSE: **HUMANITIES: Pop!**
FOR: 10/11/ 12
CREDIT: ½ NCAA Credit
PREREQUISITES: None

Humanities: POP! is an integrated course which looks at the modern world from a number of different historical, cultural, and social perspectives. Content provides interdisciplinary perspectives on popular culture (literature, music, drama, visual arts, TV, film, etc.) as well as the forces that influence the arts in an attempt to help students understand the changing world in which they live. Students enrolling in this course should be prepared to do interdisciplinary research, and work on creative research projects involving electronic and traditional media.

COURSE: **The History of Film: A Social and Cultural Approach**
FOR: 10/11/12
CREDIT: ½ NCAA Credit
PREREQUISITES: World History, U.S. History

This course is an introduction to the history of cinema (film) in the United States from its inception as a major modern technology in the late 19th century to its current status in the mass media. Students will not only study film as an art form but as reflection of social and historical themes. The course follows a thematic approach introducing students to different genres by viewing specific examples from different time periods. Genres presented include, but are not limited to, social commentary, horror, classics, coming of age, fantasy, science fiction, international films, and documentaries. Students are expected to discuss films or write film reviews. Research projects using both traditional and multimedia methods are assigned. Students will learn the basic vocabulary of cinematography.

SPECIAL EDUCATION

COURSE: **Study Skills**
FOR: **9/10/11/12**
CREDIT: **½ Credit**
PREREQUISITES: **Students must have an IEP**

The Study Skills class is designed to provide specialized instruction and targeted intervention for students with IEPs who require additional support to access the general education curriculum. This class offers a structured and supportive learning environment where students receive individualized attention and instruction tailored to their unique learning needs.

TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION

Courses in this section apply toward the 1 credit of Visual, Performing, or Applied Arts required for graduation.

COURSE: Engineering I-Design and Problem Solving (EGR I)
FOR: 9/10/11/12
CREDITE: ½ Elective/Math Related
PREREQUISITES: None

The course will provide opportunities for students to explore creative designs and alternative solutions for problems using a design system approach. Students will work in groups to design, fabricate, and evaluate solutions to technological problems in the same format as today's engineers by using the design process. Students will also investigate the math and science behind their projects to get a better understanding of how it works. Topics have included the following: Rockets, Trebuchets, Cardboard Boats, Bridges, Flight, and Robotics. Students will also have the opportunity to do a project of their own choosing.

COURSE: Engineering II-Design and Problem Solving (EGR II)
FOR: 9/10/11/12
CREDIT: ½ Elective/Math Related
PREREQUISITES: None

This course will provide opportunities for students to explore creative designs and alternative solutions for problems using a design system approach. Students will work in groups to design, fabricate, and evaluate solutions to technological problems in the same format as today's engineers by using the design process. Students will also investigate the math and science behind their projects to get a better understanding of how it works. Projects differ from EGR I so that students can take both classes.

COURSE: Robotics Engineering I (ROE I)
FOR: 9/10/11/12
CREDIT: ½ Elective/Math Related
PREREQUISITES: None

Introduction to robotics provides an opportunity for students to get a hands-on approach to Robotics using Lego EV3 kits. This class is designed to teach core computer programming logic and reasoning skills using a robotics engineering context. Students will program with both graphical and C based programming. Students will also develop their problem solving skills by working on open-ended problem-solving activities that reinforce science, technology, engineering and mathematics through real-life robotics. Students will also have an opportunity to participate in the FIRST Robotics Team. For more information on FIRST or our Robotics team visit www.usfirst.org or www.team1504.com.

COURSE: Digital Electronics
FOR: 9/10/11/12
CREDIT: ½ Elective/Math Related
PREREQUISITES: None

This course will teach students the basics of electricity and electronic components. Students will analyze, design, and build digital electronic circuits. While implementing these designs, students will continually hone their professional skills, creative abilities, and understanding of the circuit design process. Students will practice applications of basic electrical circuits by building simple series and parallel circuits. As students build their knowledge, they will apply this knowledge to programmable microcontrollers and computers (Arduino/Raspberry Pi) and create a project from scratch.

COURSE: **Project Lead the Way (PLTW)-Introduction to Engineering Design (IED)**
FOR: 9/10 Recommended
CREDIT: 1 Elective/Math Related
PREREQUISITES: Previous history of strong math and science skills

This course is the first of two foundation courses within the nationally recognized course sequence. Project Lead the Way (PLTW) is the nation's leading science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) program. Students will dig deep into the engineering design process and apply math, science and engineering standards to hands-on projects. Individuals and teams will work to design solutions to a variety of problems using 3D modeling software. This course is for students who are passionate about pursuing engineering, math or science for their post-secondary education.

COURSE: **Project Lead the Way (PLTW)-Principles of Engineering (POE)**
FOR: 9/10 Recommended
CREDIT: 1 Elective/Math Related
PREREQUISITES: Previous history of strong math and science skills

This course is the second of two foundation courses within the nationally recognized Project Lead the Way (PLTW) course sequence. Project Lead the Way (PLTW) is the nation's leading science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) program. Through problems that engage and challenge, students explore a broad range of engineering topics, including mechanisms, the strength of structures and materials, and automation. Students develop skills in problem solving, research, and design while learning strategies for design process documentation, collaboration, and presentation. The student will learn to use the VEX robotics platform to explore course topics. This course is for students who are passionate about pursuing engineering, math or science for their post-secondary education.

COURSE: **Project Lead the Way (PLTW)-Engineering Design and Development (EDD)**
FOR: 11/12 Recommended
CREDIT: 1 Elective/Math Related
PREREQUISITES: PLTW IED and POE

Engineering Design and Development (EDD) is the capstone course in the PLTW high school engineering program. It is an open-ended engineering research course in which students work in teams to design and develop an original solution to a well-defined and justified open-ended problem by applying an engineering design process. Students will perform research to select, define, and justify a problem. After carefully defining the design requirements and creating multiple solution approaches, teams of students select an approach, create, and test their solution prototype. Student teams will present and defend their original solution to an outside panel. While progressing through the engineering design process, students will work closely with experts and will continually hone their organizational, communication and interpersonal skills, their creative and problem solving abilities, and their understanding of the design process. Since the projects on which students work can vary with student interest and the curriculum focuses on problem solving, EDD is appropriate for students who are interested in any technical career path. EDD should be taken as the final capstone PLTW course since it requires application of the knowledge and skills introduced during the PLTW foundation courses.

WORLD LANGUAGE

French

COURSE: **French I**
FOR: 9/10/11/12
CREDIT: 1 NCAA Credit
PREREQUISITES: None

French I is designed to provide the basis for students to acquire a novice-mid to novice-high level of language proficiency (as outlined by the ACTFL proficiency scale) by the end of the course. The cultural component is provided as an integral part of skills development and is supplemented by films, readings, discussions and projects.

COURSE: **French II**
FOR: 9/10/11/12
CREDIT: 1 NCAA Credit
PREREQUISITES: French I

French II continues to build the skills acquired in French I, with increased emphasis on perfecting pronunciation, listening comprehension, developing vocabulary, use of verb tenses and language structures. The class is conducted in French whenever possible and the students are engaged in conversation appropriate to their level of language acquisition. The cultural component is provided as an integral part of skills development and is supplemented by films, readings, discussions and projects.

COURSE: **French III**
FOR: 10/11/12
CREDIT: 1 NCAA Credit
PREREQUISITES: French II

French III continues all of the objectives outlined in French II. In addition, advanced grammar structures are introduced, and verb tenses are reviewed and expanded to include written tenses and all of the spoken tenses. Further emphasis is placed on more independent and advanced writing and conversation. Short stories from French literature are introduced. The basic French texts are continued and the last term of the course is devoted to reading one or more short French novels with discussions and writing in French. The class is conducted in French with the exception of the explanation of advanced grammar concepts. The culture component includes France and increased emphasis on French speaking countries.

COURSE: **French IV**
FOR: 11/12
CREDIT: 1 NCAA Credit
PREREQUISITES: French III

A continuation of French III. Basic grammar and vocabulary will be required and advanced concepts will be further developed. Language skills will be used in conversation, reading, and writing. Increased emphasis will be given to the study of literature and culture in French. The course will be conducted largely in French. This class may be combined with the Advanced Placement class and/or French V.

COURSE: **French V**
FOR: 12
CREDIT: 1 NCAA Credit
PREREQUISITES: French IV

Advanced grammar will be reviewed and increased emphasis will be given to developing vocabulary. Language skills will be used in conversation, reading, writing, and the study of literature and culture. Students will be expected to use their acquired French in all classroom activities. The class may be combined with the Advanced Placement class and/or French IV.

COURSE: **Advanced Placement French**
FOR: 11/12
CREDIT: 1 NCAA Credit
PREREQUISITES: Completion of French III with at least an A- or French IV with at least a B, AP teacher approval, required to take AP Examinations

This course is to prepare students to take the Advanced Placement French Language and Culture Examination. The class may be combined with French IV and/or French V. In general, AP students work with their Level IV or Level V counterparts and have additional outside assignments.

German

COURSE: **German I**
FOR: 9/10/11/12
CREDIT: 1 NCAA Credit
PREREQUISITES: None

This course emphasizes all four language skills (listening, speaking, reading, and writing) plus vocabulary building and cultural information. Emphasis is placed on cognates and the relationship between English and German as Germanic languages. It is taught with as much spoken German as possible, but grammar explanations are in English. Games, films, and other cultural “tidbits” are used, as is the language lab. Grading is based on written homework, numerous quizzes, occasional tests, projects, and participation and effort.

COURSE: **German II**
FOR: 9/10/11/12
CREDIT: 1 NCAA Credit
PREREQUISITES: German I or teacher recommendation

A year-long course continuing the skills and knowledge acquired in German I, but with increased emphasis on reading, writing, and vocabulary building as well as increased use of German in class. The method of instruction and grading remains largely the same as described for German I.

COURSE: **German III**
FOR: 10/11/12
CREDIT: 1 NCAA Credit
PREREQUISITES: German II or teacher recommendation

A year-long course continuing the skills and knowledge acquired in German II. Increased emphasis is put on the application of language skills in conversation, reading, and writing. The course is taught with as much spoken German as possible, although grammar explanations are still mainly in English. In the second semester, extra emphasis is put on the culture of the German-speaking countries.

COURSE: **German IV**
FOR: 11/12
CREDIT: 1 NCAA Credit
PREREQUISITES: German III or teacher recommendation

Scheduling may require that students in German IV, V, and /or AP German be together in a class. Assignments and grading are then differentiated for the two levels, but the basic content is the same for all. In both semesters there is increased vocabulary development, especially with cognates, word-formation concepts, and idioms. (See also AP German).

COURSE: **German V**
FOR: 12
CREDIT: 1 NCAA Credit
PREREQUISITES: German IV-Teacher recommendation

For those fifth-year students who do not choose to take AP German. The content is the same as in German IV, but the assignments and grading are differentiated.

COURSE: **Advanced Placement German**
FOR: 12
CREDIT: 1 NCAA Credit
PREREQUISITES: German III or IV, AP teacher approval, student required to take AP examination

Students prepare themselves for the German Advanced Placement examination. The content focuses on vocabulary and structures used in current colloquial German, with emphasis on reading magazines and short stories, answering content questions, and writing about opinions and events from everyday life. A few works of modern German literature are read, and the cultural emphasis is on an overview of how the German-speaking countries have developed into what they are today. Students are expected to use German in all classroom activities. (See also German IV).

Spanish

COURSE: **Spanish I**
FOR: 9/10/11/12
CREDIT: 1 NCAA Credit
RECOMMENDATION: None

This course is designed to introduce students to the five basic components of learning a world language: speaking, listening, reading, writing, and culture. This course enables the student to build a strong foundation of vocabulary and learn the basic grammar concepts, focusing on the present tense verb conjugation, noun/adjective agreement, and sentence structure. Throughout the year, the student will be exposed to the various aspects of the Spanish-speaking cultures as they explore the differences and similarities between them.

COURSE: **Spanish II**
FOR: 9/10/11/12
CREDIT: 1 NCAA Credit
PREREQUISITES: Successful completion of Spanish 1 or Spanish 1B and teacher recommendation.
Recommendation of 70% or higher in Spanish 1 or Spanish 1B.

This course continues to develop and build upon the skills acquired in Spanish I. The focus remains on the five basic components of learning a world language: speaking, listening, reading, writing, and culture. This course enables the student to build upon the vocabulary and grammar foundation established in Spanish I, as well as learn more advanced grammar concepts, including the past tenses and command forms. This course has an emphasis on increasing proficiency for communication in spoken and written Spanish.

COURSE: **Spanish III**
FOR: 10/11/12
CREDIT: 1 NCAA Credit
PREREQUISITES: Successful completion of Spanish II or completion of Studies in Spanish II with a grade of at least B+ and teacher recommendation

This course continues to develop and build upon the skills acquired in Spanish I and II. The focus remains on the five basic components of learning a world language: speaking, listening, reading, writing, and culture. This course enables the student to build upon the vocabulary and grammar foundation established in Spanish I and II, as well as touch upon some advanced grammar concepts, including an introduction to subjunctive, future, conditional, past tenses and perfect tenses in context. This course has an emphasis on increasing proficiency for communication in spoken and written Spanish.

COURSE: **Spanish IV**
FOR: 11/12
CREDIT: 1 NCAA Credit
PREREQUISITES: Successful completion of Spanish III and teacher recommendation

The focus of Spanish IV remains on the five basic components: speaking, listening, reading, writing, and culture. Spanish IV is designed for students to apply and develop previously learned grammar concepts as they cultivate the skills necessary to discuss and analyze art, literature, and other media. Through this process, students will learn advanced vocabulary and develop superior reading comprehension and writing abilities. A strong emphasis is placed on the exclusive use of Spanish in the classroom.

COURSE: **Spanish V**
FOR: 12
CREDIT: 1 NCAA Credit
PREREQUISITES: Successful completion of Spanish IV and teacher recommendation

Spanish V is designed for the student that wishes to continue his/her Spanish studies, but does not choose to take the AP test. These students are integrated with the Spanish IV students. Although the goals of the class are the same as they are for Spanish IV, the Spanish IV/V curriculum is rotated yearly to avoid repetition of material. However, the Spanish V student may be expected to complete additional coursework beyond the expectations for a Spanish IV student.

COURSE: **Advanced Placement Spanish**
FOR: 11/12
CREDIT: 1 NCAA Credit
PREREQUISITES: A- or greater average in Spanish III OR B or greater average in Spanish IV Demonstration of comprehension of previously-learned concepts via a proficiency test AP Spanish selection committee approval

This course is intended for those students who demonstrate comprehension of intermediate-level Spanish concepts and possess an ability to use Spanish in a cohesive and grammatically correct manner to communicate both in speaking and writing. Those students also demonstrate an intermediate-level ability to understand and interpret written and spoken Spanish. This course is designed to further develop those skills while preparing for the specific expectations of the College Board Advanced Placement Spanish Language Exam. Emphasis is placed on developing a rich vocabulary, high level of fluency, use and control of complex structures, excellent pronunciation, accurate social and cultural references, organization and cohesiveness.

World Language Electives

COURSE: **World Languages & Cultures: Living in a Multilingual Society.**
FOR: Grades 10,11,12
CREDIT: ½ Credit (1 semester)
PREREQUISITES: Completion of graduation requirement of 2 years in a world language recommended.

This course is designed for students to delve deeper into how language and culture are intricately connected. Other topics discussed include the history of language evolution and the basics of linguistic studies. Students will also choose a language to study in-depth and present on as a final project.

WILSON TALENT CENTER

The Wilson Talent Center and its off-site programs are extensions of the Okemos High School program. Only Junior and Senior students from Okemos High School can obtain specialized occupational learning experiences in 12 different career clusters. Selected Okemos High School extra-curricular and social activities will still be available to students. Students will graduate and receive a regular diploma from Okemos High School, however, they will also receive a certificate of program completion from the Wilson Talent Center. Programs range from a 1 to 2 year commitment. There are several opportunities to earn college credit within each program.

Offerings through the Wilson Talent Center will permit students to:

- Achieve an employable skill to prepare for the world of work immediately upon graduation from Okemos High School.
- Get a head start on a pre-professional career goal with work experience before graduation from high school.
- Prepare for a more interesting, higher paying, part-time job to offset the cost of a college education.
- Prepare learners for the workplace of the future and the pursuit of lifelong learning opportunities.
- Give students advanced college placement and, in some programs, give college credit that is transferable to several different universities.

The Wilson Talent Center is located five miles south of OHS in Mason, MI. Students can earn 3.5 credits per academic year by attending classes at the Wilson Talent Center. Classes at the Wilson Talent Center are offered in two time-block periods: The AM Session begins at 8:00 a.m. and concludes at 10:40 a.m.; the PM Session begins at 11:35 p.m. and concludes at 2:15 p.m. Busing is provided to and from the Wilson Talent Center for both sessions. Students who attend the Cosmetology program will need to provide their own transportation (which includes Saturday morning sessions and extended daily hours to meet certification requirements). There is the potential for a student to attend a full day schedule at the Wilson Talent Center, and this is determined on a case by case basis. A student must have met all graduation requirements prior to attending a full year at Wilson Talent Center or they must be fulfilling the necessary credits within the classroom (they cannot be taken through the Wilson Talent Center Edgenuity program).

In order to enroll in a program at the Wilson Talent Center, interested students in their 10th or 11th grade years will attend a mandatory presentation (typically held in late October), and must complete a mandatory program visit (a few dates typically in late November or early December). Applications are due by the end of January and program acceptance letters are sent out in March. If a student misses the initial enrollment window, there is an open-enrollment time period, typically in April, where interested students can visit any program that still has openings. Upon completion of an open-enrollment visit, a student would then be eligible to apply to that program.

Information about Wilson Talent Center presentations and visits are listed in News and Notes and announced in the sophomore and junior class Google Classrooms. Students can also get information by speaking with their counselor. For more information about specific programs, please reference the Wilson Talent Center website at www.inghamisd.org/wtc/.

Graduation Requirements

Beginning with the graduating class of 2019, each student is required to be enrolled in a full-time schedule until the student reaches a minimum of twenty-two (22) credits to graduate from Okemos High School, of which 18.5 credits (subject to modification in some areas as provided by statute) will be comprised of:

ENGLISH - 4 Credits

Must include Lit Comp 9 and Lit Comp 10, or their approved alternative.

MATH - 4 Credits

Must include Algebra 1, Geometry, Algebra 2, and math in the senior year

SCIENCE - 3 Credits

Must include Physical Earth Science, Biology and 1 additional science credit

SOCIAL STUDIES - 3 Credits

Must include US History to include Geography, World History to include Geography, US Government and Economics

PHYSICAL & HEALTH EDUCATION - ½ credit each

Must take Health. No personal curriculum modifications.

WORLD LANGUAGE - 2 Credits

May substitute 1 credit for state approved CTE program or VPAA credit.

PERSONAL FINANCE - ½ Credit

Beginning with the class of 2028

ELECTIVES - 1 Credit

Coursework in CTE or Fine Arts

To achieve the on-line requirement in the Michigan Merit Curriculum, students will be involved in structured learning activities that utilize technology with intranet/intranet-based tools and resources as the delivery method for instruction, research, assessment and communication. These activities may include one or more of the following: WebQuests, blogs, wikis, podcasts, videocasts, online research, online field trips, online simulations, educational gaming, electronic portfolios, test preparation and career planning tools.