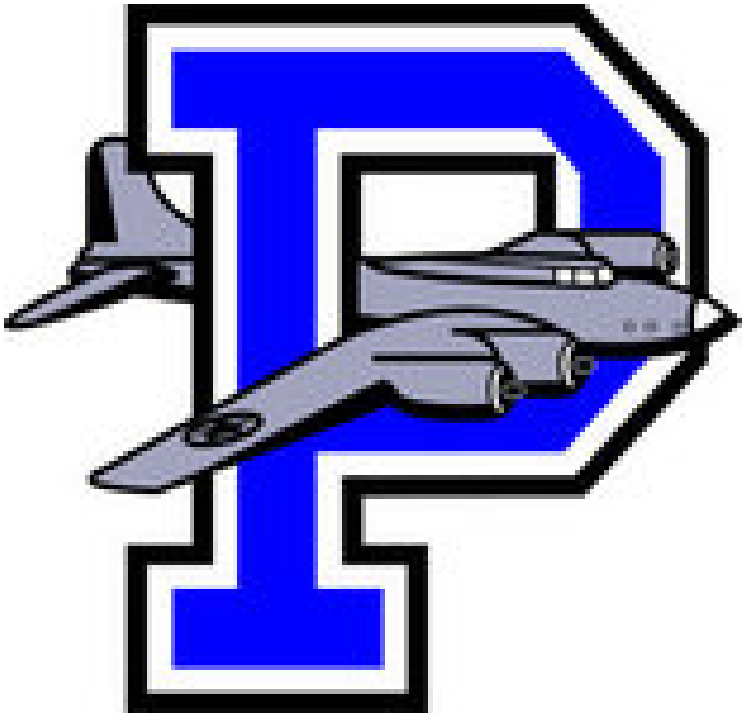
PALMERTON AREA HIGH SCHOOL



2021 - 2022

Program of Studies

This booklet describes all courses contained in the Palmerton Area High School program of studies. Please note that every course may be offered during a particular school term. The forms distributed at the time of registration will contain the official list of courses to be offered for the coming school term.

High School Administration

Paula A. Husar - Principal

Administrative Staff

Dr. Jodi Frankelli – Superintendent
Ms. Jamie Schuler – Assistant to the Superintendent
Mr. Daniel Heaney – Technology Director
Mrs. Suzanne Rentschler – Special Education Director

High School Guidance Counselors

Vicki McHugh (Class of 2023 and 2024)
Maggie Schaffer (Class of 2022 and 2025)

Coordinator of Athletics & Student Activities

Kyle Porembo

A Message from Your Principal

Dear Parents / Guardians / Students,
The high school staff and I have prepared this Program of Studies booklet to help you during the course selection process. Included in this booklet is a list of basic course descriptions to help you determine the appropriate academic program based on your interests, academic ability, and most importantly, future academic and career plans. High school students face many difficult decisions and a seemingly infinite number of options as they decide upon their future careers. Planning a program of studies to meet the varied demands and interests of every student is a challenging task. It is one that takes much time and has to be a collaborative effort. This year, our document includes some changes that are built on additions and changes made last year to better reflect our mission and address the COVID pandemic. Our number one goal is to provide you with as much information, guidance, and individual assistance as possible to help you make your choices.

The scheduling process that we have implemented is one that we believe is cooperative in nature as it includes input from students, parents, advisors, counselors, and teachers. Most questions concerning courses or career plans can be answered by reading this booklet. However, nothing can take the place of a meeting with a guidance counselor. Please do not hesitate to contact your guidance counselor, teachers, or administrator with your questions, comments, or concerns. We look forward to planning the upcoming school year with you and to watching our students mature into successful and contributing members of society!

Sincerely,

Paula A. Husar
Principal

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District Mission Statement

The Palmerton Area School District community is committed to the success of all students and creates and maintains a safe and positive environment through a well-planned, challenging, technology integrated, and continuously evolving curriculum that promotes lifelong learning.

Vision Statement

The vision of Palmerton Area High School is to educate and prepare all students for success in a globally competitive society. This shall be accomplished through activities that enhance their social, mental, and physical well-being.

Shared Beliefs

- Learning is a lifelong process, encouraged through a partnership of home, school and community.
- Effective communication among all students, faculty, administration, school board, parents and the community is essential for a quality school system.
- Through the promotion of a challenging standards-based curriculum and quality instruction, students are more likely to achieve their full potential.
- Technology in our schools will enhance our curriculum and provide an effective learning environment.
- Community involvement, through various projects and public events, will improve the overall success of our students.
- The student learning process is a shared responsibility among parents, students and teachers.
- Students are individual learners that deserve a quality education designed to meet their individual needs.
- Effective learning occurs in a welcoming environment that offers safety, understanding and genuine guidance.

Counseling Services

We urge you to meet with our counselors to discuss your career plans and course selections. Your curriculum requests should reflect your career plans and occupational interests. The function of the counselors is to assist you in the decision-making process. Meeting with your counselor will aid you in planning your course of study, meeting graduation requirements, and meeting the requirements of your specific post high school educational program or vocation.

Your parents and/or guardians may arrange for a conference by calling the Palmerton Area High School Guidance Office at (610) 826-3155, extension 2224. You may arrange for a conference by visiting the guidance office and speaking with the secretary.

Career Pathways

Palmerton Area High School offers course selections in these clusters along two curriculum paths, the technical and the academic. Students, with input from parents and/or guardians, should take great care in making pathway and course selections as they will be relevant to future career and educational opportunities. Students should base their decisions on their abilities, interests, and career goals.

Traditional Academic

This path is recommended for those students who plan to pursue a career requiring four or more years at a college or university. It includes the classes required for graduation from high school as well as those required for admission to many colleges and universities. As students near their expected date of graduation, they should check the admissions requirements of the schools they are interested in as many post-secondary institutions and programs have different requirements for admission.

Technical Academic

The Technical Academic path is for those who plan to pursue a technical education as part of their high school curriculum. Palmerton Area teams up with Carbon Career & Technical Institute (CCTI) to offer the Technical Academic path. Students have various options for scheduling classes at all academic levels at the High School and CCTI. This path is especially recommended for those students who plan to pursue a technical or two-year associate's degree after high school. However, it is also a viable option for students interested in additional years of post-secondary education.

Levels of Courses

Palmerton Area High School offers various levels of courses to suit students' different learning styles. Appropriate course levels in core content areas (math, language arts, social studies, & science) will be pre-determined for each student individually based on standardized test scores, benchmarking assessments, past course performance (final grades), individual learning styles, core-content teacher recommendations, and prerequisite grades.

The following levels of courses are available to our students:

Essentials

Essentials-level courses are offered in the areas of language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies. Essentials courses provide students with the Board-approved PASD curriculum in each content area including all the required Pennsylvania Core Standards needed to obtain a high school diploma.

An Essentials curriculum is designed to:

- Allow students more time on academic tasks during the class period by moving at a slower pace and utilizing more hands-on techniques and instructional methods.
- Offer students multiple opportunities and more time in class to achieve curricular goals.
- Allow for more teacher-to-student direct instruction for content delivery and academic practice.

Academic

Academic-level courses are offered in the areas of language arts, mathematics, science and social studies. Academic courses provide students with the Board-approved PASD curriculum in each content area including all of the required Pennsylvania Core Standards needed to obtain a high school diploma and prepare a student for post-secondary education, whether traditional or technical.

In addition, an academic curriculum is designed to:

- Be more theoretical in nature.
- Cover core content and standards at a faster pace than that of an Essentials class.
- Allow students some time on academic tasks during the class period and require students to spend additional time on work outside of the classroom.
- Require a higher-level of independent work on the part of the student.
- Provide students with curricular concepts beyond those taught in an Essentials curriculum in certain content areas (example: Math).

Honors

Honors classes are offered in the areas of English, mathematics, science, social studies, and foreign languages. These programs are designed to be very rigorous with high expectations for student achievement. Honor programs are much more complex and demanding than typical academic classes. Due to the workload demands of these courses, weighted grades are used to acknowledge student achievement. Students must be willing to commit a great deal of time and effort to classes at these levels.

Advanced Placement®

The AP® Program currently offers more than 30 courses across multiple subject areas. Each course is developed by a committee composed of college faculty and Advanced Placement® teachers, and covers the breadth of information, skills, and assignments found in the corresponding college course. At PAHS, Advanced Placement® courses are offered in English Language, English Literature, Economics, US History, and Calculus AB and are taught according to curriculum approved by the College Board. Students in these courses are eligible to take an Advanced Placement® Exam that could allow them to earn college credits, a decision that is dependent upon the college or university that each student is planning to attend. The student demand is similar to that for honors courses. Also, there is a significant amount of independent work required of students taking AP® courses.

College Courses

There are a number of options available for students to receive college credits while still in high school. See below for guidelines and your School Counselor for courses available.

Dual Enrollment (DE)

The Pennsylvania Dual Enrollment Program allows school districts to partner with eligible post-secondary partners to offer high school juniors and seniors the chance to earn college credit while completing their high school requirements. Students must carry at least 4 classes per semester. This can be a combination of PHS and LCCC classes.

Dual enrollment, referred to as "concurrent enrollment" in the School Code, is a locally administered program. Palmerton Area School District (PASD) has entered into a Dual Enrollment partnership with Lehigh Carbon Community College (LCCC). Students will be responsible for tuition and textbook fees.

A summary of enrollment eligibility requirements is listed below; for complete information go to *www.palmerton.org*.

Students may enroll in a dual enrollment course and not pay tuition for the course. Upon successful completion of the course the student will still receive 1 credit towards graduation at Palmerton, but not receive the three college credits from LCCC.

Dual Enrollment Eligibility Requirements

1. You are a high school senior or junior.

2. You are making satisfactory progress toward fulfilling Palmerton Area School District graduation requirements. Satisfactory progress will be determined by the following:

   Classroom courses: The school district will determine satisfactory progress based on credits earned and teacher recommendation to the dual enrollment course.

   Online courses: The school district will determine satisfactory progress based on credits earned and a cumulative GPA of 3.00 or better at the time of your application to the dual enrollment program.

3. You demonstrate readiness for college-level classes by meeting course eligibility and pre-requisites as determined by LCCC.

4. You demonstrate acceptable behavior as shown on your disciplinary record. If you have had prior suspensions or are on a Level II of the disciplinary code, you may not be eligible.

5. You may not be on or have been on, in the past year, a PASD attendance contract with school administration. You cannot have received a 6-day or beyond attendance letter.

6. LCCC courses cannot be substituted for any Palmerton High School graduation required course.

7. You must maintain a 2.0 GPA at LCCC. Failure to meet the 2.0 GPA will render you ineligible from further participation in the program.

NOTE: Students taking an on-line class or classes at LCCC are only required to be at Palmerton High School for their required high school courses. Students taking a course taught by an LCCC professor at the high school are only required to be at the high school on days that course meets. Dual Enrollment students with signed permission slips are expected to arrive late to the high school or leave early when they do not have classes scheduled.

Carbon County Technical Institute

CCTI (Carbon County Technical Institute) is a comprehensive career and technical high school, providing both academic and career education for students in grades 10, 11, and 12. (An exploratory program is available for grade 9.) Students enrolled at CCTI will learn the skills necessary to be successful in a career or technical field. They will also realize that academics is an important foundation for a successful career. The goal of CCTI is to provide first-rate career and technical training, valuable academics, and hands-on experience that will offer the first steps to a rewarding career. Upon completion of their coursework students will be issued a diploma from CCTI. Further information can be found at www.carboncti.org.

Students who attend CCTI are still eligible to play sports for PAHS. Transportation is arranged as needed.

For a student to attend CCTI they must complete an application which is available in the guidance office. They must also earn six credits as a freshman at PAHS, the English, math, science and social studies must be earned with 2 additional credits.

The list below indicates the technical areas offered at CCTI.

CCCTI Technical Areas

- Auto Body Collision and Repair Technology
- Auto Service and Technology
- Carpentry
- Computer Engineering Technology
- Cosmetology
- Culinary Arts
- Drafting and Design Technology/Technician
- Electrical Distribution and Automation/Electrician
- Electronics Communication Engineering Technology
- Graphic Design
- Health/Medical Assistant/Aide
- Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning & Refrigeration
- Marketing/Distributive Education
- Precision Machine Technology
- Welding

CCTI Post-Secondary Opportunities

Students can earn **FREE** college credits while attending CCTI. CCTI has partnered with post-secondary institutions to provide articulation credits (college credits).

Articulation Credit

An articulation credit allows high school students to receive college credit for technical courses they completed while in high school. The articulation process eliminates the need for duplication of courses at the college level so that students can seamlessly continue their education in a related program at a postsecondary institution. Our technical programs are organized so that students may choose from a variety of post-secondary options including technical or business schools, community colleges, or a four-year college program. Having earned articulation credits will save time and money. Articulation credits are absolutely FREE. Articulation Credits are received through an agreement between CCTI and a post-secondary institution. CCTI currently has Articulation Agreements with Lehigh Carbon Community College (LCCC), Northampton Community College, Pennsylvania College of Technology, Johnson & Wales University, Universal Technical Institute and a number of other institutions.

In addition, The Students Occupationally and Academically Ready Program (SOAR) allows qualified high school students enrolled in an approved career and technical Programs of Study to receive college credit toward a diploma or certificate in a similar program at a postsecondary institution. There are 14 Pennsylvania community colleges listed and 14 PA State System of Higher Education universities. Learn more at https://www.patrac.org.

We encourage you to examine the following websites relating to articulation credits and career resources: PATrac.org, PACareerStandards.com, PACareerZone.org, GettingThemThere.com, and PACollegeTransfer.com.

Academic Year

The Palmerton Area High School year is divided into two semesters, each of which includes three thirty days marking periods. Report cards are distributed at the end of each marking period. Families who do not receive their student's report cards at home should call the HS Guidance Office to request that a paper copy of the report card be sent home with the student. Parents and students are encouraged to access the PowerSchool© on a regular basis for up-to-date information on individual students' grades and attendance.

Block Scheduling

Palmerton Area High School operates on a 4x4 block schedule that allows students to take eight (8) courses per school year, four (4) in the fall semester and four (4) in the spring. Each school day is divided into four eighty-minute classes with a fifty-minute (50 min.) enrichment period and twenty-five-minute (25 min.) lunch period in the middle of the day. There are no study halls.

Scheduling Process

It is very important to discuss course selections in the spring of 2021 with the teacher of the offered course to determine if the selection is appropriate for fall of 2021. The Guidance Counselors will meet with the whole grade to go over course selection and information. Individual meetings will be scheduled as needed. Students initially register for their next year's courses during the spring of each year. Students must register for a minimum of eight (8) semester courses for each academic year with core content course levels having been predetermined by core content teachers based on a student's standardized test scores, benchmarking assessments, past course performance (final course grades), content teacher recommendations, and prerequisite grades. Elective courses should be chosen based on a student's personal interests and/or career goals. It is essential that students carefully consider course and alternate course selections (used for scheduling conflicts only) during the initial registration phase. Budgetary, staffing, and curricular decisions are made as a result of the initial student registration process. The school administration reserves the right to cancel or postpone courses for reasons of insufficient enrollment, lack of physical facilities, and/or non-availability of teaching personnel.

Students will receive scheduling information during class meetings. The schedules need to be reviewed and signed by a parent.

Final student schedules mailed home to students in August. It is important that, once again, parents/guardians review their student's schedule for the upcoming school year to check for accuracy.

Schedule Changes

Because of the complexity of a master schedule, class sizes, and staff assignment, we are not able to consider schedule changes if a student was properly assigned to a course based on academic data or student request. Likewise, a schedule change will not be considered to alter the period the course is offered, to change the teacher assignment, or because a student had a change of heart.

Schedule changes will be permitted for the following reasons:

1. Correction of a human or computer error
2. Change in program (e.g. College Prep to CCTI)

3. Failure to meet prerequisites for a course (e.g. fails a summer school course)
4. Once the school year begins, a scheduled class cannot be dropped without appropriate extenuating circumstances as well as permission from the parent **and** the sending and receiving teachers. Written requests from the teachers and parents will be required to consider the change.
5. Any student who fails a major subject during the first semester should see his/her guidance counselor to review possible adjustments to their second semester schedule.

The guidance counselors will work in August to make necessary schedule changes prior to the start of the school year.

*****IMPORTANT NOTE*****

Due to the importance of students attending a class from the very first day of the semester, student schedules will not be changed after five school days from the first scheduled student day of the school year. Information regarding summer appointments with guidance counselors for the purpose of discussing student schedules will be sent home with the student's final schedule.

Prerequisite Requirements

Course prerequisites are listed with the courses in this booklet. There is an extremely high correlation between meeting the prerequisite requirements and successful course completion. Due to specific skill components and curricular alignment, students will be required to meet the specified prerequisites and follow the prescribed sequence of courses. Questions or concerns related to prerequisite requirements should be directed to the student's individual counselor by the end of the current school year.

Promotion Policy

Students at the Palmerton Area High School in grades 9-12 must satisfactorily complete all requirements for graduation in order to receive a diploma and to participate in commencement exercises. A student who fails a required course must either reschedule the course for the next school year or retake it or an equivalent course approved by Palmerton Area High School on a tuition basis. Rescheduling courses during the next school year may result in the loss of required elective courses and other possible graduation requirements, thereby resulting in delayed graduation.

Grading

Grade Point Average

Grade point average (GPA) is the calculated average inclusive of all final grades. To calculate cumulative GPA, each final course grade is added together and divided by the total number of credits attempted. All courses are included in the calculation of GPA with the exception of those graded Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory and those offered via an educational institution other than Palmerton Area High School or CCTI.

Weighted Grades

Honors and AP courses will receive weighted grades. These grades are to reflect the higher academic expectations for these courses. Courses will be weighted at 1.1.

Honor Roll

Recognition will be given each marking period to students who meet the following scholastic standards:

High Honors: 3.75 to 4.00+
Honors: 3.25 to 3.74

Final Exams and Grades

Students are expected to take the final exam at the time it is scheduled unless they have completed an educational trip form and it has been approved by the administration. All students must make up all final exams within two weeks of when the exam is given (Semester 1 finals) or two weeks after the last day of school (Semester 2 finals). Each marking period grade is worth $^{2}/_{7}$ of a student's overall final grade. The final exam/project makes up the remaining $^{1}/_{7}$ of a student's overall average.

Graduation Requirements for
Palmerton Area High School full-day students

In order to graduate from Palmerton Area High School, students must have successfully completed the following minimum pattern of courses:

Academic Area	Required Credits
English	4
Math	4
Science	4
Social Studies	4
Personal Finance	1
Specials (Art/PE/Health & Music/PE/Health)	2
Specials Elective	1
Technology	2
Electives (Including World Language*)	6
Total Academic Credits	**28**
Total Required	**28**

Standard Diploma

The following requirements apply to all students seeking to graduate from Palmerton Area High School. Depending on the student's career path, the student is permitted to make relevant selections within the academic and elective areas.

Students considering attending a more competitive four-year college should review the entrance requirements of that particular school when making course selections.

Students in the Class of 2023 and beyond will need to pass the Keystone Exam for Algebra I, Biology, and Literature. Students have multiple chances to take the test with remediation built into the schedule for those who need it. For students who are not successful on the exam, may have to complete a project based assessment. This project will be developed by the State. When the details about the project become available from the State, changes to a student's schedule may be necessary. The staff is committed to provide students with the resources and opportunity to successfully complete this project.

*All students planning to attend either a two or four year college should take a minimum of two years of the same foreign language. Depending on the student's post-secondary choices, a third and/or fourth year of the language should be taken. However, it should be noted that foreign language classes are not required for graduation.

Diploma with Distinction

Students considering attending a more competitive four-year college should review the requirements of a "Diploma with Distinction." Students must maintain a Cumulative Grade Point Average of 3.5, and graduate with a total of 32 credits. Depending on the student's career choice, the student can make different selections within the academic and elective areas.

Course Recommendations

(Certain courses have additional requirements--consult course descriptions for more details.)

9th Grade Required Core Subjects

English	English 9 Honors English 9 Academic English 9 Essentials	**Science**	Natural Science Honors Natural Science Academic Natural Science Essentials
Mathematics	Algebra II Honors Algebra II Academic Algebra I Academic Algebra I Essentials	**Technology**	Computer Applications I Computer Fundamentals Computer Information Processing Google Apps
Social Studies	United States History Honors United States History Academic United States History Essentials	**Specials**	PE/Health/Art

10th Grade Required Core Subjects

English	English 10 Honors English 10 Academic English 10 Essentials	**Science**	Biology Honors Biology Academic Biology Essentials
Mathematics	Geometry Honors Geometry Academic Algebra II Academic Algebra II Essentials	**Technology**	Computer Info Processing Computer Applications I Computer Applications II Introduction to Computer Science Google Apps Introduction to Coding Multi Media
Social Studies	American Gov. Honors American Gov. Academic American Gov. Essentials	**Specials**	PE/Health/Music

11th Grade Required Core Subjects

English	English 11 Honors English 11 Academic English 11 Essentials
Mathematics	Pre-Calculus Honors Pre-Calculus Academic Algebra III/Trig Academic Geometry Academic Geometry Essentials
Social Studies	World History Honors World Geography and Cultures Academic World Geography and Cultures Essentials
Science	Chemistry I Honors Chemistry I Academic Physical Science Essentials
Technology	Computer Applications II Intro to Computer Science Google Apps Intro to Coding Multi Media

12th Grade Required Core Subjects

English	English Literature AP English 12 Academic English 12 Essentials
Mathematics	Calculus AB AP Pre-Calculus Academic Algebra III/Trig Academic Probability and Statistics Academic Concepts of Algebra Essentials
Social Studies	Economics AP Economics Academic Economics Essentials
Science	Physics Honors Physics Academic Environmental Science Essentials
Technology	Computer Applications II Intro to Computer Science Google Apps Intro to Coding Multi Media

Summer Course Recovery Requirements

If a student does not earn sufficient credits, to meet our graduation requirements, he/she will not graduate. The Palmerton Area High School will offer a credit recovery program. Using an online software program, a student must complete a minimum number of hours of coursework to earn credit for the course. The coursework will be done at the high school and will be monitored by a teacher. Additional Information will be available through the guidance office.

** A student who receives an "E" (50% - 59%) as a final grade in a course is eligible to participate in the credit recovery program. This does not apply to Algebra I

** A student who receives an "F" (below 50%) as a final grade will not be given the opportunity to participate in the credit recovery program.

** Students will be limited to two summer recovery courses during their four year tenure at the Palmerton Area Senior High School. The computer system / program will only be available between the hours of 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM. Students must earn a total minimum grade of 70% on the assignments to complete a course. Every one of the course assignments must be completed. (This does not apply to the summer of 2021 due to the COVID pandemic.)

** The Keystone courses (Biology, Algebra I, and English) may **not** be taken as part of the summer recovery program.

Keystone Exam Information

The Keystone exams are end-of-course assessments mandated by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for all students seeking to graduate from public high schools. The exams are designed to evaluate proficiency in Algebra I, Biology, and Literature. The Keystone Exams will be administered during a state-directed window during the winter and the spring of each school year.

Students will be offered multiple opportunities to demonstrate "Proficiency" on these tests. Proficiency on these tests is a component of the commonwealth's high school graduation requirements.

Course Offerings

Course descriptions are listed alphabetically by subject. All courses meet 5 Blocks per week and 1 credit is earned upon successful completion, unless otherwise noted. Certain courses have additional requirements/prerequisites—please consult the course descriptions below for more details.

Art

***Art for Everyone (810) Grade 10-12 1 Credit**

Do you enjoy creating artwork, but don't consider yourself "Advanced Art" material? This course breaks down the fundamentals of drawing into simple, easy to understand steps proving that EVERYONE can be an artist. Students will learn to recognize detail, decipher light and shadow, properly render proportion, and will eventually have the unconscious ability to string these skills together. Whether you are using this course as a stepping stone to Advanced Art or as a chance to work beyond stick figures, willing and open-minded students are guaranteed to show growth after one semester of Art for Everyone.

***Introduction to Graphic Arts (811) Grade 10-12 1 Credit**

Prerequisite: One semester of "Art for Everyone" or "Advanced Art"

This course is designed to inform students of various uses of graphic arts within our everyday lives. Students will design 2D and 3D projects using the various mediums available. Students will have access to computers for ideas and images but layouts and projects will be done by hand.

***Advanced Art (840) Grade 10-12 1 Credit**

The course is comprised of self-motivated students working at different skill levels. Each student's level of expertise will be determined and modifications for project difficulty will be made to accommodate them. Students will have the option of working in pencil, colored pencil, pastels, pen and ink, acrylic, watercolor and oil. There is also a 3D clay requirement in this course.

Business / Technology Education

All students are required to take two credits in Technology to fulfill the graduation requirement. The first course should be taken in the 9th grade year. The second course may be taken at any time during grades 10, 11, or 12. However, waiting until the second semester of the senior year is not recommended.

The goal of the technology sequence is to place students in courses where they have the opportunity to be successful and maximize their individual growth. The Business Department will determine the best placement for incoming 9th grade students and assist them in determining the best option for their second credit to help achieve this goal. The courses listed as Grade 9 indicates that grade 9 students may take the course. This does not mean that these classes are exclusive to grade 9 students.

Business

***Personal Finance (605)** **Grade 9-12** **1 Credit**

This course is designed to cover topics that impact teenagers now and in the future for them to make educated financial decisions now and throughout their lives. The course content keeps up with ever-changing economic issues and provides exposure to many different areas that are vital to a students' overall financial success. Topics include Career Exploration, Checking and Savings Accounts, Investments with an emphasis on the Stock Market, Income Tax Preparation, establishing and maintaining Credit, Insurances with an emphasis on automobile insurance; Permit and Driving Laws, Household Budgets, and an Introduction to Entrepreneurship project.

***Accounting I (621)** **Grade 10-12** **1 Credit**

Accounting I will emphasize basic terminology, principles, and concepts of accounting for use in sole proprietorships, merchandising businesses, and corporations through the use of classroom activities, problem solving, and computer work. High achievement in Accounting I will prepare the student for an introductory accounting course in college.

***Accounting II (630)** **Grade 11-12** **1 Credit**

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Accounting I

Accounting II is an advanced course open to the student who has successfully completed Accounting I. This course delves into advanced accounting concepts used in partnerships, departmentalized businesses, and corporations. Utilization of educational accounting software will be used which afford the student a real-life accounting experience.

***Career Essentials (640)** **Grade 11-12** **1 Credit**

Students will learn the career employment process and complete a career portfolio. Employee skills such as teamwork, problem solving, communication, and performance evaluations will be taught.

Banking, taxes, credit and budgeting will be covered. Students will be given written assignments and deliver PowerPoint presentations.

Technology

***Computer Fundamentals (602) Grade 9 1 Credit**

The course objective is to provide knowledge of Microsoft Office. Students will prepare standard office documents, reports, flyers, resumes/cover letters, and tables. A basic introduction to PowerPoint and Excel will also be included. The students will be expected to work efficiently and utilize good keyboarding and proofreading skills. This class will meet the graduation requirement for one of two technology credits.

***Computer Information Processing (610) Grade 9-10 1 Credit**

The course objective is to provide an in-depth study of Microsoft Word 2013. Students will prepare standard office documents, web forms, reports, and resumes/cover letters. The students will be expected to work efficiently and utilize good keyboarding and proofreading skills. This class is an elective unless the business department recommends enrollment. If recommended, it meets the graduation requirement for one of two technology credits. In addition, this course will NOT count as a technology credit for graduation for any student that completed Computer Applications I with an overall average of 85% or higher.

***Computer Applications I - Office 2013 (651) Grade 9-10 1 Credit**

Prerequisite: Teacher Recommendation

This course will include in depth study of Microsoft Word (word processing), Excel (spreadsheets), Access (database), and PowerPoint (presentation software). These programs are useful for personal, academic (high school and college), and employment purposes. This class meets the graduation requirement for one of two technology credits.

***Computer Applications II-Office 2013 (652) Grades 10-12 1 Credit**

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Computer Applications I with at least an 80% grade.

This course will cover the advanced features of Word, Excel, Access and PowerPoint—key components of Microsoft Office 2013. It is a continuation of the concepts learned in Computer Applications I and will solidify the skills needed in many areas of today's workforce and higher learning institutions. This class will meet the graduation requirement for one of two technology credits.

***Introduction to Computer Science (615) Grades 11-12 1 Credit**

Prerequisite—Successful completion of Algebra I.

This course is designed to offer an introduction to computer science. Students will learn the basics of computer programming along with the basics of computer science. The material emphasizes computational thinking and helps develop the ability to solve complex problems. The primary language for the course is Python. The course will consist of video lectures, daily programming exercises, longer coding assignments, regular quizzes, projects, and exams. Students will also

participate in online discussion forums. This class will meet the graduation requirement for one of two technology credits.

***Google Apps (653) Grades 9-12 1 Credit**

With the Google Apps Fundamentals course, students will learn how to create a Google account and learn its many benefits for the classroom and business world. Students will practice navigating through the general interface of Google products. The searching, organizational, communication, and collaboration components of Google products will be highlighted to help students develop a deeper understanding of how Google can enhance learning in and out of the classroom. This course is designed to introduce the student to basic Google tools and applications through the completion of real-world student-centered activities. Students will be prepared for learning and working in the 21st century through communication and collaboration tools. This class will meet the graduation requirement for one of two technology credits.

***Introduction to Coding (654) Grades 10-12 1 Credit**

This introductory class will cover both computer programming fundamentals (e.g. variables, loops, functions) as well as the concepts necessary to build dynamic websites and text-based games. Students will learn how to create programs, including interactive stories, and how to effectively apply core coding concepts. This class will meet the graduation requirement for one of two technology credits.

***Multi-Media (643) Grades 11-12 1 Credit**

This course will focus on three areas: Graphic Design, Video Production, and Web Design. Students will be involved in creating and editing desktop publishing documents, logo and graphics, videos, and web sites using various software packages and devices. This class will meet the graduation requirement for one of two technology credits.

English

***English 9 Honors (101) Grade 9 1 Credit**

Prerequisite: Recommendation from 8th Grade English Teacher

The English 9 Honors program is designed to challenge students academically who meet the criteria for this course. The curriculum includes the study of grammar and mechanics, vocabulary, composition, speech, and major literary genres, including the short story, poetry, drama, and the novel. Students will also prepare a five-page research paper. This course will also incorporate application of Keystone reading standards. The material presented is more demanding in quality and quantity than the material in the other ninth grade English courses.

***English 9 Academic (100) Grade 9 1 Credit**

This course includes a review of grammar and usage, vocabulary, practice in composition and speech, and a study of representative poems, short stories, a play, and a novel. Students will also write a research paper. This course will incorporate guided reading instruction and application of Keystone Exam standards.

***English 9 Essentials (102) Grade 9 1 Credit**

This course includes the study of basic grammar and usage, composition, speech, and vocabulary. Students will also study several selections of literature including short stories, poetry, plays and a novel. This course will also incorporate guided reading instruction and application of Keystone reading standards.

***English 10 Honors (112) Grade 10 1 Credit**

The Honors English 10 program is designed to challenge and enrich students who meet the entrance criteria for the course. The curriculum for Honors English 10 includes the study of American Literature, grammar and mechanics, composition, research writing, speech, and vocabulary. This course will also incorporate application of Keystone reading standards. The material presented in this course is more demanding in quality and quantity than the material in other sections of English 10.

Qualifications for Acceptance into Honors English 10:

1. Students must have a minimum of an 85 (B) yearly average in English 9 Honors or a 93 (A) average in English 9 Academic.
2. Students must submit, on or before an established deadline, an expository essay on a topic determined by the English Department each year.
3. Students must be recommended for the program by their 9th grade English teacher.

***English 10 Academic (111) Grade 10 1 Credit**

This course includes the study of American Literature, grammar and mechanics, composition, research writing, speech, and vocabulary. This course will also incorporate guided reading instruction and application of Keystone reading standards.

***English 10 Essentials (110) Grade 10 1 Credit**

This course includes the study of basic grammar and composition, research writing, speech, and vocabulary. Students will also study several literary selections. This course will also incorporate guided reading instruction and application of Keystone reading standards.

***English 11 Advanced Placement (122) Grade 11 1 Credit**

The Advanced Placement English Language course replaces Honors English 11. This course is designed to challenge and enrich students who meet the criteria for the course. The curriculum for English 11 AP includes the study of language and composition, British literature, and the British novel. Grammar and mechanics, research writing, and vocabulary will also be taught throughout the course. The material presented in this course is more demanding in quality and quantity then the material in other sections of English 11.

The English 11 AP course leads to the taking of the Advanced Placement test in language and composition for students who can benefit from the test; however, it is not required that students who take the course take the AP test. This course may also be seen as a complimentary foundation for English 12 AP, though it is not a prerequisite.

Qualifications for Acceptance into English 11 Advanced Placement:

1. Students from English 10 Honors must have a minimum of an 83 (B) yearly average; those from English 10 Academic must have a minimum of a 90 (A-) average.
2. Students must be recommended for the program by their 10th grade English teacher.
3. Students from English 10 Academic must submit, on or before an established deadline, an expository essay on a topic determined by the English Department each year.

***English 11 Academic (121) Grade 11 1 Credit**

This course includes the study of English literature from *Beowulf* to the end of the 19th century, with particular emphasis on Shakespeare. A unit on the English novel will include *The Time Machine* by H. G. Wells. Grammar and mechanics, composition, research writing, speech, and vocabulary will also be taught throughout the course.

***English 11 Essentials (120) Grade 11 1 Credit**

This course includes the study of basic grammar and composition, research writing, speech, and vocabulary. Students will also study several literary selections from British Literature, *Macbeth* by William Shakespeare, and a novel.

***English 12 Advanced Placement (132) Grade 12 1 Credit**

The Advanced Placement English Literature course for 12th grade is designed to allow talented and ambitious students to reach two specific goals. First, the AP English 12 course leads to the taking of the Advanced Placement Test in Literature and Composition for a senior who can benefit from the test. Students interested in the test are encouraged to contact their prospective colleges and to discuss the test with the teacher of AP English 12 to determine whether or not the test will be useful in their individual circumstances.

The other goal satisfied by AP English 12 is built into the course, itself. A most demanding course, designed for the highest level English students, the course requires substantial reading and writing,

and it rewards students by preparing them for the rigors of college-level study, a point often taken into consideration by college admissions officers.

Qualifications for Acceptance into English 12 Advanced Placement:

1. Students from English 11 Advanced Placement must have a minimum of an 83 (B) yearly average; those from English 11 Academic must have a minimum of a 90 (A-) average.
2. Students must be recommended for the program by their 11th grade English teacher.
3. Students from English 11 Academic must submit, on or before an established deadline, an expository essay on a topic determined by the English Department each year.

***English 12 Academic (131) Grade 12 1 Credit**

The College Preparatory English 12 course, as its name suggests, is designed to prepare students for college courses in which they will have to read and write well. The demands are not as high as in the AP course, but this is still a demanding course that requires commitment and dedication from each student. Even those students not planning to go directly to college will benefit from the course work and from the opportunity to read and write.

***English 12 Essentials (130) Grade 12 1 Credit**

Specifically for students concentrating in business or vocational careers, the sequence seeks to impart a high degree of proficiency in English grammar, writing skills, and public speaking skills. Students will also study literature from around the world, including Shakespeare's *Hamlet* and a novel.

English Electives

***Comparative Mythology (142) Grade 10-12 1 Credit**

Students in Comparative Mythology will explore the continued impact of mythology on modern life through the study of myths from around the world, the connection to archetypal myths, and the hero cycle. Students will also study the epic genre through *The Epic of Gilgamesh*, the *Odyssey*, and *The Star Wars Universe*. Students will read *The Hobbit*. This is not a college level course, but does involve college level reading and comprehension skills.

***Creative Writing (143) Grade 11-12 1 Credit**

This is a course for anyone who wants to write beyond the standard curriculum. Creative writing includes short stories, poetry, dramatic scripts, and any other form of writing that an individual student wants to try. Students will work closely with the teacher and will be required to revise and edit their own works and to critique their peers' work.

***Introduction to Media Communications DE (151A) Grade 11-12 1 Credit**

This is a college level course, open to 11th and 12th grade students, offered with Dual Enrollment options through Lehigh Carbon Community College.

This course provides a basic understanding of the theories, events, and technologies that enabled electronic media to impact society. Students will become familiar with the concepts and terminology of various media industries. Discussion and study of the latest in communication technology and current issues will prepare students for career choices in these industries. (See instructor for more details.) ***Three college credits are earned. NOTE: Tuition will be charged.***

***Speech Communication DE (195) Grade 11-12 1 Credit**

This is a college level course, open to 11th and 12th grade students, offered with Dual Enrollment options through Lehigh Carbon Community College.

This is an introductory course in the art of public speaking. The communication process is examined as a basis for developing the communication skills needed for becoming an effective speaker both in the classroom and in the real world. Speech preparation strategies, delivery methods, language, and visual aid use are studied. Preparation and delivery of a wide variety of speeches are central to the course. Developing strong communication skills for life and fostering confidence in one's speaking capabilities are reinforced. ***Three college credits are earned. NOTE: Tuition will be charged.***

***SAT Prep (198) Grade 11 1 Credit**

This is a full semester course, that will be made up of 45 days of SAT Critical Reading and 45 days of SAT Math preparation. The goals of this course are to prepare students to take the SAT for college entrance and to help improve the SAT score for students who have already taken it.

The Critical Reading portion of this course will include the following:

1. Test-taking strategies and approaches with reading passages, vocabulary & grammar
2. Improve reading comprehension; develop strategies while reading and answering questions
3. Build your college level vocabulary, including roots, prefixes and suffixes
4. Develop time management skills to pace yourself during the test

The Math portion of this course will include the following:

1. Test-taking strategies and approaches to solving different types of problems
2. Review and practice of algebra, geometry, trigonometry and data/statistical analysis
3. Practice problems and sample math subject tests
4. Best/appropriate use of the graphing calculator. At a minimum, the student must have already taken Algebra II and Geometry

Health and Physical Education

***Anatomy/Physiology (904)** **Grade 11-12** **1 Credit**

Prerequisite: "Must have a B average in ALL Sciences" or "Highly recommended to have a B average in ALL Sciences"

Anatomy and Physiology is an intensive elective course. The purpose of this course is to give students a more thorough look into the systems of the body. This course is preparation for advanced biological studies and careers such as nursing, physical/occupational therapy, athletic training, and any other medical field. Students will become familiar with the anatomical names as well as the physiological processes that are involved. Anatomy and Physiology is an essential elective for those seeking a career in the medical sciences.

This is a science elective and does not count as a science credit.

***Life Fitness (905)** **Grade 11-12** **1 Credit**

This full semester elective course will stress developing student understanding in fitness, training and diet. In addition, students will develop personal fitness plans addressing specific needs based on a pre-test of their personal fitness results. Assessment of student progress will involve written as well as physical results. This course is intended for those students interested in the sport and fitness related fields.

Industrial Technology

***Intro to Woodworking (700) Grade 9-12 1 Credit**

This course will introduce students to basic woodworking through a hands-on approach. Students will learn to safely and efficiently use a variety of power machinery and hand tools while creating individual wood projects. Students will complete 1-2 introductory projects per marking period. Each project will focus on building upon the skills learned from the previously constructed assignment. Each project will require the development of project plan drawings and precise measurement. Students will be able to plan and create a final project of their choice, upon approval of the instructor. Students who have successfully completed the course should leave the semester experience feeling comfortable and confident about safely using basic wood working machinery.

Students who have excelled in woodworking may return for a second semester to complete more complex projects, including an Adirondack chair. Returning students will be required to aid the instructor and assist in demonstrations. Enrollment for a second semester requires instructor approval.

***Introduction to Computer Aided Drafting (715) Grade 9-12 1 Credit**

This course introduces students to the basic concepts of computer-aided modeling and design through the Solidworks modeling program. This course will provide students with an introductory knowledge of solid modeling software. Students will develop problem-solving skills while they cover the basic building blocks of engineering design to create 2D sketches and 3D models. Students will also become familiar with the laser engraver, computer operated router, and use of scale models. Students will have the opportunity to create some of the projects they design out of raw materials in the shop. As a final project students will design, build, and test working hovercraft designs. Successful designs will lift and move students through the use of high horsepower leaf blower motors and other materials sourced by the students.

This course can be used to fulfill one credit towards the technology course graduation requirement.

Library Electives

***Children's Literature (154)** **Grade 9-12** **1 Credit**
This course will look at the tenets of children's literature. This course will be beneficial to students who are looking to enter into the education, social work, or any field in which the student would be working with children. Students will be looking at a broad range of genres and the history of children's literature. The course would culminate in the creation of a children's book which would be donated to the elementary school libraries.

***Media Literacy (155)** **Grade 9-12** **1 Credit**
This course will examine the importance of discerning between types of media, biases, propaganda, and the general news. We will be striving to help students develop an informed and critical understanding of the nature of an ever expanding and increasingly dominating mass media. This course would be good for any type of student - those who are seeking to enter the workforce after graduation or those who wish to attend college.

Young Adult Literature (156) **Grade 9-12** **1 Credit**
Do you love to read Young Adult books? Why not do it in school? This course will look at the various tenets of young adult literature. Students who want to work with young adults (or who just love to read) would highly benefit from this course. This course will include the study of trends contributing to YA literature's development, characteristics of the young adult reader in contemporary society, and the history of the genre.

Mathematics

***Algebra II Honors (402)** **Grade 9** **1 Credit**

Prerequisite: 90% in Grade 8 Algebra I

This course includes extended work with linear systems, quadratic/polynomial functions, radical functions, rational functions, exponential functions, logarithmic functions and rational exponents. Students are expected to be motivated to learn mathematics at an accelerated pace and at a more challenging level.

***Algebra 1 Accelerated Academic (410)** **Grade 9** **1 Credit**

Algebra I Accelerated Academic is a semester-long course comprised of topics that include linear and quadratic equations, inequalities, functions, graphs, systems of equations and inequalities, polynomials, exponents, radicals and rational expressions. This class is offered to an incoming 9th grade student who has successfully passed Accelerated Math 8, and/or the Accelerated Academic Entrance Test. The class will be held in the fall and run concurrent with Academic, Full year Algebra 1. Students can be moved to Academic, Full-year Algebra 1 after the end of marking period one due to the lack of mastering Algebra skills and a teacher recommendation.

***Algebra I Academic (408/409)** **Grade 9** **2 Credits**

Algebra I is a year-long course comprised of two consecutive courses—Algebra I Course 1 will be taken during the first semester, followed by Algebra I Course 2 in the second semester. The topics covered include linear and quadratic equations, inequalities, functions, graphs, systems of equations and inequalities, polynomials, exponents, radicals and rational expressions.

Student must pass Algebra I Course 1 Academic in order to move on to Algebra I Course 2 Academic.

***Algebra I Essentials (403/404)** **Grade 9** **2 Credits**

Algebra I Essentials is a year-long course comprised of two consecutive courses—Algebra I Course 1 Essentials will be taken during the first semester, followed by Algebra I Course 2 Essentials in the second semester. Algebraic concepts and reasoning are developed through equations and inequalities by a continuing arithmetic review of foundation knowledge of mathematical concepts in the rational number system. Use of percents, decimals, fractions, along with the use of variables are studied and reviewed for understanding and preparation for Algebra I Course 2 Essentials. Additional concepts covered will be functions, linear systems, quadratic equations, factoring, polynomial and polynomial functions, radical functions, and rational exponents.

Student must pass Algebra I Course 1 Essentials in order to move on to Algebra I Course 2 Essentials.

***Geometry Honors (413)** **Grade 10** **1 Credit**

Prerequisite: 87% in Honors Algebra II

This course includes a quick review of basic geometric concepts learned in earlier courses. Students will learn to recognize and work with geometric concepts in various contexts. They will develop their understanding of plane and solid geometry in the coordinate plane and build on ideas of inductive and deductive reasoning, logic, concepts and techniques to develop a better understanding of mathematical structure, method, and applications of Euclidean plane and solid geometry, including coordinate proofs. Students will find surface area and volume of three dimensional figures and relate them to the use of transformations. Topics of study include points, lines, angles, triangles, right triangles, quadrilaterals and other polygons and circles. Projects and hands on activities are a component to this course, along with high expectations, as they relate to rigor and a higher order of thinking. Students will be challenged with open-ended questions.

***Algebra II Academic (412)** **Grade 9-10** **1 Credit**

This course is a continuation of Algebra I. Material covered includes work with linear systems, quadratic functions, polynomial functions, radical functions, rational exponents, exponential and logarithmic functions.

Algebra I must have been completed prior to this class.

***Algebra II Essentials (415)** **Grade 10** **1 Credit**

This course is designed to strengthen basic Algebra I skills and extend the student's knowledge in new areas. Topics will include the basics of rational, radical, exponential, logarithmic and polynomial expressions and equations.

***Pre-Calculus Honors (425)** **Grade 11** **1 Credit**

Prerequisite: 87% in Honors Geometry

This course is for the student who has pursued the honors math program and has the desire to study higher mathematical concepts at an accelerated pace and at a more challenging level. It includes the study of Trigonometry, Analytic Geometry, limits, continuity and an introduction to derivatives. It is intended to prepare the student for AP Calculus.

***Algebra III/Trigonometry Honors (423)** **Grade 11** **1 Credit**

Prerequisite: 87% in Honors Geometry

This course is an optional step in the Honors math sequence. This course is a continuation of the study of Algebra in problem solving, work with functions and graphing. It also provides a complete coverage of the fundamentals of Trigonometry that are necessary for Pre-Calculus. The student will be challenged by accelerated pace more advanced problems. This course covers a large amount of the math that is included on the SAT so it is helpful in preparation for that. For the student who needs to strengthen Algebra skills and get a more solid foundation in Trigonometry before entering Honors Pre-Calculus.

***Pre-Calculus Academic (430)** **Grade 11-12** **1 Credit**

This course is designed for the college bound student who has shown exceptional understanding in Algebra, and Geometry. This course will include the study of Trigonometry, Analytic Geometry, limits, continuity and an introduction to derivatives. It is intended to prepare the student for Calculus.

***Algebra III & Trigonometry Academic (432)** **Grade 11-12** **1 Credit**

This course is for the college bound student. It is a continuation of the study of Algebra topics as related to problem solving, functions and graphs. This course covers a large amount of the math that is included on the SAT so it is helpful in preparation for that. It also introduces the student to the fundamentals of trigonometry, leading to Pre-Calculus.

***Geometry Academic (421)** **Grade 10-11** **1 Credit**

This course includes a quick review of basic geometric concepts learned in earlier courses. Students will learn to recognize and work with geometric concepts in various contexts. They will develop their understanding of plane and solid geometry in the coordinate plane and build on ideas of inductive and deductive reasoning, logic, concepts and techniques to develop a better understanding of mathematical structure, method, and applications of Euclidean plane and solid geometry, including coordinate proofs. Students will find surface area and volume of three dimensional figures and relate them to the use of transformations. Topics of study include points, lines, angles, triangles, right triangles, quadrilaterals and other polygons and circles. Projects and hands on activities are a component to this course.

***Geometry Essentials (422)** **Grade 11** **1 Credit**

This course includes a review of basic geometric concepts learned in earlier courses. Students will learn to recognize and work with geometric concepts in various contexts. They will develop their understanding of plane and solid geometry in the coordinate plane. Students will find surface area and volume of three dimensional figures and relate them to the use of transformations. Topics of study include points, lines, angles, triangles, right triangles, quadrilaterals and other polygons and circles. Projects and hands on activities are a component to this course.

***Calculus AP (434)** **Grade 12** **1 Credit**

Prerequisite: 87% in Honors Pre-Calculus

This course is for the student who has pursued the honors math program and has the desire and has demonstrated the ability to study higher mathematical concepts. The goal of the course is to prepare the student for the AP Calculus AB Test. Material covered includes an in-depth understanding of functions, graphs, limits, derivatives, integrals, applications of derivative and integrals, and the embedded use of technology throughout the course. The course will be taught at an accelerated pace to prepare the student for the AP Calculus AB Test.

***Calculus Academic (426)** **Grade 12** **1 Credit**

This course is for the student who has pursued the honors (accelerated) and/or college preparatory math program and has the desire to learn introductory concepts in Calculus in preparation to succeed in college Calculus I. Material covered will include an introduction to functions, graphs, limits, derivatives, integrals, applications of derivative and integrals, and the use of technology throughout the course. The course will be taught at a pace for students to understand beginning calculus concepts in material covered.

***Probability and Statistics Academic (436)** **Grade 11-12** **1 Credit**

Prerequisite: 80% or better in Algebra II

This course is designed to introduce students to concepts of Probability and Statistics. Students will explore the different types of statistics, basic concepts of probability, distribution, correlation and regression, hypothesis testing, and confidence intervals.

***Concepts of Algebra Essentials (424)** **Grade 12** **1 Credit**

This course has emphasis on further development of Algebra, number theory, and problem-solving skills. It also covers new topics in consumer/financial math and set theory.

Math Electives

***SAT Prep (198)** **Grade 11** **1 Credit**

This is a full semester course, that will be made up of 45 days of SAT Critical Reading and 45 days of SAT Math preparation. The goals of this course are to prepare students to take the SAT for college entrance and to help improve the SAT score for students who have already taken it.

The Critical Reading portion of this course will include the following:

1. Test-taking strategies and approaches with reading passages, vocabulary & grammar
2. Improve reading comprehension; develop strategies while reading and answering questions
3. Build your college level vocabulary, including roots, prefixes and suffixes
4. Develop time management skills to pace yourself during the test

The Math portion of this course will include the following:

1. Test-taking strategies and approaches to solving different types of problems
2. Review and practice of algebra, geometry, trigonometry and data/statistical analysis
3. Practice problems and sample math subject tests
4. Best/appropriate use of the graphing calculator. At a minimum, the student must have already taken Algebra II and Geometry

Science

Students may accelerate (take 2 sciences in one year) in science provided they have satisfactorily completed the previous science course and have sufficient mathematics credits.

***Natural Science Honors (505) Grade 9 1 Credit**

Prerequisite: Recommendation from 8th grade Science and Math teacher.

This course is designed for the student who is willing to work harder and go into more detail than 504 Natural Science. This is an accelerated course designed to provide a foundation in biology and chemistry courses our students will take in grades 10-11. Students will enhance their math, problem solving and computer skills, while acquiring an idea of what to expect in their upper level science classes. Areas of study will include matter, energy, ecology, and the environment. This course, along with biology, will provide the necessary preparation for the Biology Keystone Exam taken in 10th grade**.**

***Natural Science Academic (504) Grade 9 1 Credit**

This course is designed to provide a foundation in biology and chemistry courses our students will take in grades 10-11. Students will enhance their basic math, problem solving, and computer skills, while acquiring an idea of what to expect in their upper level science classes. Areas of study will include matter, energy, ecology, and the environment. This course, along with biology, will provide the necessary preparation for the Biology Keystone exam taken in 10th grade.

***Natural Science Essentials (506) Grade 9 1 Credit**

This course is designed to provide a foundation in biology and chemistry courses our students will take in grades 10-11 Students will enhance their basic math, problem solving and computer skills, while acquiring an idea of what to expect in their upper level science classes. Areas of study will include matter, energy, ecology and the environment. This course, along with biology, will provide the necessary preparation for the Biology Keystone Exam taken in 10th grade. This course is designed for those currently not planning to attend college after graduation.

***Biology I Honors (515) Grade 10 1 Credit**

Prerequisite: Minimum 90% yearly average in Natural Science Honors or 93% yearly average in Natural Science Academic. Students will also need to submit an assignment on topic determined by the Science Department by established deadline.

This course will acquaint students with the basic principles of living things and their surroundings. Areas of study will include (time permitting): ecology, the cell, DNA, genetics, evolution, as well as overviews of the various kingdoms, lecture, demonstrations, experiments, and laboratory activities are an integral part of the course. This course is designed for the student who is willing to work harder and to go into more detail than 510 Biology.

***Biology I Academic (510)** **Grade 10** **1 Credit**

This course will acquaint students with the basic principles of living things and their surroundings. Areas of study will include (time permitting): ecology, the cell, DNA, genetics, evolution, as well as overviews of the various kingdoms. Lecture, demonstrations, experiments, and laboratory activities are an integral part of the course. This course is designed as a college preparatory class.

***Biology I Essentials (512)** **Grade 10** **1 Credit**

This course will acquaint students with the basic principles of living things and their surroundings. Areas of study will include (time permitting): ecology, the cell, DNA, genetics, evolution, as well as overviews of the various kingdoms. Lecture, demonstrations, experiments, and laboratory activities are an important part of the course. This course is designed for those not planning on attending college after graduation.

***Chemistry I Honors (531)** **Grade 11** **1 Credit**

Prerequisite: Minimum of a 93% yearly average in Biology Academic or 83% in Biology Honors. Minimum 90% yearly average in Algebra I Academic and 90% yearly average in Algebra II Academic OR minimum 87% Algebra I Honors and 87% Algebra II Honors.

***** Students from Biology Academic will also need to submit an assignment on a topic determined by the Science Department by an established deadline. *****

This is an accelerated, comprehensive course in chemistry designed for students who are planning on attending a four-year college, school of nursing, or major in the sciences. Class material will focus on an in-depth study of topics that are covered in Chemistry I with an emphasis on the mathematical problem-solving approach to principles. Proficient knowledge of Algebra I and II is assumed, and a calculator is essential. Chemical topics include: matter, change and energy; conversion and measurement; the periodic table; atomic structure and quantum mechanics, chemical formulas and interpretation of formulas; chemical equations and reactions; the mole and chemical measurements, stoichiometry, and solution chemistry. Laboratory experiments and lab reports, as well as lecture and demonstrations are basic to this course. ***NOTE: HONORS CHEMISTRY I SHOULD BE FOLLOWED BY HONORS CHEMISTRY II FOR A MORE COMPLETE COLLEGE PREPARATION AND BACKGROUND.***

***Chemistry I Academic (530)** **Grade 11** **1 Credit**

Prerequisite: Students must have a 70% or higher in Algebra I or completion of Physical Science Essentials with an 80% or better average.

This is an introductory course dealing with the composition of matter and its changes. The ability to handle basic mathematical functions, such as addition, multiplication, etc., is assumed as is basic algebra. Calculators are necessary. The chemical areas covered are: matter and its changes, the mole, chemical formulas and equations, chemical calculations and reactions, basic atomic structure and an introduction to solution chemistry. Laboratory experiments and other lab activities, as well as lecture and demonstrations are basic to this course.

***Physical Science Essentials (542)** **Grade 11** **1 Credit**

This course is designed specifically for students considering a business or vocational career (see course descriptions) and/or students who do not have sufficient math background to take chemistry or physics. The course will be divided into two sections which cover the fundamental concepts of Chemistry and Physics. Chemistry topics will include: matter and atomic structure, phases of matter, chemical bonding, chemical formulas, reactions and energy in chemical reactions. Physics topics will include: Newtonian physics, linear motion, work, energy, and machines.

***Physics I Honors (522)** **Grade 12** **1 Credit**

Prerequisite: Minimum 93% in Chemistry I Academic, or minimum 83% average in Chemistry I Honors. Minimum 90% in the following math courses: Algebra I Academic, Algebra II Academic, and Geometry Academic. Those from Algebra I Honors, Honors Algebra II and Honors Geometry must have a minimum of an 87% average.

***** Students from Chemistry Academic will also need to submit an assignment on a topic determined by the Science Department by established deadline. *****

This course is similar to 521 Physics. It covers mechanics, but moves at a faster pace and covers the concepts in greater depth. It is recommended for students with strong math skills and a career interest in science, engineering, technology or a related field.

***Physics I Academic (521)** **Grade 12** **1 Credit**

Prerequisite: Minimum 70% average in Algebra I.
Recommended: Minimum 70% average in Algebra II.

This course is an investigation into the physical laws that govern the universe. It explores the relationships between matter, motion, and energy and builds a framework for understanding their relevance to everyday life. The focus of this course involves the study of classical Newtonian physics, which includes the concepts of velocity, acceleration, force projectile motion, work, energy, and momentum.

***Environmental Science Essentials (520)** **Grade 12** **1 Credit**

This course is designed to introduce students to concepts that apply to everyday living. It acquaints students with the environment and its resources, establishing a relationship between man and his environment, based on our need for energy. This course addresses pertinent environmental issues such as population ecology, terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems, biodiversity and conservation, pollution, basic evolution, and environmental issues within Palmerton. The student should develop a deeper appreciation of our environment and a sense of responsibility for its preservation.

Science Electives

***Earth and Space Science (500)** **Grade 9-12** **1 Credit**

This course is an overall view of the perspective of the earth's place in the universe and the dynamic force in continuous action on and within the planet, which are constantly changing its personality. Areas of study include geology, diastrophism, meteorology, astronomy, oceanography, and geologic history. The course emphasizes the student's understanding of the real world surrounding his everyday life.

*** Biology II Honors (540)** **Grade 11-12** **1 Credit**

Prerequisites: Minimum 85% average in Biology I Honors, or 90% average in Biology Academic and successful completion of Chemistry I.

This course is designed for those who have an interest in pursuing a Biology related career or for those who have a strong interest in living things. We will be building on foundations that were taught in Basic and Honors Biology. Major areas of study will be dealing with energy and how it is used in living things, genetics, and evolution. Some time will also be spent with dissections, which will be a requirement. ***This is a science elective and does not count as a science credit.***

***Chemistry II Honors (543)** **Grade 11-12** **1 Credit**

Prerequisite: Minimum 85% average in Chemistry I Honors OR minimum 90% average in Chemistry I Academic OR recommendation from Chemistry teacher.

This is a sequential course following Chemistry I or Honors Chemistry I. It is intended for students who are planning to take chemistry beyond the high school level. Students are actively involved in the laboratory part of the course. Topics include: acid/base chemistry, thermodynamics, molecular theory and bonding, gas laws, chemical periodicity, electrochemistry, and reduction/oxidation processes. ***This is a science elective and does not count as a science credit.***

Social Studies

Students must select one of the required social studies courses each year. Additional selections may be made from the elective options.

***United States History Honors (201) Grade 9 1 Credit**

Prerequisite: Minimum 93% in 8th Grade American cultures

This course is a continuation of our study of our country's development. Students will gain insight into our country's political, social, cultural, and economic growth. The course begins at the turn of the 20th century and culminates with an examination of recent US history. This class involves more depth and/or projects. It is for highly motivated students. Students who take this course will have the individual option to take the Advanced Placement test in US History in the spring semester of their sophomore year to possibly earn college credit.

***United States History Academic (205) Grade 9 1 Credit**

Prerequisite: Minimum 85% in 8th Grade American Cultures

This course is a continuation of our study of our country's development. Students will gain insight into our country's political, social, cultural, and economic growth. The course begins at the turn of the 20th century and culminates with an examination of recent US history. This is a more challenging class for the motivated student.

***United States History Essentials (200) Grade 9 1 Credit**

This course is a continuation of our study of our country's development. Students will gain insight into our country's political, social, cultural, and economic growth. The course begins at the turn of the 20th century and culminates with an examination of recent US history.

***American Government Honors (216) Grade 10 1 Credit**

Prerequisite: Minimum final grade of an 85% in American History Honors or a 90% in American History Academic.

This course examines the origins, development, and functions of the American Government. The transformation of the government at the local, state, and federal levels and the responsibilities of its citizens are explored. The impact that government has had on recent American history will be investigated to evaluate how the government has evolved since its inception. Students should be highly motivated to learn in Social Studies and be willing to write essays. Students who take this course will have the individual option to take the Advanced Placement test in American History in the spring semester of their sophomore year to possibly earn college credit.

***American Government Academic (215) Grade 10 1 Credit**

Prerequisite: Minimum 85% final grade in American History or 70% in American History Honors

This course examines the origins, development, and functions of the American Government. The transformation of the government at the local, state, and federal levels and the responsibilities of its citizens are explored. The impact that government has had on recent American history will be investigated to evaluate how the government has evolved since its inception. This is a more challenging class for the motivated student.

***American Government Essentials (210) Grade 10 1 Credit**

This course examines the origins, development, and functions of the American Government. The transformation of the government at the local, state, and federal levels and the responsibilities of its citizens are explored. The impact that government has had on recent American history will be investigated to evaluate how the government has evolved since its inception.

***United States History Advanced Placement (202) Grade 11-12 1 Credit**

Prerequisite: Minimum 90% in American History Academic AND in American Government Academic OR minimum 87% in American History Honors AND American Government Honors

The AP US History course focuses on developing students' understanding of American history from 1492 to the present. The course has students investigate the content of U.S. history for significant events, individuals, developments, and processes in nine historical periods, and develop and use the same thinking skills and methods (analyzing primary and secondary sources, making historical comparisons, chronological reasoning, and argumentation) employed by historians when they study the past. The course also provides seven themes (American and national identity; migration and settlement; politics and power; work, exchange, and technology; America in the world; geography and the environment; and culture and society) that students explore throughout the course in order to make connections among historical developments in different times and places. Students will have the opportunity to take the AP test for college credit.

*** World History Honors (221) Grade 11 1 Credit**

Prerequisite: Minimum 85% in American Government Honors OR minimum 90% in American Government Academic

World History is the story of the human community. It explores how people lived on a daily basis, how they shared ideas, how they ruled and were ruled, and how they fought. Students will also study conflicts, distinct societies, political systems, physical geography, culture, trade, and the quest for self-determination, the struggle for individual rights, technology, resources, and the pursuit of power over the course of modern history. This course gives a much more in-depth study of the history of the world we live in and will require students to evaluate the history of the world theoretically, conceptually, analytically, and collaboratively.

***World Geography and Cultures Academic (225)** **Grade 11** **1 Credit**

Prerequisite: Minimum 85% in American Government Academic OR minimum 70% American Government Honors

World Geography and Cultures is a social science that is global in nature. The course initially focuses on the physical and human geography of regions around the world. It also concentrates on the understanding and appreciation of cultures. Students will be studying history, traditions, economics, daily life, and the role of a particular region in the world today. This is a more challenging class for the motivated student.

***World Geography and Cultures Essentials (220)** **Grade 11** **1 Credit**

World Geography and Cultures is a social science that is global in nature. The course initially focuses on the physical and human geography of regions around the world. It also concentrates on the understanding and appreciation of cultures. Students will be studying history, traditions, economics, daily life, and the role of a particular region in the world today.

****One of the four required Social Studies credits must include Economics. ****

***Economics AP (234)** **Grade 12** **1 Credit**

Prerequisite: Minimum 85% in World History Honors OR minimum 90% in World Geography and Cultures Academic

This course includes the study of Economics focusing on basic concepts of production, distribution and consumption and how they apply to the American mixed economy. In addition, different economic systems used throughout the world will be examined. Taxes and personal finance will also be introduced. This class is for highly motivated students. Students will have the individual option of taking an Advanced Placement test for possible college credit in the spring semester.

***Economics Academic (232)** **Grade 12** **1 Credit**

Prerequisite: Minimum 85% average in World Geography and Cultures Academic OR minimum 70% in World History Honors

This course includes the study of Economics focusing on basic concepts of production, distribution and consumption and how they apply to the American mixed economy. In addition different economic systems used throughout the world will be examined. Taxes and personal finance will also be introduced.

***Economics Essentials (230)** **Grade 12** **1 Credit**

This course includes the study of Economics focusing on basic concepts of production, distribution, and consumption and how they apply to the American mixed economy. In addition, different economic systems used throughout the world will be examined. Taxes and personal finance will also be introduced.

Social Studies Electives

***Current Events (245)** **Grade 9-10 1 Credit**

This course is a study of events and issues that are in the news during the current semester. Students will examine national and international issues and events and their impact on us as American citizens. Students will be evaluated through individual and group assignments/projects. A research paper will be required.

***Civil/Criminal Law (240)** **Grade 10-12 1 Credit**

This is an introductory course to personal and practical law and is designed to help prepare students to recognize and understand how the law works in the United States. This class will provide information and problem solving opportunities to develop the knowledge and skills necessary in our litigious society. A study of the United States Constitution will be reviewed in order to understand our rights, liberties, and responsibilities. Civil Law will cover such topics as torts, consumer, family, and housing law. Criminal Law will cover such topics as causes, victims, crime classification, defense, and the justice process.

***Human Relations (242)** **Grade 10-12 1 Credit**

This course gives students an opportunity to understand the complexities of human interactions and their applications in contemporary society. Topics examined may include communications, ethics, personal and organization values and attitudes, social structures, customs and more. Methods used in presenting this course may include debates, lectures, reading selections, discussions, projects, reports, and testing.

***American History on Film (250)** **Grade 10-12 1 Credit**

Have you ever seen the movie *Hidden Figures*? How about *Forrest Gump*? Are these films really showing us the truth about the past or are they exaggerations by Hollywood? In *American History on Film*, students will view films that deal with various topics in American History and discuss their accuracy and importance. Examples of films to be shown are *The Alamo, Dances with Wolves,* and *42.* Students will be required to create written evaluations and conduct research on some of the topics and characters profiled in the movies. Regular attendance will be of the utmost importance since films will be viewed in class.

Specials

Students will spend 30 school days in each of the three specified specials for Specials 9 and Specials 10.

***Specials 9 (901) Grade 9 1 Credit**

Art: The student is exposed to the six basic elements of design, line, shape, and value, to allow the students to experiment with as many media as possible within the time frame. This fundamental course centers on materials and media usage, with numerous projects culminating with a year-end art exhibition of quality works.

Health: In this course students will become reflective and deliberate decision makers when it comes to situations involving human sexuality and wellness. Students will understand and respect the different ideas and values presented to them throughout the course. Students will recognize the types of pressures placed on adolescents to participate in sexual activity and understand the physical, mental/emotional, and social impact of such behavior. Furthermore, students will demonstrate several types of refusal skills in relation to sexual activity.

Physical Education: A variety of team activities will be offered on a seasonal basis. Outdoor games in the spring and fall stress participation, skill, sportsmanship, and team play. The winter portion of the program will emphasize volleyball and indoor games.

***Specials 10 (902) Grade 10 1 Credit**

Health: Topics covered in this course are: Mental Health, Suicide Awareness, Prescription Drug Use/Abuse, Over The Counter Drug (OTC) Use/Abuse, Tobacco/Nicotine products including E-cigarettes/Vaping, Alcohol Abuse, and Illegal Drug Abuse. Students will examine the impact that these topics have on individuals as well as society as a whole. Students will develop confidence when dealing with these topics in order to make lifelong positive decisions.

Physical Education: A variety of team activities will be offered on a seasonal basis. Outdoor games in the spring and fall stress participation, skill, sportsmanship and team play. The winter portion of the program emphasizes volleyball and indoor games.

Music: The students will be introduced to various components of music to build an appreciation of music in their lives. An overview of various aspects of music relevant to today's youth is presented. Music of our culture and other cultures will be examined. Focus will also be placed on developing perceptive listening skills.

World Languages

Students may accelerate and take a world language during each semester or they may elect to take both foreign languages.

Qualifications for Continuation in World Language Courses:

In World Languages classes, in order to pass from Level I to Level II and from Level II to Level III, students must obtain a grade of 70% or higher. If less than a 70% is earned, students may be able to continue with the recommendation of their corresponding Level I or Level II teacher, in consultation with the guidance department, based on individual circumstances.

German

***German I (300)** **Grade 9-12 1 Credit**

Prerequisite*: *Minimum of a C+ average in 8th Grade English OR students must have a minimum of a B- average in English 9

Emphasis on this level is placed on understanding and speaking the German language as it is written today. The vocabulary used is chosen for its usefulness and frequency of occurrence in everyday speech. Grammar study is limited to very basic concepts and structures. Students are introduced to cultural aspects of the language through cultural reading selections. Listening comprehension is strengthened through the use of CDs which accompany the text. Writing is introduced through the use of the textbook and workbook exercises. Evaluation is written and oral.

***German II (310)** **Grade 9-12 1 Credit**

Prerequisite: Successful completion of German I

Emphasis is placed on listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Students continue the study of German culture through various topics chosen for the age group. The second year improves the student's ability to use the language by increasing vocabulary and introducing new points of grammar. Supplementary reading materials are used. Evaluation is written and oral.

***German III (320)** **Grade 11-12 1 Credit**

Prerequisite: Minimum 73% in German II AND/OR Teacher Recommendation

The skills of listening, speaking, reading, and writing continue to be developed. The students read and discuss selections from the textbook and supplementary materials. The major grammar concepts are strengthened and then applied in oral and written assignments. New points of grammar continue to be introduced. The students increase their understanding of the German culture through various activities. Evaluation is written and oral.

***German IV Honors** **Grade 11-12 1 Credit**

Prerequisite: Minimum 83% average in German III AND Teacher Recommendation from German III Teacher

The Honors German IV program is designed to challenge and enrich students who meet the entrance criteria for the course. The language skills of listening, speaking, reading, and writing are expanded. Grammar is reviewed throughout the course. Composition is expanded. Using supplemental readings such as short stories, magazine and newspaper articles, the student will express his/her ideas orally and in writing. Evaluation is accomplished by written and oral testing, the development of projects, and the presentation of projects and compositions. The expectations and materials presented in this course are more demanding in quality and quantity. ***This course is a 1 credit, weighted course***.

Spanish

***Spanish I (301)** **Grade 9-12 1 Credit**

Prerequisite: ***Minimum of a C+ average in 8th Grade English OR students must have a minimum of a B- average in English 9***

Spanish I is designed to give the student an introduction to both, the Spanish language and the Hispanic culture. Through the use of a multimedia approach to learning, emphasis is placed on teaching the basic grammar and vocabulary while general cultural information is covered within the academic content. All four language skills – listening, speaking, reading, and writing are explored.

***Spanish II (311)** **Grade 9-12 1 Credit**

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Spanish I

Spanish II is a continuation and reinforcement of the skills taught in Spanish I, plus further development of new vocabulary and grammar, especially the use of past tense. Improving writing and speaking skills are highly encouraged.

***Spanish III (321)** **Grade 11-12 1 Credit**

Prerequisite: Minimum 73% average in Spanish II AND/OR Teacher Recommendation.

Spanish III is a continuation and reinforcement of skills learned in Spanish I and II. Emphasis is on reading comprehension and new vocabulary thus encouraging conversation and self-expression. Reading selections include literature, poetry, topics of current interest and folklore of Spanish-speaking countries. Activities include original skits, short stories, and seasonal projects.

***Spanish IV Honors (331)** **Grade 11-12 1 Credit**

Prerequisite: Minimum 83% average in Spanish III AND teacher recommendation from Spanish III teacher

Spanish IV is a flexible program for students who have mastered the fundamentals of the language and are now ready to apply their ability in a wide variety of subject areas. Themes of universal interest, as well as those pertinent to Spain and Spanish-speaking countries, are explored. ***This course is a 1 credit, weighted course***.