



2026 - 2027

CURRICULUM GUIDE & PROFILE



ABOUT BH-BL



The Burnt Hills-Ballston Lake School District is proud to be one of the top performing school districts in the Greater Capital Region of New York State.



We have a long history of stability and excellence in education and of residents and staff working together. The district began in 1915, when three one-room school houses joined forces and became New York's first ever "consolidated" school district.

Our five schools have achieved an enviable record of pupil performance, staff accountability, and program efficiency. They have also been named National Schools of Excellence, National Exemplary Schools, and BH-BL High School has repeatedly been named a Reward School. These accomplishments are a reflection of students who are intelligent and willing to work hard, parents who value education and push their children to excel, and a community that demands outstanding schools. These accomplishments are also a reflection of staff who emphasize basic skills and work to improve programs annually, yet recognize the need to work within a budget.

We work hard to ensure our students are provided with extensive extra-curricular programs, a wide variety of clubs and athletic offerings, and numerous art- and music-related opportunities.

Located within both Schenectady and Saratoga Counties, the district serves a suburban and rural area of approximately 40 square miles and includes parts of the towns of Ballston, Charlton, Clifton Park, and Glenville. Modern residential developments are mixed in among the working farms, apple orchards, and lake front property surrounding Ballston Lake.

The proximity to educational, cultural, social, and outdoor activities makes BH-BL a popular place for families to settle. It's an easy commute to the cultural centers and employers in neighboring Schenectady, Albany, and Saratoga Springs. Major shopping areas, restaurants, theaters, and sporting facilities are only 15 to 30 minutes from the school district.

The BH-BL area also includes many houses of worship, excellent community libraries, a fully equipped YMCA, and several parks with playing fields, tennis courts, ice rinks, and hiking and ski trails.

Among the many different local activities and events, the community comes together during the holiday season for a tree lighting ceremony and holiday concert, as well as a community-wide parade on Flag Day.

District by the NUMBERS

3,220 Total students in Grades K-12

645 Faculty & Staff

\$89.1M 2025-26 Budget



98% Graduation rate



87% of the class of 2025 pursued higher education at colleges and universities in 19 states & Canada



Top 10 ranking among Albany, NY Metro area schools from US News & World Report



85 student musicians were selected to perform in prestigious county and state music festivals



38 clubs at the high school



36 Varsity athletic teams



1,621 grades 7-12 students who were on an athletic team last year



\$112M will be invested in renovations and new construction by 2029



Burnt Hills-Ballston Lake CENTRAL SCHOOLS

Ensuring opportunities for learning, personal growth and social responsibility

PO Box 1389, Ballston Lake, NY 12019
(518) 399-9141, ext. 85002
(518) 399-1882 fax

Dr. Patrick McGrath, Superintendent

Dr. David Collins, Assistant Superintendent
for Curriculum & Instruction

Dr. Christopher Abdoo, Assistant
Superintendent for Support Services

The Burnt Hills-Ballston Lake Central School District does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, national origin, or handicap in its employment or the educational programs it operates. Inquiries concerning this policy should be made to the Title IX Coordinator Michael Nickson, PO Box 1389, Ballston Lake, NY 12019.

This Curriculum Guide was produced in cooperation with the Capital Region BOCES Communications Service.
Editor: Tara Mitchell
Photographers: Justin Andrews & Erica Miller

District HIGHLIGHTS



ACADEMICS

- For the past 12 years, more than 56 high school students were recognized as commended students by the National Merit Scholarship program.
- Students involved in the Advanced Topics in Computer Science course have worked on developing user code for the computer science department of the University of North Carolina at Charlotte through the University's BRIDGES project.
- The school's Work-Based Learning Program, which includes Career Exploration Internship, Work Experience, and Corporate Sponsors programs, partnered with more than 80 businesses, organizations, and mentors to provide real-world internships/work experiences for students. Multiple students have been offered full- or part-time jobs upon completion of their work experience.
- Students in the school's Science Research Program were once again recognized for their participation and research skills at both the NYS and Eastern Regional levels. Recent graduates have presented their projects nationwide at events in Los Angeles, Phoenix, Atlanta, and Boston.
- The FACS department continues their partnerships with Habitat ReStore of Schenectady County. Housing and Design students redesign and refurbish previously unsellable furniture to produce high-quality items available for resale.
- Interact Club is involved in the annual holiday food drive with a coalition of interfaith churches and CAPTAIN CHS. In 2025, students collected more than 5,400 non-perishable items.
- The second annual TechFest was held in February 2025. The event featured

a showcase of student projects, and welcomed local business and colleges in the Tech/STEM industry such as RPI, UAlbany, HVCC, Adirondack CC, Allendale Machinery/Gene Haas Foundation, STS Steel, Global Foundries and TEL Technologies. The event, which highlighted our Technology Department, was organized by the BH-BL robotics teams, the Mecha Spartans and MechAgoge. Students were able to interact with vendors, such as trying on clean room suits with Global Foundries, try out AV equipment with Spartan Studios, or play a round of mini-golf (built by the Advanced Materials and Manufacturing Class).

MUSIC & ART

- For 13 consecutive years, BH-BL has been one of approximately 600 schools nationwide to be recognized as a Best Community for Music Education district by the NAMM Foundation.
- Music ensembles traveled to Hershey Park to compete in a Music in the Parks Festival earning top honors in multiple categories. BH-BL High School was also awarded the competition's Esprit De Corps award. This prestigious recognition is awarded to only one school celebrating not only musical excellence but also exemplary character and conduct throughout the event.

ATHLETICS

- In 2024-25, BH-BL won seven team sectional titles, four regional championships, two semifinal finishes at states, a fourth place finish, a second place finish, and secured an overall NYS team championship in field hockey.
- BH-BL was once again recognized as a Scholar-Athlete School of Excellence.

PROFILE of the CLASS OF 2025

Regents Diploma VS Local Diploma BREAKDOWN

Total diplomas granted = **234***

Graduates earning a
Regents diploma or better:

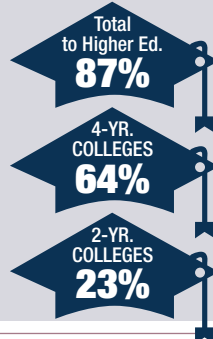
96.6%

Those earning an
Advanced Regents
diploma or better:
59%

Those earning
an Advanced
Regents with a
BH-BL Merit seal:
54%

POST-GRADUATION PLANS

Members of the
Class of 2025
pursued higher
education at
colleges and
universities in 19
states and Canada.



SAT TESTING

CLASS OF 2025 MEAN SCORES



REASONING TESTS:

| | |
|--------------------------------|-----|
| Mathematics | 580 |
| Evidence-Based Reading/Writing | 605 |

* Four additional students received SACC/CDOS certificates.

Burnt Hills-Ballston Lake HIGH SCHOOL



Recognized by the United States
Department of Education as a National
Exemplary School

Accredited by the NY State Board
of Regents and the Middle States Association of
Schools & Colleges

88 Lakehill Road, Burnt Hills, NY 12027
(518) 399-9141, ext. 83300
(518) 399-4341 fax

Timothy Brunson, *Principal*

Tom DiAcetis, *Assistant Principal*

Neil Estrada, *Assistant Principal*

Kerry Austin, Erin Hogan, Jennifer Raucchi,

Russell Weinlein, *School Counselors*

Stay Connected

Follow us @BHBLschools



**Burnt Hills Ballston Lake
Central School District**



www.bhbl.org

Curriculum Guide Key: This symbol means it is Distance Learning course and is offered to other districts through the NERIC Distance Learning Network (see page 10).

Note to Students and Parents: The high school hopes to offer all the courses described in this Curriculum Guide during the 2026-27 school year, but some courses may get cancelled due to insufficient enrollment, scheduling conflicts, or budget constraints. Additionally, Regents/Common Core exam requirements are subject to change based on Board of Regents decisions. Please see your school counselor for the most recent updates.

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Partnerships & Opportunities for a Successful Future

At Burnt Hills-Ballston Lake High School, we pride ourselves on being one of the top districts in the Capital Region. We believe our stellar academic program plays a major role in this distinction. As such we continue to strive to offer courses

that are enhanced through a variety of programs and local partnerships, and that introduce our students to real-world settings and environments as a way to better prepare them for the rigors of college and 21st-century careers.

STEAM



- Science • Technology
- Engineering • Arts
- Mathematics



Science, technology, engineering, and math—or STEM, as it is known in education circles—are rapidly growing fields of study. Yet, BH-BL also considers the arts to play an integral role in this foursome because of the creative and visual nature of these fields. As a result, BH-BL uses the acronym STEAM when referring to the many programs and courses developed over the years to accommodate these fields of study. STEAM is also connected to the broader academic program at BH-BL that has long been focused on preparing students to be critical thinkers, problem solvers, and global citizens across all academic departments. When coupled with an excellent academic program, STEAM opportunities bolster students' experiences and exposure to real-world scenarios and better prepares them for the rigors of college and the demands of high-tech careers.

Popular STEAM-related Courses

- Computer-Aided Drawing & 3D Solid Modeling (p. 43)
- Multimedia & Python Programming (p. 18)
- JAVA Programming (p. 18)
- Digital Art (p. 29)
- Forensic Science (p. 37)
- Introduction to Engineering & Technology (p. 42)
- Homeownership & Renovation (p. 43)
- Advanced Materials Process and Manufacturing (p. 44)
- Principles of Engineering (p. 44)
- Robotics and Automation (p. 44)
- Technical & Digital Photography (p. 44)

STEAM Experiences

- **FIRST Technology Challenge.** As part of the Robotics and Automation course, students build and program a robot to compete in the internationally recognized FIRST Robotics Competitions. BH-BL's high school team has succeeded at both regional and national levels. See page 44 for the Robotics and Automation course description.
- **The Science Research Program** partners with such institutions as Albany Medical College, Wadsworth Labs, Columbia University, Albany College of Pharmacy as well as RPI, Skidmore and Cornell to further prepare students for post-graduate study and careers in the fields of science, technology, engineering, arts and math. Students work with professors or industry professionals in a one-on-one capacity in real-world labs and settings.



Humanities



The study of the humanities provides a sound toolkit for personal and professional success: how to communicate what we think; how to interpret what we read, see and hear; and how to understand and respond to difference. Humanities are unique in their potential to help students develop the skills and wisdom needed to thrive in the digitized, globalized, discovery-driven economy of the 21st century. There have always been, and will continue to be, important and highly valued careers in the field of humanities, which is why for years BH-BL has offered students an array of courses and programs with a humanities theme.

POPULAR HUMANITIES COURSES

- Adolescent Psychology (p. 24)
- Criminology (p. 41)
- Fleur de Lis: French Language & Culture in North America (p. 46)
- German Character and Culture (p. 47)
- La Paella de Cultura (p. 46)
- Chinese (p. 47)
- Literature & Politics (p. 21)
- Psychology (p. 41)
- Public Speaking (p. 21)

- Science Fiction & Speculative Literature (p. 21)
- Sociology (p. 41)
- The American Experience (p. 21)
- Philosophy and Literature (p. 22)

HUMANITIES EXPERIENCES

- **PEACE Exchange Program.** For more than 30 years, BH-BL has been sending students (and, in turn, welcoming students) from France, Germany, and Spain for an in-depth, three-week program where students receive a first-hand experience of the cultural, social, and academic life of another country.
- **Diversity Program.** BH-BL has participated in a diversity program for more than 20 years. Through the Schenectady County program, students get to know one another, consider different points of view, explore disagreements, and work together to take action on issues they care about.
- **Community Service.** Community Service remains a vital part of the BH-BL experience. For more than 20 years, BH-BL students have participated in annual events including local food drives, the Toys for Tots campaign, and the Vietnam Veterans "Stand Down" community service event. Students work with faculty and staff in multiple settings to give back to our community.



College Credit Opportunities



There are two methods by which BH-BL students can earn college credit for courses taken right at our high school.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT

These are courses that typically follow a nationally standardized curriculum and culminate in an Advanced Placement exam (AP), for which a fee is charged. AP courses offered at BH-BL are:

- AP Biology*
 - AP Calculus AB*
 - AP Calculus BC*
 - AP Chemistry*
 - AP Computer Science*
 - AP Computer Science Principles
 - AP Environmental Science*
 - AP Macroeconomics
 - AP Statistics*
 - AP US History*
 - AP US Government & Politics*
 - AP World History: Modern
- * students may pursue college credits

AGREEMENTS WITH SPECIFIC COLLEGES

BH-BL High School administrators also have agreements with several colleges that will grant credit hours for specific courses we offer since our course is essentially equivalent to theirs. Students successfully completing the BH-BL course and paying tuition will have a number of college credit hours to add to their resumé. Many times other colleges will accept these credits. For more details, see your guidance counselor and the course descriptions on the following pages for:

- Public Speaking (SCCC, pg. 21)
- College Composition (SCCC, pg. 22)
- AP U.S. History (SCCC, pg. 40)
- AP US Government & Politics (SCCC, pg. 40)
- AP European History (SCCC, pg. 41)
- College Algebra (SCCC, pg. 33)
- Statistics (SUNY Albany, pg. 34)
- AP Statistics (SCCC, pg. 34)
- Precalculus (SUNY Albany, pg. 33)
- Honors Precalculus (SUNY Albany, pg. 33)
- AP Calculus AB (SCCC, pg. 34)

- AP Calculus BC (SCCC, pg. 34)
- Intro to Computer Science (Siena, pg. 18)
- AP Computer Science (SCCC, pg. 18)
- AP Computer Science Principles (SCCC, pg. 18)
- Science Research (SUNY Albany, pg. 36)
- AP Biology (SCCC, pg. 38)
- Honors Physics (SCCC, pg. 37)
- Environmental Science (SCCC, pg. 37)
- AP Environmental Science (SUNY ESF, pg. 38)
- AP Chemistry (SCCC, pg. 38)
- Health (Sage, pg. 31)
- Advanced Health (Sage, pg. 31)
- La Paella de Cultura (SUNY Oswego, pg. 46)
- ¡Temas y Tapas! (SUNY Oswego, pg. 46)
- Fleur de Lis: French Language & Culture in North America (SUNY Oswego, pg. 46)
- Langue et Culture Françaises (Also known as Shaping of Contemporary France) (SUNY Oswego, pg. 46)
- Du Bist Deutschland (SUNY Oswego, pg. 47)
- German Character & Culture (SUNY Oswego, pg. 47)
- Chinese Language & Culture (pg. 47)
- Music Theory (SUNY Albany, pg. 27)
- Advanced Drawing (Sage, pg. 28)
- Advanced Ceramics (Sage, pg. 29)
- Advanced Digital Art & Design (Sage, pg. 30)
- Accounting (SCCC, pg. 16)
- Business Law (Mount Saint Mary, pg. 16)
- Marketing & Management (SCCC, pg. 17)
- Child Psychology & Development (SCCC, pg. 24)
- Computer Aided Drawing 1 and 2 (HVCC, pg. 43)

Important! Colleges vary widely on the types of credit they grant and the grade or score required for such credit. For example, some accept a score of 3 on an AP exam, while others require a 4 or 5. For more information, seek details from the college you wish to attend.

Eligibility

NCAA APPROVED COURSES



English

- American Experience
- American Literature
- British Literature
- College Composition
- Creative Writing/Composition
- English 9
- English 10
- English in the 21st Century
- Honors American Literature
- Honors English 9
- Honors English 10
- Journalism
- Licit & Illicit Literature
- Literature of Film
- Literature & Politics
- Narrative of Sports
- Philosophy & Literature
- Public Speaking
- Readers' Workshop
- Science Fiction
- Shakespeare
- Short Story

Mathematics

- AP Calculus AB
- AP Calculus BC
- AP Statistics
- Algebra
- Algebra A (0.5 credit)
- Algebra B (0.5 credit)
- Algebra 2
- Algebra 2A (0.5 credit)
- Algebra 2B (0.5 credit)
- Algebra 2 Honors
- College Algebra
- Geometry
- Geometry Honors
- Precalculus
- Precalculus Honors
- Statistics

Science

- AP Biology
- AP Chemistry
- AP Environmental Science
- Biology
- Core Life Science: Biology
- Life Science: Biology
- Chemistry
- Earth Science
- Earth & Space Science
- Core Earth & Space Science
- Environmental Science
- Forensic Science
- Living Environment
- Introductory Physics
- Physics
- Honors Physics
- Science Research

Social Science

- AP European History
- AP Macroeconomics
- AP US Government & Politics
- AP US History
- AP World History
- Criminology
- Economics
- Global History I
- Global History II
- Participation in Government
- Psychology
- Sociology
- Topics in US Military History

OTHER COURSES

- Du Bist Deutschland
- Fleur de Lis
- French I
- French II
- French III
- German I
- German II
- German III
- German Character & Culture
- La Paella de Cultura
- Langue et Culture Françaises
- Spanish I
- Spanish II
- Spanish III
- ¡Temas y Tapas!
- Chinese 1C
- Chinese 2A
- Chinese 2B
- Chinese 11
- Chinese Language & Culture



BH-BL + 1 Early College Program

SUNY
SCHENECTADY
COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

For many years, Burnt Hills-Ballston Lake High School has offered its students a wide variety of Advanced Placement and College in High School (CHS) courses that allow them to earn college credit while still attending high school. The convenience and outcome of this opportunity has made it very popular and in high demand. A few years ago, BH-BL High School took this opportunity one step further when it launched the early college program, BH-BL+1. This program, in conjunction with Schenectady County Community College (SCCC), offers students the possibility of dual enrollment to earn an entire year of college credits in a general area of interest, while still earning a high school diploma. The vision for BH-BL+1 is

for students to graduate from high school with a SUNY transcript that could qualify them to enter college as a sophomore. Below are three potential programs of study at SCCC and the courses needed to complete the first year of college. After completing these courses at BH-BL, students can enter SCCC and complete an associate's degree in one year or directly transfer the courses into another college or university.

To learn more about the possibilities through BH-BL+1, please contact your guidance counselor. *Due to master schedule conflicts, there is no guarantee students can be placed in every class they select.

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

| SCCC COURSES | CREDITS | BH-BL +1 |
|--|---------|--|
| College Composition | 3 | College Composition |
| US History I & II | 6 | AP US History |
| Intro to Business Marketing & Management | 6 | Marketing & Management |
| Principles of Macroeconomics | 3 | AP Macroeconomics |
| Business Law I | 3 | Business Law |
| World Language | 6 | Temas/La Paella; Du Bist/German Culture; Fleur de Lis/French |
| Calculus I | 3 | AP Calculus AB |
| Statistics | 3 | Statistics |
| General Ed Science | 3-4 | AP Bio; AP Chemistry; Env. Sci; Honors Physics; AP Env |
| Total Credits: 30 | | |



LIBERAL ARTS: HUMANITIES & SOCIAL SCIENCES

| SCCC COURSES | CREDITS | BH-BL +1 |
|--------------------------|---------|--|
| College Composition | 3 | College Composition |
| World Language | 6 | Temas/La Paella; Du Bist/German Culture; Fleur de Lis/French |
| Math Elective | 3 | AP Statistics; College Algebra; Precalculus |
| US History I & II | 6 | AP US History |
| Science Elective | 3-4 | AP Bio; AP Chemistry; Env. Sci; Honors Physics; AP Env |
| Behavioral Science | 3 | Child Psych |
| Social Studies | 3 | AP US Gov & Politics |
| Total Credits: 30 | | |

MATHEMATICS & SCIENCE

| SCCC COURSES | CREDITS | BH-BL +1 |
|--------------------------|---------|--|
| General Chemistry I & II | 6 | AP Chemistry |
| College Composition | 3 | College Composition |
| World Language | 6 | Temas/La Paella; Du Bist/German Culture; Fleur de Lis/French |
| Calculus | 4 | AP Calculus AB |
| Math Elective | 3 | AP Statistics; College Algebra; Precalculus |
| US History I & II | 6 | AP US History |
| Restricted Elective | 4 | AP Biology |
| Computer Info Systems | 4 | AP Computer Science |
| Total Credits: 30 | | |

Early Assurance Program



BH-BL now supports an Early Assurance Program with Siena College to secure admission of qualified students to Siena to earn a BS and MBA degree—in four years.

Eligible BH-BL students may apply for admission to Siena's School of Business as early as the tenth grade, based on their past and projected academic performance, to secure a seat for the customizable bachelor of science in business degree program, then a master of business administration, all within four years.

Students will need to complete Siena's free online application, including a short essay, requesting consideration to be admitted in the Early Assurance Program. Students must be on track to complete the required number of

academic units in English, social studies, math, laboratory science, and language. Students must also complete at least one college-level course through the Business Department at BH-BL.

There is also an accelerated track for students to earn both degrees in three years.

Students who are accepted to the Early Assurance Program will not be required to enroll or forgo application to other schools; rather they will be able to secure their admission and reserve a place at Siena. To remain in the program, students must earn a cumulative GPA of at least 3.0 to stay on track for the Siena MBA.

Distance Learning



NERIC DISTANCE LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

Grades 10, 11, 12 **½ or 1 year** **½ or 1 credit**

Burnt Hills-Ballston Lake High School joined the Northeast Regional Information Center (NERIC) Distance Learning Network in the 2017-18 school year. We created two new Distance Learning rooms as part of the district's 2013 renovations project. These rooms and accompanying technology give teachers the ability to deliver their curriculum to BH-BL students within the physical classroom while also broadcasting the course to students in other schools. The Distance Learning Network offers a catalog of courses for students, and BH-BL students may request to take courses

from the network that are not offered at BH-BL. Students enrolled in a Distance Learning Network course will connect with classmates remotely and foster connections beyond the walls of the classroom and BH-BL High School.

During the 2026-27 school year, more than 25 BH-BL courses will be open to other school districts on the network. Courses that are offered on the network are noted in this guide with a computer (💻) symbol next the course credit line. Additional information about the Distance Learning Network and the courses offered can be found on the high school counseling section of our website.

High School Counseling Program



Planning Your Future



Counseling Center Services

The High School Counseling Program is designed to enhance the academic, career, and social-emotional development of our students. School counselors provide students with comprehensive and developmentally appropriate activities, services, and counseling to maximize student success. School counselors help students apply academic achievement strategies, develop interpersonal skills, and explore career pathways. School counselors help set students on a path for postsecondary success including higher education, vocational training, military, and/or the workforce.

Each student is assigned a counselor for the duration of their high school career. Students and parents are encouraged to visit the Counseling Center pages on the BH-BL website or contact their child's counselor with questions or concerns.

Course Load Requirements

Students must carry a minimum of five classes plus physical education each semester. Class and homeroom placement are based upon the number of credits previously earned. A student must have a minimum of 5.5 credits to be ranked as a sophomore; a total of 11 credits must be accumulated before the student is ranked as a junior; and 16 credits are required to be considered a senior.

College Entrance Requirements

Colleges prefer a strong academic preparation in high school. Specific subject and grade point average requirements vary from one institution to another, as the institutions themselves vary in the programs they offer and the kinds of students they seek. Generally speaking, colleges prefer students who have completed:

- Four years of English & social studies
- Three to four years of mathematics
- Three to four years of science
- Two to three years of a world language

College-bound students who choose to drop one of these areas before they graduate should do so only after careful consideration. Teachers, counselors, and college admission officials can provide valuable information in these cases.

Courses Offering College Credit

As shown on pages 6-9, there are three ways for BH-BL students to earn college credits while still in high school: through Advanced Placement (AP) exams, through agreements our school has with several colleges and through the new BH-BL+1 Early College Program. Students interested in taking any one of these college-level courses should consult with their teachers or school counselor.

Colleges have different policies when it comes to accepting credits earned during high school, so students and parents should contact colleges directly for information. Successful completion of an AP exam, for instance, may allow students to opt out of an otherwise required college course, to be placed in a more advanced college course or to receive college credit hours for work done in high school.

AP and college level courses are designed for students who demonstrate a high level of aptitude and academic success. Students recommended for these courses are highly motivated and demonstrate excellent academic achievement, classroom participation, high quality work, and a desire to be academically challenged. Students will demonstrate high performance on other standard indicators such as regents exams, final course grades, and final exam grades.

Planning Your Future



General Information



Scheduling Timeline

Counselors meet with students in February and March to discuss academic progress, career goals, review their academic program and select courses for the following year. Course requests will be mailed home. Any changes to these course requests should be made in early June.

Schedule changes are strongly discouraged once the school year is underway. However, there may be circumstances that precipitate a request to change courses. Below are the general guidelines. These guidelines may vary depending on the course and/or circumstance.

- The last day to switch or add a class is the Friday after the first full week of classes. Parent permission is needed for required courses.
- Level Changes - Students have until the end of Quarter 1 to change levels in a full year course (ex; Honors level to Regular level). Half-year course level changes should be made by the Friday after the first full week of classes.
- An elective course can be dropped for a study hall, as long as the student has enough credits in their schedule.
- All changes require counselor and administrative approval.

Program Planning for Students

When you plan your high school program, you should take into consideration your special abilities, interests and goals. Your pattern of studies should be built around the courses and subjects required for graduation (see page 14), but it should go far beyond these. By

carefully selecting electives that meet your needs and interests, you can work toward your own educational, career and technical and personal goals.

Steps in Planning

1. Establish personal goals. Even though these may change, you should have some specific educational, career, and technical and personal objectives toward which you are working.
2. Evaluate your personal strengths, interests, aptitudes and needs.
3. Learn the typical entrance requirements for the kind of college or school or for the type of work you hope to pursue after graduation.
4. During 10th and 11th grade, take part in information nights and college fairs, and visit the colleges and vocational resources in which you are interested.
5. Consult your parents, teachers and counselor to benefit from their experiences and the information they can make available to you. Talk with others in the community who are working in the professions or vocations you are considering.
6. List the courses you would like to include in your high school study program. Choose those that will contribute most toward helping you achieve your goals.

Exploring the Future

In planning your high school program, think about your hopes for the future. This is a time for learning as much about yourself as about the content of the courses you take. Pay close attention to what you like and what you do well. Think about how to apply that information to your future plans. Look for ways to try out ideas and suggestions about careers.

Students are encouraged to use Naviance. This online program helps students explore academic, career, and college interests. Students can take a variety of assessments, do an interest profiler, search careers and do extensive college research. College bound students will use Naviance as part of the college application process so it is important to be familiar with the program. Students can log into Naviance using their Clever portal.

Several programs at BH-BL High School and local BOCES have been created with this goal in mind. They are programs that allow you to work directly and in a meaningful way in a variety of fields, to gain experience and knowledge about careers and about yourself. As you plan your high school program, you may wish to consider one of these programs, which are described later in this booklet:

- Career Exploration Internship Program
- Capital Region Career or Saratoga Career & Technical Education programs.



Graduating in Less Than Four Years

BH-BL High School students may graduate in less than four years. The decision to do so should be made by parents and students based on the student's goals.

After parents and students have discussed the option thoroughly, they should consult the student's school counselor for a careful consideration of how such a decision could affect the student's future plans.

Additional Information

Under some circumstances, a student may earn a maximum of 6-1/2 units of credit for a diploma without completing units of study as follows:

1. Based on the student's past record, the principal determines that the student will benefit academically by exercising this alternative; and
2. The student achieves a score of at least 85% on a Regents exam* or on a second language proficiency test; and
3. The student passes an oral exam or successfully completes a

special project approved by the State Education Department to demonstrate proficiency in the subject matter; and

4. The student attends school or receives substantially equivalent instruction elsewhere until the age of 16.

A student may obtain the required unit of credit in art and/or music by participation in exceptional situations in advanced out-of-school art or music activity. A course outline of the proposed study must be reviewed and approved by the art/music supervisor and the art/music teacher. The course must be consistent with the school's program and meet the equivalent time requirement. This alternative is not for private music study.

The student may obtain the required unit of credit by participation in a school's major performing organization such as orchestra, band or chorus.

** Note: Specific requirements of laboratory time must be met for science credit.*

Planning Your Future



Graduation Requirements



To graduate from the Burnt Hills-Ballston Lake High School, students in the classes of 2027 through 2030 must fulfill course and examination requirements as explained below.

In keeping with state and district standards, the high school offers three possible diplomas. All students are expected to challenge themselves and are required to work toward a Regents diploma as described below.

The eight-period alternate day block schedule requires ALL BLOCKS to be scheduled. Course selections and other options should be discussed carefully with your school counselor.

Unless otherwise noted in the departmental course listings that follow, a year-long course is equal to one credit toward graduation, and a semester course earns one-half credit.

Sample Student Schedule for Grade 9 (Class of 2030)

- English 9, Core English 9 or Honors English 9
- Global History & Geography 1
- Earth & Space Science, Life Science: Biology or Core Life Science: Biology
- Algebra, Algebra A or Honors Geometry

- Language level 1 or level 2
- Art/Music requirement
- Elective (see course listings) and/or Study Hall
- Physical Education

Course Requirements

Students must earn the following credits in order to graduate with one of three possible diplomas:

| REGENTS DIPLOMA | | ADVANCED REGENTS DIPLOMA | | ADVANCED REGENTS DIPLOMA WITH BH-BL MERIT SEAL | |
|----------------------|-------------|--------------------------|-------------|--|-------------|
| English | 4 | English | 4 | English | 4 |
| Social Studies | 4 | Social Studies | 4 | Social Studies | 4 |
| Math | 3 | Math | 3 | Math | 4 |
| Science | 3 | Science | 3 | Science | 4 |
| Art/Music | 1 | Art/Music | 1 | Art/Music | 1 |
| Health | 0.5 | Health | 0.5 | Health | 0.5 |
| Phys. Ed. | 2 | Phys. Ed. | 2 | Phys. Ed. | 2 |
| World Language | 1 | World Language** | 3 | World Language | 3 |
| Electives | 3.5 | Electives | 1.5 | Life Skills | 1 |
| Total of 5 exams* | | Total of 9 exams* | | Electives | 2.5 |
| TOTAL CREDITS | 22.0 | TOTAL CREDITS | 22.0 | TOTAL CREDITS | 26.0 |

Regents Requirements

Students must earn a minimum grade on ALL of the below listed Regents/Common Core Exams, which are subject to change based upon Board of Regents decisions.

Regents Diploma*

Regents exam with a grade of 65% or higher in

- English
- Social Studies
- Math
- Science
- One additional regents exam:
 - Social Studies (Humanities Pathway);
 - Math (STEM Math Pathway);
 - Science (STEM Science Pathway);
 - World Language Level 3 exam (LOTE Pathway);
 - CTE Program + NYS approved exam (CTE Pathway);
 - Career Development & Occupational Studies:
 - 216 CTE hours + 54 internship hours +
 - Employability Profile (CDOS Pathway)

Advanced Regents Diploma & Advanced Regents Diploma with BH-BL Merit Seal

Total of 8 Regents with a grade of 65% or higher

- English
- Global Studies
- US History
- Three Math exams
- Two Science exams
- World Language Level 3 Final Exam**

NOTES: Life Skills courses are defined as those in technology education, family and consumer sciences, business education, computer education and fine arts classes beyond the one unit of art/music required for graduation. The school principal may approve appropriate course substitutions where schedule conflicts necessitate.

* If a student does not earn a grade of 65 or higher on one or more of the required exams, NYSED offers several alternatives: low pass regents score safety nets, low pass regents score appeals, 4+1 pathways, and exemptions to provide multiple opportunities for students to fulfill regents exam requirements. These options are available to all students, including those with Individualized Education Plans (IEPs). Students and parents can contact their school counselor for additional information. NOTE: Changes to regents exam requirements have been proposed and are pending with the NYSED Board of Regents approval. Implementation of these changes is tentatively set to begin with students entering ninth grade in 2027.

**A student who completes a five-unit sequence in Career & Technical Education, Art, or Music in lieu of the World Language requirement may earn an Advanced Regents Diploma. Career & Technical Education includes courses in business education, family & consumer sciences, and technology education.

Planning Your Future



Four-year Planning Worksheet



Counselors use a form like this for each student. This copy is provided for you and your family to use as you plan your program for next year.

Pupil's Name: _____ Class of _____ (Graduation Year) _____

Type of Diploma Desired: _____

Career & College Goals: _____

| 9TH GRADE | CREDITS |
|------------------------------|---------------|
| English 9 | |
| Global History & Geography I | |
| Math | |
| Science | |
| Phys. Ed. 9 | |
| Music/Art | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | Total Credits |

| 10TH GRADE | CREDITS |
|------------------------------|---------------|
| English 10 | |
| Global History & Geography 2 | |
| Math | |
| Science | |
| Phys. Ed. 10 | |
| Music/Art | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | Total Credits |

| 11TH GRADE | CREDITS |
|--------------|---------------|
| English 11 | |
| US History | |
| Math | |
| Science | |
| Phys. Ed. 11 | |
| Health | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | Total Credits |

| 12TH GRADE | CREDITS |
|----------------------|---------------|
| English 12 | |
| Economics/Government | |
| Phys. Ed. 12 | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | Total Credits |

Business Education



Business Education courses serve to prepare students for employment and offer life skills useful in high school, college and future work. If interested in completing the Business Administration Pathway and receive a CTE endorsement on your diploma, students must successfully complete the following requirements: Computer Essentials, Career Management & Personal Finance Management, and an approved Work-Based Learning course. Students must also complete two of the following courses: Marketing & Management, Accounting, or Business Law. Senior year, students must pass a NOCTI Technical Assessment.

PERSONAL FINANCE MANAGEMENT

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12 **½ year** **½ credit**

Take charge of your financial well-being and secure your future! This vital course is designed to promote financial literacy and equip you with practical, real-world skills for life. Through interactive, hands-on activities and personalized projects, students will master key topics including effective budgeting and banking, understanding and managing taxes and credit, navigating major loans (college, car, home), and building long-term wealth through investing and retirement. If your goal is to ensure a secure, stress-free financial future, this course provides the most valuable and actionable knowledge you can gain.

CAREER MANAGEMENT

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12 **½ year** **½ credit**

Do you think about life after high school or ever asked yourself what is my next step in life: college, a trade school, military, the workforce? This decision is easier when you take the time to reflect on what interests, skills, and abilities you possess and what careers might be a good match for you. Students will explore career opportunities available to them as well as emerging workplace trends. Students will also develop essential employment skills, including resume and cover letter writing, interviewing, communication, leadership and teamwork, as well as create a professional portfolio. Take the first step towards building your future!

COMPUTER ESSENTIALS

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12 **½ year** **½ credit**

The most useful class you will ever take! Students will learn how to use computer programs such as Google Programs to enhance their ability to complete assignments during their high school career and beyond. Touch typing will be emphasized. In addition, students will learn cyber-safety skills, social networking, email, and professional documentation. BH-BL graduates have rated this course

as one of the most important and useful courses they took in high school. This course is comprised of 20 percent keyboarding and 80 percent software applications.

ACCOUNTING

Grades 10, 11, 12 **1 year** **1 credit**
4 CHS credits through SCCC

Planning to pursue a business major or launch your own venture? This introductory course is your starting point for mastering the language of business - Financial Accounting. We will cover the fundamental terminology and analytical methods, including the nature of assets, liabilities, and equity, while guiding you through the full accounting cycle and current financial reporting standards. The course also includes an engaging entrepreneurship simulation that demonstrates how strong accounting knowledge drives real-world business decisions. Beyond the technical skills, you will explore ethical issues, investigate diverse accounting careers, and develop valuable professional skills through cooperative learning. Students who successfully complete this course and pay a fee are eligible to receive four transferable college credits.

BUSINESS LAW

Grades 10, 11, 12 **½ year** **½ credit**
3 CHS credits offered through SUNY Albany

This college-level business law course provides students with an in-depth introduction to the fundamental principles of law as they apply to the business world. Through a combination of field trips, guest speakers, case studies, and real-world application, students will explore the intersection of law and business. Topics covered include: introduction to law, civil vs. criminal law, contract law, consumer law, employment and labor law, property law, and bankruptcy law. This course is designed for students interested in pursuing careers in business, law, or related fields, and provides the foundational knowledge needed to understand legal concepts critical to the success of businesses.

ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12 **½ year** **½ credit**

Interested in owning your own business? Entrepreneurship is the course for you! Learn how to structure a business, obtain financing, advertise, select a location and more. Students will identify and research a problem and develop an entrepreneurial business venture to solve the problem.

Business Education, continued

Students will present their semester-long business venture projects in a Shark Tank style competition.

ENTERTAINMENT MARKETING

Grades 11, 12 **½ year** **½ credit**

Motion pictures, music, art, video games, theme parks and television marketing is one of the most exciting, unpredictable and rewarding careers a marketer can choose. From understanding and developing audiences to creating eye-catching promotional artwork, it's all about putting customers into theater seats and buying eyes in front of televisions and computer screens. Course projects include, but are not limited to, restaurant theming, amusement ride development, music/movie legend exploration, and "create the next Best New Artist Grammy winner." Students will have the opportunity for hands-on experience in the video production studio. This is an in-depth, practical class for those interested in marketing and the entertainment industry.

INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS

Grades 10, 11, 12 **½ year** **½ credit**

The Capital Region continues to attract businesses from all over the world. International Business includes all business activities needed to create, ship and sell goods and services across national borders. This course will focus on theories that can be applied to doing business with any country outside the U.S. and the specific culture, etiquette, protocol and behavior styles of countries around the world. Students will have the opportunity to pitch a business that would be successful in each country studied.

INVESTING 101

Grades 10, 11, 12 **½ year** **½ credit**

This course provides students with the knowledge and skills to navigate the world of finance and investing. Students will explore the Stock Market, investment sectors, mutual funds, bonds, compound interest, futures and options, cryptocurrency, and the regulatory environment. Through hands-on learning, students will develop financial literacy, practical investing strategies, and critical decision-making skills to manage real-world financial challenges. Participants will also take part in the regional Stock Market Game, competing against other schools to apply their knowledge in a real-world context. The time to start investing is now.

MARKETING & MANAGEMENT

Grades 10, 11, 12 **1 year** **1 credit**

6 CHS credits offered through SCCC

This college credit-bearing course is designed for students interested in business, management, marketing or entrepreneurship. Students will explore different types of businesses, leadership and management strategies, and all aspects of marketing, including advertising, branding, promotions, social media, and market research. Through hands-on projects, students will create commercials, design

products, develop pricing strategies, plan promotional campaigns, and execute marketing strategies for real community businesses. Using the video production studio and other tools, students gain practical experience in digital marketing, persuasive communication, and brand management, while strengthening leadership and management skills applicable in any business setting.

SPORTS MARKETING

Grades 10, 11, 12 **½ year** **½ credit**

This course introduces students to the exciting world of sports marketing, focusing on the functions and strategies that drive the sports industry. Students will explore key topics such as the fundamentals of sports marketing, current industry trends, and the various career opportunities in the field. The course covers essential aspects, including event planning, scheduling, budgeting, promotion, and the economic factors that shape the industry. Students will also delve into important issues like the NCAA, Name, Image, and Likeness (NIL), and the Event Triangle. Through field trips, guest speakers, and interactive projects, students will gain hands-on experience and a deeper understanding of how sports operate as a business.

MULTIMEDIA FOR BUSINESS

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12 **½ year** **½ credit**

Students in business, students will act as multimedia specialists to create campaigns using strategies that mirror industry standards in the field of business. The production studio in the business education department will be the backdrop for real-life simulations. WeVideo, Adobe Express, and Canva will be used to create marketing campaigns. Students will work both individually and in teams as they learn how to apply the technology and software for media creation, distribution and evaluation within the world of business. Topics include, but are not limited to, marketing through social media, TV commercial production, infomercial production, fundamentals of multimedia production, business communication techniques and marketing/business fundamentals.

YEARBOOK

Grades 11, 12 **½ or 1 year** **½ or 1 credit**

Do you want to have a hand in making your school's yearbook? This course provides students with a real-world application of business and marketing principles while giving them the opportunity to create a memorable yearbook that represents the spirit of the school year. This hands-on course combines elements of entrepreneurship, project management, design, and team collaboration, offering students valuable skills they can apply in future careers. Students will learn how to manage a budget, market the yearbook to potential buyers, handle advertising sales, and organize production time lines. They will also be responsible for overseeing the yearbook by keeping track of deadlines and ensuring every aspect of the project reflects the hard work and creativity of BH-BL students.

Computer Science Department



Computer science plays a significant role in nearly all aspects of our daily lives from medicine, education, and business to entertainment and politics. Our comprehensive sequence of courses develops the foundational skills needed for understanding, using, and creating new technologies that solve problems in the 21st century, no matter the student's primary area of interest for college and career.

EXPLORING COMPUTER SCIENCE I

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12 **½ year** **0.5 credits**

This is an introductory course for students with minimal prior experience in computer science. The course presents an overview of the history, principles, and transformative applications of computer science, as well as a comprehensive introduction to programming. Students will program in Netsblox, a friendly graphical language that will allow them to express themselves by creating interactive games, animations, and stories, while learning the fundamentals of computer programming.

EXPLORING COMPUTER SCIENCE II

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12 **½ year** **0.5 credits**

This is a continuation of Exploring Computer Science I. The course presents an overview of the history, principles, and transformative applications of computer science, as well as a comprehensive introduction to programming. Students will continue to develop their programming and problem solving skills using the text-based language Python. Students will also learn how to design their own website using HTML, CSS, and JavaScript. *Prerequisite: Exploring Computer Science I.*

INTRO TO COMPUTER SCIENCE (MULTIMEDIA & PYTHON)

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12 **1 year** **1 credit**

3 CHS credits offered through Siena College

This computer science course is a broad introduction to a variety of fundamental topics in computer science through the theme of multimedia. Using the text-based Python programming language, students express themselves creatively and solve problems involving programming with images, sounds, and animations. Students are also introduced to important computer science topics including data representation, truth tables and circuits, computer organization, operating systems, artificial intelligence (AI), and the history and societal impact of computing.

Prerequisite: Algebra I

AP COMPUTER SCIENCE PRINCIPLES

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12 **1 year** **1 credit**

3 CHS credits offered through SCCC

This is the AP version of the Computer Science Principles course. In this college-level introduction to computer science, students learn underlying principles of computation through creation of computing applications that address real world problems. Hands-on laboratory and project-based experience develop students' understanding of abstraction, algorithms, cyber security, programming, large data sets, and the Internet. Students explore computer science's influence on the arts, sciences, and business, as well as social and economic change. An emphasis is placed on developing problem-solving skills, as well as computational and algorithmic thinking skills. In accordance with AP requirements, students will complete an in-class portfolio assignments and take the AP exam in May. Colleges may grant credit or advanced placement based on AP exam results. *Prerequisite: Algebra.*

AP COMPUTER SCIENCE A (JAVA PROGRAMMING)

Grades 10-12 **1 year** **1 credit**

3 CHS credits offered through SCCC

Through hands-on labs and project-based experiences, students learn to design and implement programs in Java that solve complex computing problems relevant to today's society. This includes the development and analysis of algorithms and fundamental data structures, and the use of logic and formal methods. Students who take the AP CS A course and exam are well prepared to pursue computer science and its integration into a wide array of computing and STEM-related fields. Students take the AP exam in May. Colleges may grant credit or advanced placement based on exam results. *Prerequisite: AP Computer Science Principles.*

ADVANCED TOPICS IN COMPUTER SCIENCE

Grades 11-12 **1 year** **1 credit**

This course begins as an extension to AP Computer Science A, engaging students in solving increasingly complex problems using the Java programming language and in the study of data structures. The course then extends out to other languages and emerging fields of computer science. For example, these may include SQL and dynamic web programming, data science, and machine learning. Students complete a capstone project in an area of their choice.

Prerequisite: AP Computer Science A (Java Programming).

English Department



GENERAL EDUCATION ENGLISH COURSES

ENGLISH 9

Grade 9 1 year 1 credit

Most ninth graders take this comprehensive English course. They will read, discuss and write about short stories, novels, poems, plays, and works of true experience, including *To Kill a Mockingbird*, *Of Mice and Men*, *Romeo and Juliet*, and *Speak*. Students will write a variety of analytic and research-based papers, focusing on literary analysis and argument writing. In addition, students will have multiple opportunities to improve their vocabulary and their speaking and listening skills.

CORE ENGLISH 9

Grade 9 1 year 1 credit

This course is designed to provide support and remediation in basic reading and writing skills. Using short stories, novels, poems, plays, and works of true experience, students will work on developing proficiency in the NYS Language Arts Standards. Students will do many of the same tasks listed for English 9, but the materials and the sequencing of the tasks may differ.

HONORS ENGLISH 9

Grade 9 1 year 1 credit

Honors English 9 is a 40-week course designed to enhance the common 9th grade curriculum. Students will read *To Kill*

a Mockingbird, *Of Mice and Men*, *Speak*, *Macbeth*, short stories, poetry, and will participate in a literature circle unit. In addition, students will write two mini research papers, memoir, fictional short story, poetry, journals, argument-based essays, and text-based analyses. Students are also required to complete three outside reading assignments. *Students are recommended for this course by the previous year's English teacher. Students must maintain a grade in the 90's to be considered for any Honors English course.*

ENGLISH 10

Grade 10 1 year 1 credit

All tenth graders not recommended for Core or Honors English 10 will take this full-year course. There are two distinct sections of the course: analysis and interpretation of novels, short stories, plays, and poetry; and integration of the writing process into both analytic and creative writing pieces. Students will be challenged as readers, writers and thinkers as they explore some of the greatest literature of the last hundred years and plumb the depths of their own ideas and language. Additionally, students will learn to evaluate their own and other students' writing by engaging in all facets of the writing process.

CORE ENGLISH 10

Grade 10 1 year 1 credit

This course will provide support and remediation in basic reading and writing skills. Students will work on developing proficiency in the NY State Language Arts Standards. Students will do many of the same tasks listed for English 10, but the materials and the sequencing of the tasks may differ.

Prerequisite: Recommendation from previous English teacher

HONORS ENGLISH 10

Grade 10 1 year 1 credit

Honors English 10 provides a challenging course for students seeking World Literature texts to complement the curricula of AP World and Global History. Honors English 10 provides a 40-week full credit of English for sophomore students and integrates thematic coverage in order to bridge historical and literary worlds. Texts are selected and tasks are crafted to supplement the following units: comprehensive insight into identity; technology; peopling; politics and power; America in the world; environment and geography; physical and human



English Department, continued

ENGLISH ELECTIVES

ideas; beliefs; and culture. *Students are recommended for this course by the previous year's English teacher. Students must maintain a grade in the 90's to be considered for any Honors English course.*

AMERICAN LITERATURE

Grade 11 **½ year** **½ credit**

This course is required of all students who have successfully completed English 10. Students will read, discuss, analyze, interpret and write about important American literature and trace main ideas in American literature. Students will choose an elective or an advanced elective to complete their junior English requirement.

CORE AMERICAN LITERATURE

Grade 11 **1 year** **1 credit**

This course is designed for juniors who have successfully completed Core English 10 or English 10. In the first 20 weeks, students will read, discuss, analyze, interpret, and write about important works of American literature. There will be intensive review of the tasks and format of the Regents examination in English Language Arts, which all juniors need to pass for graduation. The second 20 weeks will sample from our rich collection of elective courses. *Prerequisite: Recommendation from previous English teacher*

HONORS AMERICAN LITERATURE

Grade 11 **½ year** **½ credit**

This is a 20-week course designed for juniors who have successfully completed Honors English 10. Students will read, discuss, analyze, interpret and write about significant American literature including *The Scarlet Letter*, *The Great Gatsby*, *The Crucible*, and a variety of fiction and poetry that reflects the thematic and stylistic growth of our nation and its written word. Recommendation from previous English teacher is required.

**READER'S WORKSHOP**

Grades 10, 11, 12 **½ year** **½ credit**

Do you want to read more books by your favorite author? Do you want time and credit for reading what interests you? Reader's Workshop is a course designed to give students an opportunity to read literature types and subjects that they might not meet in other literature courses. In this course students create self-directed reading projects, make independent choices of reading materials and experiment with different kinds of responses to and evaluations of their reading.

JOURNALISM

Grades 10, 11, 12 **½ year** **½ credit**

Journalism is an intensive writing course developed around the genres of features, editorials, reviews, columns and news stories. In preparing publication-quality pieces, students will improve their writing and their skills regarding organization, paragraph development, sentence variety and usage. Students must be comfortable gathering information using both interviews and intensive research, and must be able to frame and complete long-term, self-directed assignments.

CREATIVE WRITING/COMPOSITION

Grades 11, 12 **½ year** **½ credit**

Students may pick a theme or issue to pursue throughout the semester and read related fiction or nonfiction. Both creative writing and college essay writing will be explored. In addition, groups will be formed for editing and evaluation. Students will work in the areas of grammar, usage and vocabulary development. This course provides opportunities to work in the areas covered by the NYS Standards: writing for information and understanding; writing for literary response and expression; writing for critical analysis and evaluation; and writing for social interaction.

SHORT STORY

Grades 11, 12 **½ year** **½ credit**

Everyone loves a good story! In this course, students will read a wide variety of short stories. In addition, they will be introduced to a number of literary strategies that will help them learn to think critically about the stories and to develop their interpretive skills. Students will also have a chance to try their hand at a variety of writing tasks, including short story writing.

THE NARRATIVE OF SPORTS

Grades 11, 12 **½ year** **½ credit**

Pop culture, professional athletes, Olympians, student athletes, and even youth-sports participants all live under the same mythology of sport. The common narrative associated with it is powerful, but is also changing. How, why, and in what ways is the story of sports changing? How will alterations in this fabric

English Department, continued

of larger societal narrative affect the overall story we tell ourselves about our culture? Using contemporary sports-related articles, *30 for 30* documentary films and a variety of fiction and nonfiction texts, students will explore their own world and world view through the lens of competitive athletics.

THE AMERICAN EXPERIENCE

Grades 11, 12 ½ year ½ credit

Students will gain an understanding of what it means to grow up in American culture and be part of the largest cultural stew pot of the modern world. Students will read works from a variety of American perspectives and choose units as a class that they wish to study. Texts will vary in style, voice, length, genre and author's ethnicity, and offer student-driven narratives. Media is integrated in all units through the study of film, podcasts, and music. Assessments include formal writing, projects, film analysis, online writing and presentations. Students will be expected to confront their own preconceived notions of the larger world around them and contribute their own unique American experience.

ENGLISH IN THE 21ST CENTURY

Grades 11, 12 ½ year ½ credit

In this course, we will take in information using a wide variety of sources (articles, podcasts, movies, videos, historical and current events) and apply them to our emerging world view. The unifying thread? We live in a digital world, and most humans consume information from a wider variety of sources than novels, plays and books of poetry. Since we all collect and process information to help us understand ourselves and others, we need to give time and attention to sharpening our ability to navigate this rapidly changing world. To this end, English in the 21st Century is a course designed to develop and sharpen our critical thinking and discussion skills.

LICIT & ILLICIT LITERATURE

Grades 11, 12 ½ year ½ credit

The world around us contains justice and injustice, law and lawlessness, and order and chaos. Students of varied ability levels, interests and viewpoints are encouraged to take the course to learn to be tolerant and receptive to different opinions. The literature will reflect both traditional and contemporary thought.

SCIENCE FICTION & SPECULATIVE LITERATURE

Grades 11, 12 ½ year ½ credit

Interested in spending a semester considering what our future holds or how accurate our ancestors were at predicting the future in which we now live? Students will spend time reading short stories and choice novels and connecting them to science fiction films, podcasts, and related science articles to see where truth, reality and fiction intertwine. Students may have an opportunity to create book



film trailers, write an original science fiction short story, record their own podcast, and explore the impact of science fiction on a film or television program of their choice. Future tech, dystopian worlds, space exploration, alternate realities, are all the playground where students may spend their time based on their choices and flow of the class. The course pulls from the classic works of Bradbury, Asimov, and Wells to the more modern works of Crichton, Cline, Schusterman, and Weir.

LITERATURE OF FILM

Grade 12 ½ year ½ credit

In this course, students will explore and analyze critically acclaimed films. They will think about them, read about them and write about them through a variety of lenses. Individually and in peer discussion, students will learn to distinguish between what's well-made and what isn't, and discover how films challenge—and even shape—our beliefs. This course is for all students who are interested in analyzing and *writing about* all components of what makes film culture thrive.

PUBLIC SPEAKING

Grade 12 ½ year ½ credit

3 CHS credits offered through SCCC

The most important skill you can learn as a young adult is the ability to think and speak in front of others. In this course students will learn to see themselves as others see them and to make the most of who they are and what they have. Students who are reluctant speakers will gain confidence. Students who are accomplished speakers will polish their skills. Students will learn communication theory, speech, writing skills, audience assessment techniques and personal evaluation tools. Students can earn college credit while evolving as speakers, writers, and human beings.

LITERATURE & POLITICS

Grades 10, 11, 12 ½ year ½ credit

A “must” course for college-bound juniors and seniors. The readings, papers, lectures and discussions will examine relationships between individuals, an individual and a

English Department, continued

ADVANCED ENGLISH ELECTIVES




group, as well as between groups. In addition to assigned novels, short stories and essays, periodical reading will present contemporary issues for comparison. *Prerequisite: Recommendation from previous English teacher*

PHILOSOPHY AND LITERATURE

Grades 10, 11, 12 **½ year** **½ credit**

This class will consider the challenges and questions that arise at the intersection of literature and philosophy. Texts and coursework include literature and activities that unpack the great existential concerns of the modern human experience. We will read literature that has philosophical qualities and philosophies with literary qualities, and both will force us to question the nature of the world and our place in it. This course will be run with the expectations and the freedoms of a college course, so students who register will need to be self-motivated contributors to our collective understanding of the challenging texts and questions that comprise the curriculum. *Prerequisite: Recommendation from previous English teacher*

BRITISH LITERATURE

Grades 10, 11, 12 **½ year** **½ credit** 

Students in this elective will engage in close reading, critical analysis, research, and intensive class discussion. Example units of study include Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein*, where discussions will be guided on the ethical implications of scientific innovation and the complexities of human ambition. Robert Louis Stevenson's *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* will inspire meaningful conversations about duality and the dark corners of the human psyche. Finally, George Orwell's *1984* will allow students to critically question the human response to systems of power and control.

Prerequisite: Recommendation from previous English teacher

SHAKESPEARE: TO SEE OR NOT TO SEE

Grades 10, 11, 12 **½ year** **½ credit**

While Shakespeare is credited as the greatest writer in the history of the stage, his work is full of material that some find questionable or even objectionable. Is his work inherently misogynistic (*Taming of the Shrew*, *Hamlet*, *Much Ado About Nothing*), anti-Semitic (*The Merchant of Venice*), or racist (*Othello*)? Does his perpetual use of the supernatural (*Macbeth*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *King Lear*, *Hamlet*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *The Tempest*, et al.) unburden his characters from owning their own actions or inaction? People have been studying his work for 400 years, and yet there is more room for debate now than ever before. Students will read and discuss plays and sonnets, and how these works are a portal to understanding contemporary human interactions. Students will become proficient in Shakespeare's written word through reading, analytical and creative writing, and performance. *Prerequisite: Recommendation from previous English teacher*

English teacher

COLLEGE COMPOSITION

Grade 12 **½ year** **½ credit**

3 CHS credits offered through SCCC

This course challenges students in a workshop environment to focus on audience, voice, diction and purpose in their writing. It includes conferencing, revision and editing to improve writing, as well as collaboration and cooperation among class members. In this course, a process approach is taken and writing is read, responded to and evaluated throughout the process. Students are responsible for selecting topics, establishing criteria for assignments and evaluation, selecting pieces for evaluation, seeking strategies for editing, setting goals for writing, etc. *Prerequisite: Recommendation from previous English teacher*

AP ENGLISH: LITERATURE & COMPOSITION

Grade 12 **½ year** **½ credit**

This course for second semester seniors gives qualified students an opportunity to complete college-level English in high school. Students will read, analyze and interpret significant literature from a number of time periods and genres. Students qualify if they have received 90's on the Common Core ELA exam and previous English courses, and have completed at least two of the following courses: British Literature, Philosophy and Literature, Shakespeare, College Composition and/or Literature & Politics. Students are required to take the AP Exam (fee charged) in May.

Prerequisite: Recommendation from previous English teacher

Family & Consumer Sciences (FACS)



Family & Consumer Sciences (FACS) offers students opportunities to learn and practice skills that will prepare them to be successful in their personal, family, school, community and work lives.

If interested in completing the Human Services Pathway and receive a CTE endorsement on your diploma, students must successfully complete the following courses: child studies, adolescent psychology, child psychology & development, lifespan nutrition, and career and financial management I & II. In addition, students must also complete an approved work-based learning experience as well as pass a NOCTI early childhood development and career technical assessment.

Food, Nutrition & Wellness Courses

FOOD PREPARATION & NUTRITION

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12 ½ year ½ credit

This introductory course gives lifetime skills to all students who love cooking and good eating. During the lab-oriented course, students will expand their basic food knowledge and preparation skills, knife skills, and nutrition awareness. They will learn about sustainable and agricultural food practices and improve meal management skills.

INTERNATIONAL FOODS

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12 ½ year ½ credit

In this lab-oriented course, students will explore the impact culture, geography and climate have on the food choices and customs of different regions and countries. Each unit includes preparation of foods from that culture and culminates in a full-meal buffet shared by the entire class. Students will have the opportunity to research culinary travel.

CULINARY ARTS

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12 ½ year ½ credit

This is an advanced foods course emphasizing food prep techniques, food trends, garnishing and plating. Students will explore careers in the culinary field as well as obtain real-world insight as they tour local restaurants and compete in classroom competitions. *Prerequisite: Any food course*

FOOD FOR FITNESS

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12 ½ year ½ credit

Learn to be at peak performance through healthy eating. Techniques for those involved in sports or anyone wanting to maintain a healthy lifestyle are emphasized in this course. Students will study the impact of nutrition on the cardiovascular system and on their overall health. Topics include sports nutrition, vegetarianism, food and diet trends, healthy cooking techniques and health and fitness throughout the life cycle. Recommended for students interested in health fields such as physical therapy, medicine and nutrition.

Textiles & Design Courses

FASHION & TEXTILES

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12 ½ year ½ credit

Discover the exciting world of fashion. Explore the history of fashion and textiles and how it impacts what we wear today. See how artistic expression is applied through the principles and elements of design. Students who learn to sew will acquire a life skill they can use forever. This course can be used to satisfy half of the one year art/music graduation requirement. Students who successfully complete this course plus Fashion Design & Illustration, in the same year, (and pay a fee) will receive college credits through SUNY Oneonta.



Family & Consumer Sciences, continued

FASHION DESIGN & ILLUSTRATION

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12 ½ year ½ credit

This course provides students with the opportunity to expand their artistic expression in the world of fashion. Students who are interested in an art-related field such as merchandising, illustration, graphic drawing or fashion design shouldn't miss the chance to explore this worthwhile course. Basic sewing skills will be improved through clothing construction, which is an important part of fashion design and illustration. Students who successfully complete this course plus Fashion & Textiles, in the same year, (and pay a fee) will receive college credit through SUNY Oneonta.


HOUSING DESIGN & INTERIOR ENVIRONMENT

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12 ½ year ½ credit

In this course students will design and decorate their own home! The portfolio-based course allows students to experience individualized, art-related activities including creating floor plans, designing furniture and evaluating architectural styles. Creative students interested in careers such as architectural design, engineering, interior design, real estate, or any art-related field will find this course especially enjoyable and worthwhile. We will work with Habitat for Humanity to upcycle outdated furniture pieces to be sold at their store. NOTE: This course can be used to satisfy half of the one year art/music graduation requirement.


Human Development Courses

CHILD STUDIES

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12 ½ year ½ credit 

This course offers students the chance to explore the exciting world of child development. Students will focus on creating a nurturing home environment for children, learning the basics of child care and developing effective parenting skills. Projects include participating in a community service project and Baby-Think-It-Over. Recommended for all students whose interests or career goals include psychology, counseling, social work, education or the human services.

INTRO TO EDUCATION

Grades 11, 12 ½ year ½ credit 


Students will learn about the teaching profession and career pathway(s) education has to offer. Students will gain skills in assisting in the classroom, working with children of different abilities and behavior management. This course will include preparation for the NYS Teaching Assistant Examination and for an additional fee(s) required NYS trainings including, Child Abuse, Violence Prevention and DASA (Dignity for All Students Act). Successful completion of this course will help prepare students to become employable teacher aides and after graduation, Level 1 Teaching Assistants.

CHILD PSYCHOLOGY & DEVELOPMENT

Grades 11, 12 1 year 1 credit 
4 CHS credits offered through SCCC

This college credit-bearing class is our capstone course and designed for students who are interested in pursuing a career working with children. Students will take an in-depth look at the knowledge, skills and attitudes necessary to promote quality growth and development of children from conception to school age. Course topics include: physical, intellectual, emotional and social growth and development of children; major theorists and their models of child development; how play enhances the development of children at different ages; and components of early childhood education. Students will also be given multiple opportunities to learn, practice and apply the knowledge and career skills essential for success in a child-oriented career through our Kids' Korner Preschool. The major highlight of the course is when students create and use learning experiences that promote self expression and encourage social skills in children attending the preschool. Students with the interest and personal characteristics necessary to be successful in fields such as education, psychology, counseling, social work or medicine will find this course valuable. *Prerequisite: Child Studies.*

ADOLESCENT PSYCHOLOGY

Grades 10, 11, 12 ½ year ½ credit 

Why do adolescents behave the way they do? This course focuses on the scientific study of the biological, cognitive, emotional, personality, and social changes that occur during adolescence. Topics include the effects of nature versus nurture, major theorists impacting adolescence, moral development and peer and family relationship issues. Students will engage in a multicultural book club and study the historical perspectives of adolescence with a decades project. Students who have taken Child Studies and Child Psychology will find this a valuable transition to the next stage in the human life cycle.



Fine Arts Department



The Fine Arts Department offers students a wide variety of music and visual art courses. Various Fine Arts sequences are available by combining courses in music, visual arts or both. One credit of art or music is required to graduate

from any New York state high school. In addition, Fine Arts electives meet the Life Skills credit requirement for an advanced diploma with a BH-BL Merit Seal.

MUSIC COURSES

This curriculum is the culmination of a program that begins in elementary school; however, opportunities exist for students who have not yet made music a part of their academic lives. Students are required to participate in all concerts and other activities of the organization(s) of which they are members. Students also have the opportunity to participate in the county, area, state and other music festivals. Courses are offered so that a student can participate in several major music organizations simultaneously. Students who wish to perform in multiple ensembles will be required to demonstrate musical ability of a level that will allow them to contribute and grow in each ensemble. The schedule for participation will be determined by the ensemble directors.

Performance Music Courses

MIXED CHORUS

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12 **1 year** **1 credit**

The ability to read music is desirable, but it is not a requirement for students to be in chorus. Mixed Chorus performs at four school concerts each year. Students are introduced to quality choral music from many time periods and cultures, including some of today's popular music. Musical characteristics of these time periods, cultures and composers are studied. Students learn to sight read music and develop their vocal technique and musicianship. All ninth- and tenth-grade choral students are required to have weekly group lessons, which meet on a rotating basis. Through these group lessons, students will be able to work more intensely on proper technique, breath control and overall poise and confidence in their singing ability. Students are encouraged to participate in county, area and state music festivals, as well as school musicals and community productions. This course meets the music/art graduation requirement and may be used as a component in a five-unit music or fine arts sequence.

SYMPHONIC BAND

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12 **1 year** **1 credit**

This is open to any student who has been studying a band instrument and participating in the BH-BL instrumental program. Symphonic Band enables students to further develop musicianship and skills on a chosen instrument, and to experience the thrills of live performance. The band performs a variety of challenging and exciting level 3 and 4 music at four concerts throughout the school year. Members are welcome to participate in the Pep Band at all home football games. Students are encouraged to participate in county, area, and state festivals and competitions. Students may also have the opportunity to perform in the Jazz Ensemble and Musical Pit Orchestra. Ninth- and tenth-grade students have small group instruction, which is scheduled on a rotating basis. This course meets the music/art graduation requirement and may be used as a component in a five-unit music or fine arts sequence.

STRING ORCHESTRA

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12 **1 year** **1 credit**

Orchestra is open to students who have been studying an orchestral instrument and participating in BH-BL performing ensembles. Students perform a wide variety of classical, modern, and popular music at four concerts throughout the school year. Students are encouraged to participate in county, area and state festivals and competitions. Orchestra students may also play in the spring musical. Students in grades 9-10 will have small group instruction, which is scheduled on a rotating basis. This course meets music/art graduation requirement and may be used as a component in a five-unit music or fine arts sequence.

Fine Arts Department, continued



SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Grades 10, 11, 12 1 year 1 credit

Symphony Orchestra is open to juniors and seniors who have been studying orchestra instruments, participating in BH-BL's instrumental program, and are recommended by the orchestra director. The orchestra performs a variety of challenging and exciting level 5 and 6 music at concerts and festivals. Members may participate in the Musical Pit Orchestra in the spring. This course meets the music/art graduation requirement and may be used as a component in a five-unit music or fine arts sequence.

MIXED CHORUS/SYMPHONIC BAND/ ORCHESTRA COMBINATION

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12 1 year 1 credit

This option is available to music students who are very strong instrumentalists and vocalists, and are performing at a NYSSMA level 4 or higher. Students approved for this music configuration by vocal audition will be full-time members of Symphonic Band or Orchestra and take regular instrumental lessons. Once a week students will attend a Mixed Chorus rehearsal for half a block. Students will be required to attend a choral lesson/evaluation prior to each concert during a study hall or activity period. An audition and permission of the high school band, orchestra and choral directors (who will consult with appropriate middle school staff) are required for admission to this class. Students choosing this option will receive one full credit for Symphonic Band or Orchestra while also having the opportunity to participate in a choral experience. This option is based on enrollment and not an option for Concert Choir. This course meets the music/art graduation requirement and may be used as a component in a five-unit music or fine arts sequence.

CONCERT BAND

Grades 10, 11, 12 1 year 1 credit

Concert Band is open to 10-12 graders who have been studying band instruments, participating in BH-BL's instrumental program, and are recommended by the band director. Band performs a variety of challenging and exciting level 5 and 6 music at concerts and festivals. The band also performs during annual Veterans Day and Memorial Day ceremonies. Members may participate in the Pep Band at all home football games. Students may also perform in the Jazz Ensemble and Musical Pit Orchestra. Tenth-grade students have small group instruction, which is scheduled on a rotating basis. This course meets the music/art graduation requirement and may be used as a component in a five-unit music or fine arts sequence.


CONCERT CHOIR

Grades 10, 11, 12 1 year 1 credit

Concert Choir is open to 10-12 graders who have successfully completed one year in Mixed Chorus and have demonstrated proficiency in basic vocal technique and musicianship. Other students may be admitted by audition or with the recommendation of their current chorus director. Recommendation by the choral director is required. Students will continue to develop sight reading and other skills to prepare a vocally challenging Level 5 and 6 repertoire from all musical periods and styles. Concert Choir performs four concerts a year. In addition to the activities available to Mixed Chorus, Concert Choir members will perform short major works with the orchestra and participate in state and out-of-state festivals. Students in Concert Choir may audition for Albany Pro Musica Festivals and Melodies of Christmas. Tenth graders have small group lessons, which are scheduled on a rotating basis, where they work more intensely on proper technique, breath control, and overall poise and confidence in their singing ability. This course meets the music/art graduation requirement and may be used as a component in a five-unit music or fine arts sequence.

Classroom Music Courses

MUSIC TECHNOLOGY 1

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12 ½ year ½ credit 

Students will learn 21st-century skills already being used in the fields of composition, music business, music technology and the recording industry. Applications to be used include Garage Band, O-Generator and Sibelius. Students will learn basic music theory. Field trips and guest artists will provide insight into how music is commercially produced and the opportunities available in the music industry. Students will compose and perform their own original compositions and will examine how music composition relates to other fields, including video games and film.

Fine Arts Department, continued

MUSIC TECHNOLOGY 2

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12 ½ year ½ credit 📖

The emphasis of this course is on students continuing to develop their compositional skills. Projects may include writing and composing a short commercial and composing music to accompany a video game. Prerequisite is Music Technology 1. A full year of Music Technology meets the music/art graduation requirement and may be used in a music or fine arts sequence.

MUSIC THEORY

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12 1 year 1 credit 📖

4 UHS credits offered through SUNY Albany for students in grades 10-12

This course is offered on an alternate year rotating basis with Introduction to Theater. It will be offered in the 2026-27, 2028-29, etc. school years.

Music Theory offers students the opportunity to study harmony and other elements of music through actual writing, arranging, analyzing, and hearing music from different periods of history. Computer software is utilized for skill development as well as composition. Students in grades 10-12 enrolled in this course have the opportunity to earn up to four college credits through SUNY Albany. This course meets the music/art graduation requirement and can be used in a music sequence leading to an Advanced Regents Diploma. Basic skills in music reading is a prerequisite for this course. Students in grade 10 must have a 93 overall average to apply for the UHS credit.

INTRODUCTION TO THEATER

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12 1 year 1 credit

This course is offered on an alternate year rotating basis with Music Theory. It will be offered in 2027-2028 and 2029-2030 school years.

This course will explore the theater arts. Since this is a performance class, students will be required to perform daily as well as in an end-of-the-year showcase. Students will learn this art through various exercises in improvisation and team building, and will create characters through work on monologues, scenes and script writing. Students will study the scope and sequence of theater history through dramatic reading and will learn the technical aspects of production, including costume, makeup design, lighting, properties, stage management and set design. Students will be encouraged to observe professional and amateur theater in the school and community. Participation in these productions will be encouraged but not required. Written and performance assessments will be used to evaluate students. This course will meet the art/music graduation requirement and may be used as part of a five-unit fine arts sequence.

PRIVATE MUSIC STUDY (APPLIED MUSIC)

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12 1 year ½ credit

Students may earn one-half credit for private study outside the school by meeting the following requirements:

1. Students must have completed one year of private study without credit.
2. Students must receive 1/2 hour of instruction each week for 36 weeks and must practice a minimum of five hours per week.
3. Students must perform a minimum level 3 or 4 NYSSMA solo at the spring festival and/or perform an equivalent solo, major scales and sight reading for a designated district teacher.
4. Quarterly progress reports must be filled out and have a grade issued by the private music teacher. Private study should focus on solos, technique development and scale studies each quarter.

Applications may be picked up at the Fine Arts office.

Students must complete the application process during the first two weeks of school or at the end of the preceding year. Applied Music will not meet the graduation requirement for one credit of art/music study, and it may not be used as part of a three or five credit fine arts sequence. Grades in this course are Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory.

All students are invited to participate in the art program. Students interested in careers or a sequence in the visual arts or fine arts are required to begin this process with Studio Art 2-D and/or 3-D in their freshman year, which satisfy the NYS graduation requirement but are also prerequisites for additional art courses, including those offered for college credit. Students who plan to attend college for art, computer graphics, animation, architecture or photography will need a portfolio to apply for these programs and should take an art sequence that includes the Portfolio course. Students who are interested in both music and art should explore the fine arts sequences offered.



Fine Arts Department, continued

VISUAL ARTS COURSES



Foundation Courses

STUDIO ART 2-D

| | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------|-----------------|
| Grades 9, 10, 11, 12 | ½ year | ½ credit |
|-----------------------------|---------------|-----------------|

Studio Art 2-D is the beginning course for all advanced art training. Basic concepts, skills and techniques are developed through experiences in fine arts areas such as drawing, painting and mixed media. Satisfies half of the one credit art/music requirement. *Prerequisite: None*

STUDIO ART 3-D

| | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------|-----------------|
| Grades 9, 10, 11, 12 | ½ year | ½ credit |
|-----------------------------|---------------|-----------------|

Studio Art 3-D is the second beginning art course for all advanced art training. It includes basic concepts, techniques and experiences in sculptural media (such as clay, plaster, relief, etc.), and graphic arts. Satisfies half of the one credit art/music requirement. *Prerequisite: None*

Fine Arts Electives

NOTE: A full year (1 credit) of Studio Art (2-D and 3-D) is the prerequisite for all the advanced fine art and graphic art courses listed on pages 29 and 30.

DRAWING & ACRYLIC PAINTING

| | | |
|--------------------------|---------------|-----------------|
| Grades 10, 11, 12 | ½ year | ½ credit |
|--------------------------|---------------|-----------------|

In this class students will learn to draw and paint what they see, as well as explore creative ways to work with several drawing mediums. They will learn professional techniques for mixing colors and painting with acrylic tube paint. A great half-year class for portfolio building. Successful completion of this course will allow students to take Advanced Drawing for college credit and/or Advanced Painting during their junior or senior year.

DRAWING & WATERCOLOR PAINTING

| | | |
|--------------------------|---------------|-----------------|
| Grades 10, 11, 12 | ½ year | ½ credit |
|--------------------------|---------------|-----------------|

In this course students will experiment with fun techniques in watercolor and multimedia drawing. They'll develop their skills and create a variety of quality pieces to add to their portfolio. Drawing & Acrylic Painting is not a prerequisite. Successful completion of this course will allow students to take Advanced Drawing for college credit and/or Advanced Painting in their junior or senior year.

EXPERIMENTAL PAINTING

| | | |
|----------------------|---------------|-----------------|
| Grades 11, 12 | ½ year | ½ credit |
|----------------------|---------------|-----------------|

This course is an opportunity to explore and experiment! Further develop your painting skills through the use of a variety of creative paint materials and painting surfaces. This is your chance for an in-depth, individual study in your favorite color mediums. The finished pieces will be original and portfolio ready. *Prerequisite: Either Drawing & Acrylic Painting or Drawing & Watercolor Painting*

ADVANCED DRAWING

| | | |
|----------------------|---------------|-----------------|
| Grades 11, 12 | ½ year | ½ credit |
|----------------------|---------------|-----------------|

3 UHS credits offered through The Sage Colleges

Students in this course will continue to build their skills as they concentrate on drawing from observation. They'll work with a variety of media and subjects to create dynamic compositions that express their ideas. This in-depth focus will result in quality life drawings that are a must for college entrance portfolios. *Prerequisite: Either Drawing & Acrylic Painting or Drawing & Watercolor Painting.*

CERAMICS

| | | |
|--------------------------|---------------|-----------------|
| Grades 10, 11, 12 | ½ year | ½ credit |
|--------------------------|---------------|-----------------|

Students will explore the creative and fundamental aspects of clay in this introductory course. Students will be inspired by the influences of past cultures and contemporary ceramic artists, and will produce both functional and sculptural work. Basic techniques covered are hand building, glazing and introductory wheel throwing. A great half-year class for portfolio building. Successful completion of this course will allow students to take Advanced Ceramics for college credit their junior or senior year.

ADVANCED CERAMICS

| | | |
|----------------------|---------------|-----------------|
| Grades 11, 12 | ½ year | ½ credit |
|----------------------|---------------|-----------------|

3 UHS credits offered through The Sage Colleges

Students will broaden their understanding and hone their skills in this course that focuses on advanced hand-building and glazing techniques. This class offers students a greater opportunity to showcase technical skills, design expertise and creative expression. Additionally, students can choose to further develop their skills at the pottery wheel. *Prerequisites: Studio 2-D, Studio 3-D and Ceramics*

Fine Arts Department, continued

SCULPTURE

Grades 10, 11, 12 **½ year** **½ credit**

This course is offered on an alternate year rotating basis with Mixed Media. It will be offered in the 2026-27, 2028-29, etc. school years, etc. school years.

In this course students will explore creative concepts and materials as related to current trends in sculpture. Students will utilize a variety of materials such as clay, stone, wood, plaster, etc. and learn more advanced construction processes including modeling, carving, casting, armature building, etc. Students will view both historical and contemporary trends in sculpture as they explore their own artistic expression to create meaningful three-dimensional artwork. Students will experience the creative process both as an independent artist planning then constructing their sculptures and as a member of a creative studio sharing ideas with their peers.

MIXED MEDIA

Grade 10, 11, 12 **½ year** **½ credit**

This course is offered on an alternate year rotating basis with Mixed Media. It will be offered in the 2027-2028 and 2029-2030 school years.

This is a course intended for students to experiment with art materials and techniques to create unique and non-traditional art. Students will try new materials and expand their creative possibilities by combining painting, sculpting, print making and other techniques to produce 2- and 3-dimensional mixed media artwork. Projects may include: mixed media on paper, wood or other surfaces; collages; found- object sculptures; wall hangings and assemblages.

ADVANCED STUDIO


Grades 11-12 **½ year** **½ credit**

This is a great class for self-motivated art students who have taken multiple art classes and wish to further develop their creative voice and personal style in art. Emphasis will be on the continued development of a portfolio for personal satisfaction and expression or for college entry. Drawing and painting will be the main focus for portfolio development, however, students may explore other media they are proficient in to create original artwork. Looking at both traditional and contemporary art, students will be encouraged to take risks and explore new ways of visual communication. In addition, information about college art programs and individual assistance in career planning will be available to interested students considering art beyond high school. Students will also maintain a drawing journal with observational drawings and create a digital portfolio or website featuring their best artwork just as a professional artist does. *Prerequisite: Two art credits or teacher permission.*




Graphic Art Electives

DIGITAL ART

Grades 10, 11, 12 **½ year** **½ credit** 

Digital art is changing the way we create art as a design tool and illustrative medium. In this introductory graphic arts course students can express themselves by combining state-of-the-art technology with creativity. Students will use drawing tablets and graphic software especially designed for artists (Adobe Illustrator and Photoshop) to draw, paint, create and manipulate images just like professional artists and designers. Successful completion of this course allows students to take Advanced Digital Art & Design for college credit in their junior or senior year.

FINE ART PHOTOGRAPHY & PHOTOJOURNALISM

Grades 10, 11, 12 **½ year** **½ credit** 


In today's world, most everyone takes pictures, but not everyone is a "photographer." This course is designed for those who wish to develop a photographic practice with emphasis in fine art photography and photojournalism.

Fine Arts Department, continued



Students will develop the skills necessary to capture beautiful photos through the understanding of light, exposure, and composition using digital single lens reflex (DSLR) cameras. In addition, students will learn how to process images in the digital darkroom using professional Adobe software, and how to produce beautiful photographic prints. Students will be introduced to influential photographers of the 20th and 21st centuries. Assignments will be both teacher and student driven. DSLR cameras are supplied. *Prerequisite: Either Studio Art 2D and 3D, or Technical & Digital Photography*

ADVANCED DIGITAL ART & DESIGN

Grades 11, 12 **½ year** **½ credit** 
3 UHS credits offered through The Sage Colleges

This course is a more in-depth exploration into digital art and design, especially helpful for students considering a career in digital or graphic arts. Using the same graphic software and techniques from Digital Art, students will apply basic principles of design and composition as they conceptualize and create original art and designs that communicate ideas. Digital projects may include illustrations and paintings, logos, T-shirt designs, packaging and posters. *Prerequisite: Digital Art*

CARTOONING & ANIMATION

Grades 10, 11, 12 **½ year** **½ credit**

Students can draw their own characters and animate them! In this class students will look at the styles and techniques of successful animators as they develop their own characters and animations. They'll learn techniques for drawing expression and character design, and how to illustrate movement in cartoons and animated scenes both on and off the computer. Projects may include comic strips, flip books, mini graphic novels and animated short films using Adobe Animate.

EXPERIMENTAL VIDEO

Grades 10, 11, 12 **½ year** **½ credit**

Make unique original short films! Using fresh and innovative techniques students will explore non-narrative and alternative methods to traditional filmmaking. Emphasis will be on experimentation with video using creative editing techniques in an artistic and compelling manner. Students will use Adobe Premiere and After Effects to alter video content with unique effects and sound. This class will also include learning about effective lighting for mood, camera angles and how to get the best moving images for original visual communication. Students may use their own video cameras or borrow one from the class. *Prerequisite: Studio 2D and Studio 3D.*

PRIVATE ART STUDY

Grades 10, 11, 12 **1 year** **½ credit**

Students may earn one-half credit for private study outside of school by meeting the following requirements:

1. Students must have completed one year of private study without credit.
2. Students must receive one hour of instruction each week for 10 weeks and must do a minimum of three hours a week of independent artwork.
3. Students must produce a portfolio with a minimum of eight finished pieces in the designated medium. This portfolio will be reviewed by a district art teacher. The portfolio will serve as a final exam in this course.
4. Quarterly progress reports must be filled out and have a grade issued by the private art teacher. Private study should focus on skill, concept development, aesthetic study and art appreciation.

Applications are available in the Fine Arts office. Students must complete the application process during the first two weeks of school or at the end of the preceding year. Applied art will not meet the graduation requirement for one credit of art/music study, nor be used as part of a fine arts sequence.

Health Education



Health Education at the high school is a continuation of what was learned and practiced in middle school. The curriculum is responsive to the needs of students enrolled in the class and is focused on developing skills that will enhance all dimensions of their health as a teenager and as an adult.

HEALTH

Grades 10, 11 **½ year** **½ credit**

3 UHS credits offered through The Sage Colleges

This course will help students develop and enhance skills that will enable them to live healthfully in an ever-changing environment. Students participate in relevant learning experiences that incorporate planning and goal setting, stress management, decision making, communication and advocacy with topics such as nutrition, sexual health, substance abuse, and injury and violence prevention. Successful completion of this course is required for graduation.

ADVANCED HEALTH SKILLS & WELLNESS CAREERS

Grades 11, 12 **½ year** **½ credit**

3 UHS credits offered through The Sage Colleges

This course is offered on a rotating basis. It will be offered in 2027-28, 2029-2030, etc. school years.

This course focuses on a personalized approach to health-enhancing life skills. It combines a blended learning model using the Internet and Google classroom technology as well as face-to-face classroom instruction. Students will earn American Red Cross CPR and First Aid certification. They will also assess their personal health and wellness, and select and practice individual health improvement strategies. Students will focus on a variety of health fields such as wellness, health and physical education, and various medical fields. Students will research and explore career options, interview people in these fields, research college programs, and visit a local college that offers a health focus area of study. This course is a stepping stone in the exploration of a career in a growing field. *Prerequisite: Health*



Mathematics Department



The Mathematics Department provides a sequence of courses intended to meet the needs and abilities of every student. Basic concepts and skills are stressed at every level. Mastery of mathematical skills, critical thinking, logical reasoning, the beauty of mathematics, the contributions of mathematics to society, familiarity with technology and preparation for future study are all objectives of the curriculum. Students may be required to use a calculator. See individual course descriptions for specifications.

ALGEBRA 1

Grade 9 1 year 1 credit

This course is a comprehensive and rigorous study of elementary algebra, linear, quadratic and exponential functions. It will prepare students for the NYS Regents exam in Algebra. The course will follow the NYS Algebra Learning Standards. This course ends with a local exam and with the NYS Regents exam in Algebra. The TI-84 Plus CE graphing calculator will be used in this course. *Prerequisite: Passing math 8.*

ALGEBRA A

Grade 9 1 year 1 credit

This is a two-year algebra course. The main topics covered are variables, equations, operations with integers, formulas, graphing, linear and exponential functions and problem-solving skills. This course is the beginning preparation for the NYS Regents exam in Algebra. The course will follow the first half of the NYS Algebra Learning Standards. This course ends with a local exam. The TI-84 Plus CE graphing calculator will be used in this course.

HONORS GEOMETRY

Grade 9 1 year 1 credit

This is a rigorous Regents-level course that focuses on the study of geometry, problem solving, logical reasoning proof, and the integration of algebra and geometry with real world situations. The course will follow and exceed the NYS Geometry Standards. It will end with the Regents exam in Geometry. The TI-84 Plus CE graphing calculator will be used in this course. *Prerequisites: Teacher recommendation, passing the NYS Algebra Regents, and an overall grade of 85% in Algebra.*

GEOMETRY

Grade 10 1 year 1 credit

This is a Regents-level course that focuses on the study of geometry, problem solving, logical reasoning, proof and the integration of algebra and geometry with real-world situations. The course follows the NYS Geometry Standards and ends with a local exam and the NYS Regents exam in Geometry. *Prerequisite: Passing the NYS Algebra Regents.*

ALGEBRA B

Grade 10 1 year 1 credit

This course is the second year of the NYS Algebra curriculum. It focuses on the study of elementary algebra, linear and quadratic functions. It will follow the second half of the NYS Algebra Learning Standards. The course ends with a local exam and the NYS Regents exam in Algebra. The TI-84 Plus CE graphing calculator will be used in this course. *Prerequisite: Algebra A.*

APPLIED GEOMETRY

Grades 10, 11 1 year 1 credit

This course will focus on fundamental geometry concepts, including real-world situations and hands-on activities. The use of algebra to solve geometric problems will be part of this course. A final exam is taken at the completion of the course in June. The TI-84 Plus CE graphing calculator or scientific calculator will be used in this course. *Prerequisites: Passing the Algebra Regents and successful completion of Algebra or Algebra B.*

HONORS ALGEBRA 2

Grade 10 1 year 1 credit

This is a rigorous Regents-level course that focuses on the study of polynomial, rational, and radical relationships; trigonometric functions; exponential and logarithmic functions; and drawing references and conclusions from data (probability and statistics). The course will follow and exceed the NYS Algebra 2 Standards and will end with a local exam and the Algebra 2 Regents exam. The TI-84 Plus CE graphing calculator will be used in this course. *Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation, passing the NYS Geometry Regents exam, and an overall grade of 85% in Honors Geometry.*

Mathematics Department, continued

ALGEBRA 2

Grade 11 1 year 1 credit

This Regents-level course follows successful completion of Regents Algebra and Regents Geometry. It is strongly recommended that a student entering this course has earned a grade of 85% or better as an overall average in both prerequisite courses. The course includes such topics as polynomial, rational, and radical relationships; trigonometric functions; exponential and logarithmic functions; and drawing inferences and conclusions from data (probability and statistics). The course will follow the NYS Algebra 2 Standards and will end with a local exam and the Algebra 2 Regents exam. The TI-84 Plus CE graphing calculator will be used in this course. *Prerequisites: Passing the NYS Algebra and Geometry Regents exams.*

PRECALCULUS

Grades 11, 12 1 year 1 credit

3 UHS credits offered through SUNY Albany

Precalculus is a course designed for students who intend to continue their education beyond high school in a scientific or technical field and will, therefore, study calculus at some time in the future. Advanced algebra and analytic geometry are studied in this course, plus topics that are basic to calculus, such as limits. Success in this course is more likely if students earned a grade of at least 80% in Algebra 2. A TI-84 Plus CE calculator will be used in this course.

Prerequisites: Passing Algebra 2 & Algebra 2 Regents exam.

HONORS PRECALCULUS

Grade 11, 12 1 year 1 credit

3 UHS credits offered through SUNY Albany

Honors Precalculus is designed for juniors (and qualifying seniors) who have successfully taken the prerequisite courses, such as Honors Algebra 2, and have met other predetermined requirements. Teacher recommendation is required. This is a rigorous college-level course for students who intend to take AP Calculus in high school. Advanced algebra and analytic geometry are studied in this course, plus topics from calculus, including limits and derivatives. A TI-84 Plus CE calculator will be used in this course. *Prerequisites: Teacher recommendation, passing the NYS Algebra 2 Regents exam, and an overall average of 85% in Honors Algebra 2.*

ESSENTIAL ALGEBRA (PRE-COLLEGE ALGEBRA)

Grades 11, 12 1 year 1 credit

This course is designed for students who have completed at a minimum a Geometry course and are looking for a third or fourth year of math. It targets students who are interested in a 2- or 4-year college track and who are looking for additional support in Algebra as they prepare for college. This course prepares students with the essential Algebra skills to be successful on the college placement test, which may



allow them to enroll in a credit-bearing Algebra course as a freshman in college. A TI-84 Plus CE calculator will be used in this course. *Prerequisite: Geometry or Applied Geometry.*

COLLEGE ALGEBRA WITH TRIGONOMETRY

Grades 11, 12 1 year 1 credit

3 CHS credits offered through SCCC

This course will follow the curriculum provided by SCCC. Topics include functions, polynomial and rational functions, exponential and logarithmic functions, systems of equations, and sequences and series. Good attendance is key to a student's success in this college-credit bearing course.

Prerequisites: Students who have completed Geometry, Applied Geometry, or Essential Algebra with an 85% or higher. (Students who have successfully completed Algebra 2 are not eligible for this course.)

STATISTICS

Grades 11, 12 1 year 1 credit

3 UHS credits offered through SUNY Albany

In our data-driven world careers in statistics are in high demand and salaries for statisticians are rising fast. This course will introduce students to the major concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing, and drawing conclusions from data. This introductory course is designed for students who are considering any major from science or business to psychology or social sciences. It follows the syllabus provided by SUNY Albany UHS program. A classroom set of TI-Nspire handheld calculators will be used in class. Students are not required to buy this calculator. Strong verbal and reading skills along with good attendance are key to a student's success in Statistics. *Prerequisites: Successful completion of Algebra 2, Algebra 2A, or an 85% or better in Applied Geometry and Algebra 1.*

Mathematics Department, continued



AP STATISTICS

Grades 11, 12 **1 year** **1 credit**
3 CHS credits offered through SCCC

This course follows a concept-oriented, rather than skills-oriented, curriculum. Students must have strong verbal skills because they will be required to think critically and defend their decisions in writing. AP Statistics will cover the material normally covered in a college introductory statistics course: exploratory data analysis, planning and conducting a study, probability and statistical inference. The instructional approach will include projects, group problem solving, and the use of technology and writing. In general, a student who earns a 3 on the AP Statistics exam will earn credit for a college's introductory statistics course. At the most selective universities, students must earn a 4 or 5 on the AP exam to receive credit. A TI-Nspire CX calculator is provided for student use throughout this course. *Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra 2.*

AP CALCULUS AB

Grade 12 **1 year** **1 credit**
4 CHS credits offered through SCCC

This course is offered to qualified students who have completed the four-year high school mathematics sequence at the end of their junior year. The topics covered in this course are the topics normally covered in one and a half semesters of college calculus. Students who successfully complete this course will be prepared and required to take the AP calculus exam, for which a fee is charged. Generally, students who successfully complete this course and score well on the AP exam receive one semester of college credit. A TI-Nspire CX calculator is provided for student use throughout this course.

AP CALCULUS BC

Grade 12 **1 year** **1 credit**
8 CHS credits offered through SCCC

This course is offered to qualified students who have completed the four-year high school mathematics sequence at the end of their junior year. Teacher approval is required. The topics covered in Calculus AB are also covered in this course in the same depth. However, Calculus BC is an extension of AB in that BC will cover several additional topics. Hence this course will move at a quicker pace. Students who complete Precalculus with an average of 95% or better are eligible for this course. Students who successfully complete this course will be prepared and required to take the AP calculus exam, for which a fee is charged. Generally, students who successfully complete this course and score well on the AP exam receive up to two semesters of college credit. The TI-84 Plus CE graphing calculator will be used in this course.

Physical Education Department



Physical education is an important lifestyle habit because it relates directly to good health—and is also a powerful social agent. The program provides opportunities for students to interact with their peers and become involved in activities that can be enjoyed now and for much of life. Physical education develops skills and provides knowledge for physical fitness and enjoyment of physical activity.

Activities presented to students include conditioning and body mechanics, aquatics, self-testing activities, games, team sports, rhythm and dancing and skill and knowledge tests. In addition to the daily physical education program, students can further their interests through the intramural and interscholastic athletic program. These programs provide extra participation time for the students.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION: GRADES 9-10

Meets every third day **½ credit per year**

Students are required to take physical education each semester. Some sophomores may be eligible to sign up for Lifeguarding as an alternative (see below).

PHYSICAL EDUCATION: GRADES 11-12

Meets every third day **½ credit per year**

To meet their physical education requirement, juniors and seniors can take regular physical education or Lifeguarding each semester.

LIFEGUARDING

1 semester **½ year** **¼ credit**

This course teaches students age 15 and older the basic requirements of lifeguarding. Students earn a lifeguard, COR and waterfront certificate upon successful completion of this course.

Prerequisites: Students must have passed Level 5 of the American Red Cross swimming requirements and pass a swim test.

PERSONAL FITNESS/CONDITIONING

Grades 11 and 12 **½ credit per year**

This full-year course provides students the opportunity to enhance their learning of personal fitness concepts and conditioning techniques used for obtaining optimal physical fitness. Students will benefit from comprehensive weight training and cardiorespiratory endurance activities. Students will learn the fundamentals of strength training, aerobic training and overall fitness training and conditioning. This

course includes both lecture and activity sessions. Students will be expected to make wise choices, meet challenges and develop positive behaviors in fitness, wellness and movement activity for a lifetime.

UNIFIED PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Grades 9-12

½ credit per year

This course combines students of all abilities to participate in developmentally appropriate activities including lifetime activities, physical fitness, and sport. Students will work together to increase competence and confidence in a variety of physical activities. Through ongoing leadership opportunities, members of this course will be empowered to help create a more inclusive and accepting school environment for all students.



Science Department



CORE LIFE SCIENCE: BIOLOGY

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12 1 year 1 credit

This course follows the NYS Science Learning Standards in Life Science: Biology. The curriculum, designed to provide students with a comprehensive understanding of the fundamental concepts and practices of biology, covers a range of topics including: Molecules to Organisms, Inheritance and Variation, Matter and Energy in Life, Ecosystem Relationships, and Natural Selection and Evolution. Students will engage in hands-on laboratory activities and investigations to help them develop scientific inquiry and data analysis skills. They will be encouraged to make connections between Life Science concepts they are learning and real-world applications. There are three NYS Investigations and 1,200 minutes of documented laboratory work required for the Life Science: Biology Regents exam at the conclusion of the course.

LIFE SCIENCE: BIOLOGY

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12 1 year 1 credit

Life Science: Biology covers similar topics and key ideas, but is not restricted to those presented in Core Life Science: Biology. Topics will be presented at a more complex level and at a faster pace. There are three NYS Investigations and 1,200 minutes of documented laboratory work required for the Life Science: Biology Regents exam at the conclusion of the course.

CORE EARTH & SPACE SCIENCE

Grade 10 1 year 1 credit

This course follows the NYS Science Learning Standards in Earth & Space Science. The curriculum is designed to provide students with a comprehensive understanding of the fundamental concepts astronomy, geology and meteorology. The curriculum covers a range of topics including Space Systems, History of Earth, Earth's Systems, Weather, Climate, and Human Sustainability. Students will engage in hands-on laboratory activities and investigations to help them develop scientific inquiry and data analysis skills. They will be encouraged to make connections between Earth Science concepts they are learning and real-world applications. There are three NYS Investigations and 1,200 minutes of documented laboratory work required for the Earth & Space Science Regents exam at the conclusion of the course.

EARTH & SPACE SCIENCE

Grades 9, 10 1 year 1 credit

Earth & Space Science covers similar topics and key ideas, but is not restricted to those presented in Core Earth Science. Topics will be presented at a more complex level and at a faster pace. There are three NYS Investigations and 1,200 minutes of documented laboratory work required for the Earth & Space Science Regents exam at the conclusion of the course.

SCIENCE RESEARCH

Grades 10, 11, 12 3 years 3 credits

Up to 12 UHS credits offered through SUNY Albany

This three-year course offers students the opportunity to conduct original scientific research under the guidance of a research scientist. Students are required to take another science class simultaneously with Science Research, attend and present at local symposia and enter local, regional and/or national scientific competitions. In addition to having their work published, students may pursue college credits.

PHYSICAL SCIENCE: CHEMISTRY

Grades 10, 11, 12 1 year 1 credit

Chemistry is a college-preparatory, lab-based course for students planning to pursue a four-year college degree who have successfully completed two years of Regents-level high school science. Related lab activities and 1,200 minutes of documented lab work are course requirements. The Chemistry Regents exam will conclude the course.

Prerequisite: Geometry. Algebra 2 is a preferred co-requisite.

INTRODUCTION TO CHEMISTRY

Grades 11, 12 1 year 1 credit

This lab-based course is designed for students who have successfully completed Core Biology and Core Earth Science. It will expose students to selected topics in chemistry, such as solution chemistry, nuclear chemistry, and physical and chemical changes. Case studies and projects are used to present various topics. A final exam and/or project will conclude the course.

Science Department, continued

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

Grades 11, 12 1 year 1 credit

3 CHS credits offered through SCCC

This course is designed for students who have successfully completed Biology and Earth Science. The goal of this course is to build an understanding of local, regional, and global environmental issues. Topics include air and water pollution, ecology, endangered species, natural resource management, population growth, food production and alternative energy sources (solar, wind, hydropower, geothermal, etc.). Hands-on activities, labs and projects will be used to present various topics. A final exam will conclude the course.

PHYSICS

Grades 11, 12 1 year 1 credit

The course uses lab-based and guided-discovery learning methods that involve the use of computers and computer-based lab equipment to gather and analyze experimental data. Students use mathematics and reasoning skills to discuss these experimental results and how they model phenomena present in the real world. The course will investigate topics including measurement uncertainty, mechanics, energy, electricity and magnetism, waves, light, and nuclear physics. This course will provide an excellent background for any college course in physics and will serve any student well in further study of the sciences. Related lab activities and 1,200 minutes of documented lab work are course requirements. The Physics Regents exam will conclude the course. *Prerequisites: Regents Algebra 1 (required), Regents/Honors Geometry (preferred)*

HONORS PHYSICS

Grades 11, 12 1 year 1 credit

8 CHS credits offered through SCCC

This is an algebra-based college level physics course. A more rigorous course than Regents Physics, it includes a more in-depth view of most topics and covers some additional topics such as oscillatory motion, fluids, thermodynamics and geometric optics. A greater emphasis is placed on problem solving. Related lab activities and 1,200 minutes of documented lab work are course requirements. The Regents Physics exam will conclude the course.

Prerequisites: Regents Algebra 1 & Geometry required.

Recommendation from current science teacher required.

Math and Science Regents exam scores of 85% or greater are recommended.

INTRODUCTION TO PHYSICS

Grade 11, 12 1 year 1 credit

This course takes a hands-on approach to physics and is designed for students who have taken biology and earth science previously. It is geared toward students who are not likely to major in science in college. The course will expose



students to a range of topics from physics including motion, electricity, magnetism and light. This course will require a final examination and/or project.

FORENSIC SCIENCE

Grade 12 1 year 1 credit

This course is for students who have completed 3 years of science. Students will learn methods used by forensic scientists to investigate crimes, focusing on proper techniques for documenting a crime scene, collecting, preserving, and analyzing evidence. Through a combination of lectures, guest speakers, case studies, current events, and hands-on laboratory exercises, students will explore key forensic disciplines including: estimating post-mortem interval (rigor, livor, and algor mortis, forensic entomology, digestive system anatomy, eye anatomy), forensic anthropology, physical evidence vs. testimonial evidence (eyewitnesses, confessions), analysis of glass, forensic toxicology and drugs, serology, DNA analysis, fire investigation, fingerprinting, and related careers in forensic science and law enforcement.

Science Department, continued



AP ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

Grades 11, 12 1 year 1 credit

3 CHS credits offered through SUNY ESF

This lab- and project-based, college-level course provides students with the scientific principles, concepts and methodologies needed to understand the complex interrelationships of the natural world. Students will be able to identify and analyze both natural and man-made environmental problems, evaluate the relative risks associated with these problems and examine alternative solutions for resolving or preventing them. Students will work cooperatively with SUNY Environmental Science & Forestry, with opportunities for guest lectures and off campus field trips. The AP Environmental Science exam in May, for which a fee is charged, is required. College credit may be attained in this course in one of two ways: Students may either receive credit upon successfully completing the coursework and meeting all requirement through the college in the high school program or by earning a specific grade on the mandatory AP exam. An additional fee is charged to receive college credits. *Prerequisites: Biology, Earth Science, and Chemistry or Physics.*

AP BIOLOGY

Grades 11, 12 1 year 1 credit

8 CHS credits offered through SCCC

This course is equivalent to a two-semester college introductory biology course. Students will spend time learning essential biological concepts while developing advanced inquiry and reasoning skills. Areas of study include designing a plan for collecting and analyzing data, applying mathematical routines, and connecting concepts across eight units of study: Chemistry of Life, Cells, Cellular Energetics, Cell Communication and Cell Cycle, Heredity, Gene Expression and Regulation, Natural Selection, and Ecology. The AP Biology exam in May, for which a fee is charged, is required. College credit may be attained in this course in one of two ways: students may either receive credit upon successfully completing the coursework and meeting all requirements through the college in the high school program or by earning a specific grade on the mandatory AP exam.

Prerequisites: Biology, Earth Science, Chemistry or AP Chemistry.

AP CHEMISTRY

Grades 10, 11, 12 1 year 1 credit

8 CHS credits offered through SCCC

This college-level chemistry course examines in detail the intricacies of chemical reactions, including kinetics, equilibrium and thermodynamics. The kinetic and atomic theories of matter also constitute a major portion of the course. The AP Chemistry exam in May, for which a fee is charged, is required. College credit may be attained in this course in one of two ways: Students may either receive credit upon successfully completing the coursework and meeting all requirements through the college in the high school program or by earning a specific grade on the mandatory AP exam. To enroll in AP chemistry, students must meet department selection criteria. Summer work is also a requirement of this course. Summer work is required for students who have not already successfully completed a Regents level or higher Chemistry course. *Prerequisites: Biology, Earth Science, and Algebra 2. Math and science Regents scores of 85% or greater. Recommendation from current science teacher.*

Social Studies Department



| CIVIC KNOWLEDGE | PTS. | CIVIC PARTICIPATION | PTS. |
|--|------|--|------|
| 4 Credits of Social Studies | 1 | High School Civics Project (limit 2 times during grades 9-12) | 1.5 |
| Mastery level on Social Studies Regents exam | 1.5* | Service-Learning Project (min. 25 hours) and reflective civic learning essay/presentation/product | 1* |
| Proficiency level on Social Studies Regents Exam | 1* | Earned credit in an elective course that promotes civic engagement | .5* |
| Advanced Social Studies Courses | .5* | Middle School Capstone Project (Grades 7- 8 are only eligible for this point) | 1 |
| Research Project | 1 | Extra-curricular participation or work-based learning experience (min. 40 hours) and an essay/presentation/product | .5* |
| | | Civics Capstone Project | 4 |



The Social Studies Department has designed courses that will help you become a well-informed citizen, knowledgeable about America's heritage and capable of participating in American life. In order for students to graduate from high school, they are required to earn 4 credits in social studies, as well as pass Regents exams. To do so, they must successfully complete:

- Grade 9: Global History & Geography 1
- Grade 10: Global History & Geography 2 or AP World History
- Grade 11: US History or AP US History
- Grade 12: Economics or AP Macroeconomics, and Participation in Government or AP US Government and Politics

Students will learn to be effective lifelong learners, to appreciate their own culture and the cultures of others. They will develop learning and communication skills and they will use the knowledge and skills needed to be effective citizens. NOTE: To enroll in AP/CHS history and economics courses, students must meet department selection criteria.

GENERAL EDUCATION SOCIAL STUDIES COURSES

GLOBAL HISTORY & GEOGRAPHY 1

Grade 9 **1 year** **1 credit** 

The course is a comprehensive study of global history up to 1750. It will be taught in a chrono-topical manner and will include such themes as diversity, interdependence, scarcity, geography and economic and political systems. Major emphasis is on concepts, key trends, attitudes and skills. Students take a departmental exam, but earn credit toward a Regents diploma.

GLOBAL HISTORY & GEOGRAPHY 2

Grade 10 **1 year** **1 credit**

The globe is studied in chrono-topical fashion. Students will begin with the Enlightenment and the French Revolution, study global trends in the 19th Century and explore developments in the 20th Century. Students will develop

a deeper understanding of and appreciation for Western and Eastern heritages and their impact on their lives, while improving their learning skills.

AP WORLD HISTORY: MODERN

Grade 10 **1 year** **1 credit**

This college-level course studies the cultural, economic, political, and social developments that have shaped the world from c.1200 CE to the present. Students will analyze texts, visual sources, and other historical evidence and write essays expressing historical arguments. There is a fee for taking the AP examination, which is a required part of the course. To enroll in AP history courses, students must meet department selection criteria. The Social Studies Department strongly recommends students have earned an overall grade of at least 93% in their current social Studies and English courses. Summer work is also a requirement of this course.

Social Studies Department, continued

US HISTORY & GOVERNMENT

Grade 11 **1 year** **1 credit**

U.S. History deals with fundamental political, economic, social and cultural concepts and understandings within a chronological framework with special emphasis on modern America. This organization allows students to explore interrelationships among peoples, events, ideas, etc., as well as learn the valuable lessons of history and the social sciences.

AP US HISTORY

Grade 11 **1 year** **1 credit**

6 CHS credits offered through SCCC

This is a traditional course in American History, but with a greater emphasis on historical interpretation and development of individual writing skills. Upon successful completion of the AP examination, students will be eligible for college credit and/or placement. There is a fee for taking the AP examination, which is a required part of the course. The Social Studies Department strongly recommends students have earned an overall grade of at least 93% in their current social studies and English courses.

PARTICIPATION IN GOVERNMENT

Grade 12 **½ year** **½ credit**

This one-semester course emphasizes the interactions among citizens and government at all levels. The knowledge, understanding and skills needed for effective citizenship will be developed and enhanced through readings, discussions, speakers, videos, field trips and research based on current issues.

ECONOMICS

Grade 12 **½ year** **½ credit**

In this course students learn basic economic concepts and skills to equip them for economic decision making. The course focuses on concepts affecting the development of the United States economy. It involves acquainting students with other economic systems as well as with domestic and international challenges occurring in today's global economy. Through a variety of activities, students learn to apply economic analysis tools to personal, community and national economic issues they face today.

AP MACROECONOMICS

Grade 12 **½ year** **½ credit**

This in-depth, half-year, college-level introductory course is reading, writing and graph-creation intensive. Students will study the economy as a whole functioning unit, as opposed to looking at individual entrepreneurs and their decision making (micro-economics). Topics that will be covered are measuring economic performance, national income and

price determination, the financial sector of the economy, inflation, unemployment, government stabilization policies, economic growth, productivity and international trade. There is a possibility for college credit depending on a student's score on the AP Macroeconomics exam, for which a fee is charged. This course also fulfills the Economics graduation requirement. The Social Studies Department strongly recommends students have earned an overall grade of at least 93% in their current social studies and English courses.

AP US GOVERNMENT & POLITICS

Grade 12 **½ year** **½ credit**

3 CHS credits offered through SCCC

This course introduces students to key political ideas, institutions, policies, interactions, roles, and behaviors that characterize the political culture of the United States. Students will study general concepts used to interpret U.S. government and politics and analyze specific topics, including: Constitutional Underpinnings; Political Beliefs and Behaviors; Political Parties, Interest Groups, and Mass Media; Institutions of National Government; Public Policy; and Civil Rights and Civil Liberties. An integral part of the course includes analysis and interpretation of basic data relevant to U.S. government and politics, and the development of connections and application of relevant theories and concepts. There is a fee for taking the AP exam, which is a requirement of the course. This course fulfills the Participation in Government graduation requirement. The Social Studies Department strongly recommends students have earned an overall grade of at least 93% in their current social studies and English courses.

Social Studies Electives

THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

Grades 10, 11, 12 **½ year** **½ credit**

Students are invited to explore the founding of the United States from its colonial experience through the American Revolution to the early republic period including the War of 1812, America's second war for independence. The American Revolution is a political, economic, social, and military history of the United States, 1763-1815. The study of period history is combined with skills development providing the study and mastery of essential skills for the college student. This course provides the student with opportunities to focus on specific interests of the American Revolution through seminar discussions, research, presentations, book and film reviews, and field trips.

Social Studies Department, continued**HISTORY OF AMERICAN AGRICULTURE****Grades 10, 11, 12** **½ year** **½ credit**

This course will examine the history of agriculture, local and national agricultural production, our food system, animal welfare, as well as a host of other areas surrounding this important topic. This course will include a few local and regional site visits, as well as some active hands-on participation.

TOPICS IN US MILITARY HISTORY**Grades 10, 11, 12** **½ year** **½ credit**


This is a military history of the United States where students will receive an overview of key American conflicts exploring cause and effect, technology, tactics, strategy, campaigns, and key players. Topics include but are not limited to: Barbary Wars; War of 1812; Mexican War; Civil War; Native American Wars; Spanish-American War; World War I; World War II; Korean War; Vietnam War; Cold War Military Operations; Persian Gulf War, 1990-91; and the War on Terror. This is a student interest driven elective course where there are opportunities for in-depth topic exploration based on the students' particular interests through seminar discussions, research, presentations, book and film reviews, guest speakers, and field trips.

CRIMINOLOGY**Grades 11, 12** **½ year** **½ credit**

Criminology is an introduction to criminal justice. Topics that will be covered are the nature of crime, law and criminal justice, police and law enforcement, courts and adjudication, corrections and the nature of the juvenile justice system. Relevant topics for today will be stressed through the use of current materials, guest speakers and field trips. A career unit will also be explored.

PSYCHOLOGY**Grades 11, 12** **½ year** **½ credit**


This course will explore human behavior using scientific techniques developed by social scientists. Students will study learning, motivation and intelligence, as well as the development of the human personality. Readings, discussions and research will be stressed.

SOCIOLOGY**Grades 10, 11, 12** **½ year** **½ credit** 

Sociology is the scientific study of human relationships, social structure, norms, and institutions. In class students will study sociological theories, social norms, cultural differences, and much more. This course is project based. Students will create surveys, experiments, and presentations as a way to investigate and present new understandings of society and how it functions.

AP EUROPEAN HISTORY**Grades 11, 12** **1 year** **1 credit***3 CHS credits offered through SCCC*

In this full-year course students will study European chronology, major events and trends from approximately 1450 to the present. They will develop an understanding of some of the principal themes in modern European history, as well as the ability to analyze historical evidence and express historical understanding in writing. Major themes to be addressed include intellectual, cultural, political, diplomatic, social and economic history. Students will take the AP European History exam, for which a fee is charged. The Social Studies Department strongly recommends students have earned an overall average of 93% in their current social studies and English courses.

SPORTS IN AMERICAN CULTURE & SOCIETY**Grades 10, 11, 12** **½ year** **½ credit** 

This course will give students an opportunity to investigate issues related to American sports that are part of our larger culture and society. The course will provide the backdrop of American history to some of the biggest eras, events and personalities of American sports from the 18th and 19th centuries through the present day. The course will consist of several research-based projects and will focus on important skills including argumentation, persuasiveness, and critical thinking. Students will look at athletes and sports and sporting events not only from the competitive or athletic perspective, but also how those athletes and events illustrate the important - and changing - characteristics and attitudes of American society and the issues faced by the country throughout its history (social issues, economic issues, politics and legal issues, etc.).

DEEP DIG INTO THE DECADES: THE 60'S, 70'S AND 80'S REVEALED**Grades 11, 12** **½ year** **½ credit**

This semester course will examine the 1960's, 70's and 80's in America. It will concentrate on how events and ideas shaped American culture today. From the Vietnam War, to the advance of Rock 'n Roll along with the Counter Culture of the late 60's, the bell bottom and disco fads of the 70's, as well as the materialism and consumerism of the 80's. This course will dig into the interesting social, economic and political aspects of these important decades and examine how they reflect on you today. Tie-dye shirts, vinyl records, 8 track and cassette tapes, rotary dial phones, CB radios, pet rocks, video games, classic automobiles, sporting events, iconic entertainment on television and in theatres will all have a part in this historical dig. "Can you dig it, man?" - "Got It!"

Technology Education



Technology Education courses are designed to meet the needs of all students and offer a unique opportunity to develop skills that will be of value now and in the future. Our department offers several courses in the areas of Manufacturing and Materials Processing, Engineering and other Emerging Technologies. Students can take a variety of courses to prepare them for collegiate study and/or career development while providing life skills beneficial to all in the future.

An articulation agreement is in effect with the Advanced Manufacturing Program at Hudson Valley Community College for any student that successfully completes 1 unit of technology with a grade of C or better.

DESIGN AND DRAWING FOR PRODUCTION

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12 **1 year** **1 credit**

This course is highly recommended for any students planning to pursue a technical or STEM-related career. Students will be introduced to AutoCAD Fusion, Adobe Illustrator and Chief Architect, among other relevant software. Students will also have the opportunity to use the technology labs to construct solutions to design problems. Units include sketching, isometric and orthographic drawing, CAD, Engineering Design Process, and Architectural development. Problem solving, tools and careers will also be explored. NOTE: This course can be used to fulfill the one-year art/music graduation requirement for all students.

INTRODUCTION TO ENGINEERING & TECHNOLOGY

Grades 9, 10 **½ year** **½ credit**

Are you interested in being an innovator, designer or engineer? Do you like inventing things that solve real-world problems in order to make life easier for you and those around you? Students will have the opportunity to use their ideas to solve real-world problems through hands-on projects using the software, equipment, tools and modern manufacturing technologies in the high school technology labs. Using the engineering design process, students will transform their ideas into products by designing and creating prototypes using CAD software, and various manufacturing techniques such as 3-D printing, thermoforming, and automated machining.

POWERSPORT EQUIPMENT & TRANSPORTATION

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12 **½ year** **½ credit**

This course is a comprehensive study of today's transportation. Three different modes of transportation will

be studied— aerospace, marine and land. Activities include service and repair work on a variety of internal combustion engines, ATVs, snowmobiles and motorcycles. Students will also participate in field trips.

BASIC ELECTRICAL CONCEPTS

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12 **½ year** **½ credit**

This course is ideal for students who want to familiarize themselves with the fundamental concepts that govern everyday electrical devices. Using a project-based approach, students will be exposed to topics such as electrical units and measurement, green power generation, conversion from AC to DC, residential infrastructure and music amplification.

METAL TECHNOLOGY

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12 **½ year** **½ credit**

Students will attain an introduction to the field of metals fabrication and manufacturing, which has a very high demand for employment. Metal technology is a hands-on course with an emphasis on welding, machining, precision measurements, and finish. Students will be introduced to concepts in Sheet Metal working, Lathe and Mill operations, Gas, Stick and MIG welding, all with an emphasis on safety and precision.

ADVANCED METAL

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12 **½ year** **½ credit**

As a continuation of the knowledge built in Metal Technology, This course will build upon student knowledge within the field of metals manufacturing and fabrication, and dive deeper into concepts involving precision metal work, Computer Numeric Controlled (CNC) machining, milling machine operation and advanced welding processes, such as TIG welding and plasma cutting. Students will learn advanced skills that will be of great value to them later in life, as well as in manufacturing and engineering college programs.

Prerequisite: Metal Technology.

WOOD TECHNOLOGY

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12 **½ year** **½ credit**

This course introduces students to the essentials of woodworking. Skills will be developed in hand tools, power tools, wood identification and finishes while constructing various approved projects. Engineering-bound students will become familiar with the characteristics of wood products. All students will be introduced to careers and job opportunities in the wood industry.

Technology Education, continued

ADVANCED WOODWORKING

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12 ½ year ½ credit

After successful completion of Wood Technology, students may wish to further develop their talents and interests in woodworking. Students are encouraged to construct reasonable projects as determined by the instructor. Emphasis is placed on design, product development and construction techniques. Skills learned in this course could lead to a career in cabinet or furniture making or simply a relaxing, satisfying hobby. *Prerequisite: Wood Technology.*

COMPUTER-AIDED DRAWING (CAD) 1 – 3-D SOLID MODELING

Grades 10, 11, 12 ½ year ½ credit

Learn to use SolidWorks, the next generation of 3-D CAD software. SolidWorks is solid modeling CAD software used in industry to produce 3-D drawings and models. In this course students will be introduced to the fundamentals of engineering, drafting and design. Students will first learn 3-D concepts by completing practical 3-D projects, such as small engines, electronics and tire and rim designs. In the end, students will experience reverse engineering through 3-D solid modeling. Students will also be introduced to Chief Architect, which is software used in industry for architectural design. *Prerequisite: Design and Drawing for Production.*

COMPUTER-AIDED DRAWING (CAD) 2 – 3-D SOLID MODELING

Grades 10, 11, 12 ½ year ½ credit

Topics in this course are a continuation of those in Computer-Aided Drawing 1 – 3-D Solid Modeling. Advanced and more challenging projects will include, but are not limited to, the application of animation and rendering. Students will be required to present their designs as if they were in the business world. *Prerequisite: Computer-Aided Drawing 1 – 3-D Solid Modeling.*

HOMEOWNERSHIP & RENOVATION

Grades 10, 11, 12 ½ year ½ credit

This course is an excellent choice for future homeowners, builders or architects. This class explores all the steps involved in building a home. Through hands-on activities, students will participate in planning, budgeting and building a small structure. The use of alternative energies will be explored as well as “green” building materials and construction methods. Home design, permitting and construction and repair will be covered, exposing students to many of the areas of expertise required to create and maintain living spaces. Students completing this course will have the advantage to not only understand what goes into home construction, but gain the ability to take on home repairs and be “knowledgeable homeowners.”



ARCHITECTURAL DRAWING I

Grades 10, 11, 12 ½ year ½ credit

This course includes a brief history of residential designs, as well as the study of energy-efficient homes. Students will use CAD or Chief Architect software to develop detailed plans that will lead to a set of working drawings for their own individually designed home. *Prerequisite: Design and Drawing for Production or Housing Design & Interior Environment.*

ARCHITECTURAL DRAWING II

Grades 10, 11, 12 ½ year ½ credit

This course is a continuation of Architectural Drawing I. The exciting difference in this course lies in students' designs of a house with computer-assisted design software (CAD). The course ends with the construction of a scale-model house using students' plans. A number of former students in this course are now practicing, licensed architects. *Prerequisite: Architectural Drawing I.*

AUTOMOTIVE TECHNOLOGY

Grades 11, 12 ½ year ½ credit

Students who are planning to own an automobile in the future should consider this course. Do you know how the

Technology Education, continued



automobile operates? Can you maintain and repair your own car? This course can help students find the answer to these and many more questions about the automobile. Tune-ups, maintenance, undercar/underhood safety inspections, road emergencies, insurance and purchasing are covered. A field trip to the New York City Auto Show is part of this course.

ADVANCED MATERIALS PROCESS AND MANUFACTURING

Grades 11, 12 **½ year** **½ credit**

What are the skills that are sought after in the modern manufacturing, construction, and industrial markets? This course will have students explore the answer to that question while learning the technological processes that are used to turn various materials into consumer products. Students will build upon the knowledge gained in previous technology department classes, and translate those skills into advanced manufacturing processes that utilize Computer Numeric Control and Computer Aided Manufacturing software (CAD/CAM), while also building other sought after skills of designing, collaborating, and communicating their ideas. The machines/programs used in this course include HAAS CNC Machines, CNC Plasma Cutter, CNC Router (Shop Bot), Manual Metals/Woods Machines, AutoCAD Fusion 360 CAD/CAM, 3D Printers and Laser Engravers. *Prerequisites: DDP and at least one advanced course in Metals or Woods.*

PRINCIPLES OF ENGINEERING

Grades 11, 12 **1 year** **1 credit**

Propel yourself into the world of engineering! Get a head start on all the rest! Principles of Engineering is a hands-on, laboratory based course that introduces engineering concepts through a variety of problem-solving projects and competitions. The engineer's approach to problem solving is applied to real-world challenges. Principles of

Engineering provides a solid foundation in technology related to engineering. *Prerequisites: Two units of math, two units of science, and completion of the Design and Drawing for Production course.*

INTRODUCTION TO ROBOTICS

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12 **½ year** **½ credit**

This introductory course offers students an engaging exploration of foundational robotics principles. Students will learn about the core elements of robotics including design, mechanical systems, and basic control methods. Through hands-on projects using diverse materials and control software, students will tackle real-world design challenges that develop problem-solving and engineering skills. The course also highlights the broad impact of robotics across industries like manufacturing, healthcare, aerospace, automotive, logistics, and technology development, while also building strong foundations for careers in engineering, programming, automation design, AI development, research, and technical maintenance. By the end of the course, students will have a practical understanding of how robotics technology shapes the world today and a solid foundation to pursue further studies or careers in this dynamic field.

ROBOTICS AND AUTOMATION

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12 **½ year** **½ credit**

Building on foundational skills from Introduction to Robotics, this course is designed for 9th through 12th graders ready to deepen their robotics expertise. Students will design, build, and program advanced robots using REV Robotics components, Arduino controls, and other relevant materials to perform complex tasks. Key topics include, but are not limited to, robotic manipulators and grippers, principles of industrial automation and smart manufacturing, and advanced control of motors, actuators, and sensors to create versatile and precise robotic systems. The course culminates in a comprehensive final project where students identify a real-world problem or scenario and develop an original robotics solution to address it, demonstrating their mastery of advanced robotics design, programming, and automation principles. Introduction to Robotics AND Design and Drawing for Production preferred (can be actively taking it).

TECHNICAL & DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12 **½ year** **½ credit**

This course is designed to acquaint students with the operation of a digital single lens reflex (DSLR) camera and use of Adobe Photoshop CC to alter and enhance photographs for personal, artistic or commercial purposes. Topics include camera operation, composition, and lighting. This class also includes instruction in image capture using 3-D scanning and the conversion of 2-D electronic content into 3-D media through the use of laser engraving and 3-D printing. DSLR cameras will be supplied by the district.

World Languages Department



A different language is like a different vision of life.

- Federico Fellini

The World Languages Department provides students with an awareness of and sensitivity towards the cultural and linguistic diversity of an increasingly interconnected world. Language courses offer an exciting academic and cultural experience for students. Through these courses students will be empowered to experience the richness of the world and to take advantage of global opportunities for individual growth and world citizenship. Language proficiency can make the difference in obtaining challenging and exciting employment in business and industry, government, engineering, education and international organizations.

All language courses focus on the four basic communicative skills—listening, speaking, reading and writing—with an emphasis on vocabulary and structure. Students who continue language study throughout high school will reach an advanced level of proficiency. In addition, all language courses promote the understanding of other cultures and a deeper appreciation of one's own culture. Sophomores, juniors and seniors also have the extraordinary opportunity to experience home and school life in France, Germany or Spain through the PEACE (Partners in Education and Cultural Exchange) program. Language teachers will provide more information about these exciting exchange opportunities.

Students must earn one credit of language in order to graduate with a Local or Regents diploma. Successful completion of three units of language and an exam for Regents credit will fulfill the language requirement for an Advanced Regents Diploma.

ENGLISH AS A NEW LANGUAGE (ENL)

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12 **1 year** **1 credit**

All students who have a language other than English spoken at home will be given a speaking proficiency screening. Students who qualify on the NYSITELL test will be enrolled in ENL, and will be assessed again in May to determine continued eligibility. The curriculum emphasis includes a focus on academic listening and speaking, presentation skills (for group and class work), close reading and comprehension of academic texts, and refining academic and literary writing. The class will focus on student needs and on strengthening participation in the school academic environment.

COURSE LEVEL I: FRENCH, GERMAN, SPANISH, AND CHINESE

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12 **1 year** **1 credit**

This course is the first step in the language sequence. The curriculum includes the study of the vocabulary and structures from the NYS Syllabus for Modern Language topics. Students work toward proficiency in the four communication skills. Communication in the target language and knowledge of the target culture are stressed.

COURSE LEVEL II: FRENCH, GERMAN, SPANISH

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12 **1 year** **1 credit**

Course level II is the second step in the language sequence. This course continues to emphasize all four communicative skills bringing the students to a stronger level of proficiency. Students will start to be able to express themselves beyond simple phrases and structures. Cultural understandings and sensitivities continue to be developed.

COURSE LEVEL III: FRENCH, GERMAN, SPANISH

Grades 10, 11, 12 **1 year** **1 credit**

In course level III, students continue to work towards an intermediate level of proficiency in the language. By the end of this course, students will be able to communicate beyond simple phrases and structures about a variety of topics and be able to demonstrate a sensitivity to tense and nuance. All four communication skills are studied and there is strong emphasis on oral/aural skills. An exam for Regents credit is taken at the conclusion of this course.

LA PAELLA DE CULTURA

Grades 11, 12 **1 year** **1 credit**

3 UHS credits offered through SUNY Oswego

Just as a paella is made up of more than simple rice, the culture of a country contains many hidden perspectives or "ingredients." This exciting course will explore various cultural aspects of the Hispanic countries and Spain through literature, music, cultural events, food, film and art. The course offers the opportunity to improve speaking, pronunciation and listening skills in a comfortable environment through the use of informal roundtable discussion. Students will also advance their reading and writing skills through fictional stories, children's books, cultural readings and individualized grammar instruction. Students may develop a more personal understanding of their own language and culture as they continue to discover that of the Hispanic world. Students enrolled in this course will be eligible to earn the NYS Seal of Biliteracy. *Prerequisite: Successful completion of the Spanish exam for Regents credit.*

World Languages Department, continued

ADVANCED-LEVEL ELECTIVES

In order to truly be able to communicate and function in another language, students should continue their language study beyond level three. The curriculum in these courses will educate them for a world in which a more sophisticated understanding of other cultures has become increasingly important. These courses reinforce skills in listening, reading, speaking, writing, grammar and vocabulary, while also introducing students to more advanced and sophisticated language structures and nuance.

The following six advanced language courses are taught in the languages of study (French, German or Spanish). In addition to regular assignments and assessments, a high level of oral participation is mandatory in all advanced language courses. For this reason, these courses are recommended for students who have maintained a 75% or better average in their level 3 courses or have received teacher recommendation.

¡TEMAS Y TAPAS!

Grades 11, 12 **1 year** **1 credit** 

3 UHS credits offered through SUNY Oswego

Just as an order of “tapas” allows you to sample some of the many flavors of a country, students in this course will sample a variety of themes and ideas to explore the various “flavors” and perspectives of culture. From the ancient civilizations of Mexico to modern day Spain, this course will open doors to the Spanish-speaking world in new and interesting ways. Students will sample cultural aspects of Spain and Latin America through film, children’s literature, music, cultural events, literature, art and culinary arts. The course offers the opportunity to improve speaking, pronunciation and grammar skills in a non-threatening way through the use of songs, informal discussions, formal and informal writings and targeted grammar study. Students enrolled in this course will be eligible to earn the NYS Seal of Biliteracy. *Prerequisite: Successful completion of Spanish exam for Regents credit.*

FLEUR DE LIS: FRENCH LANGUAGE & CULTURE IN NORTH AMERICA

Grades 11, 12 **1 year** **1 credit** 

3 UHS credits offered through SUNY Oswego

Who are the Acadiens, the Cajuns and the Quebecois? How has the French culture and language, as symbolized by the fleur de lis, endured and blossomed in North America

despite the predominant Anglo cultures that surround it? In this course students will explore the history and traditions of these francophone cultures through discussions, journaling, films, guest speakers and literature study. Students will discover the importance of music as a guardian of language, culture and traditions. Students will advance their knowledge of grammar and vocabulary through analysis of lyrics and will improve their speaking and pronunciation skills in a non-threatening way. Response journals and specific grammar study will help students in their language development. Active class participation is mandatory. Students enrolled in this course will be eligible to earn the NYS Seal of Biliteracy. *Prerequisite: Successful completion of the French exam for Regents credit.*

LANGUE ET CULTURE FRANÇAISES

Grades 11, 12 **1 year** **1 credit** 

3 UHS credits offered through SUNY Oswego

This course (formerly known as Shaping of Contemporary France) is designed for students who have passed French III and/or the French exam for Regents credit and are interested in exploring a variety of topics related to French culture. Students will continue to develop their fluency in French by studying stories, books, music, poems, films, culture and current issues. They will develop their language skills by engaging in a variety of classroom activities and projects. Reinforcement of language structures, thematic vocabulary and communicative devices are included in each theme. Students will be encouraged to actively participate and use their creativity with the French language. Students enrolled in this course will be eligible to earn the NYS Seal of Biliteracy. *Prerequisite: Successful completion of French exam for Regents credit.*

DU BIST DEUTSCHLAND

Grades 11, 12 **1 year** **1 credit** 

3 UHS credits offered through SUNY Oswego

This course stresses the basic skills of listening, reading, speaking and writing to develop students’ senses of language and its relationship to culture. Instruction in the German language helps students gain an awareness of the significance of grammar, syntax, idiom and different levels of diction. The course will focus on German-speaking countries’



World Languages Department, continued

specific historical experiences and on their contributions to literature, other arts (such as film, music, painting) and many other areas including regional cuisine. Students enrolled in this course will be eligible to earn the NYS Seal of Biliteracy.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of German exam for Regents credit.

GERMAN CHARACTER & CULTURE

Grades 11, 12 1 year 1 credit 

3 UHS credits offered through SUNY Oswego

Germany is the most populous nation in Europe. It also has the most vital economy. Don't forget about Germany's ancient, yet varied, and vibrant culture! In this class students will explore this fascinating country and language on a variety of levels. Students will explore current events, the German political system, dialect, cuisine, history, art, and literature. They will also have the opportunity to improve speaking and grammar skills through the use of songs, sayings, films, informal discussions, formal and informal writings, projects, and some targeted grammar study. Students enrolled in this course will be eligible to earn the NYS Seal of Biliteracy.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of the German exam for Regents credit.

CHINESE LEVEL II

Grade 9 1 year 1 credit

This course is open to ninth graders who have completed the Checkpoint A sequence in Chinese and will be the first course of a two-year sequence to complete instruction in Checkpoint B of the NYS World Language Syllabus. Intermediate grammatical concepts are practiced and reviewed. Vocabulary will continue to be expanded upon. Students will converse in Chinese with classmates, the teacher and with native speakers. Students will continue to learn simplified Chinese characters. Practice in listening, speaking, reading and writing will continue to be stressed.

CHINESE LEVEL III

Grade 10, 11 1 year 1 credit

This course is open to 10th and 11th grade students who have completed the Checkpoint A sequence in Chinese. This will be the second course of a two-year sequence to complete instruction in Checkpoint B of the NYS World Language Syllabus. Intermediate grammatical concepts are practiced and reviewed and vocabulary will continue to be expanded upon. Students will converse in Chinese with each other and one-on-one with the teacher. Practice in listening, speaking, reading and writing will continue to be stressed. Students will be expected to write a paragraph of at least 100 simplified Chinese characters without the use of pinyin at the termination of this course.



CHINESE LANGUAGE AND CULTURE

Grade 12 1 year 1 credit 

Mandarin Chinese is classified as one of the world's more difficult languages to learn due to the language's written characters and tonal changes, the traditional levels of learning a world language have been altered to insure appropriate acquisition. Therefore, this 12th grade course will be the continuation for those students who pass the NYS Checkpoint B exam in Mandarin Chinese. Intermediate-Advanced grammatical concepts are practiced, reviewed and refined with the intent for success in the course. Vocabulary will continue to be expanded upon. Students will converse in Chinese with each other and one-on-one with the teacher. Practice in listening, speaking, reading and writing will continue to be stressed. Students enrolled in this course will be eligible to earn the NYS Seal of Biliteracy and University in the High School credits. *Prerequisite: Successful completion of the Mandarin Chinese exam for Regents credit.*

Additional Scheduling Options



DRIVER EDUCATION

Grades 10, 11, 12 1 semester or summer No credit

This course is designed to produce a safer, more skillful and knowledgeable driver. Students will develop positive attitudes toward safety and learn how to be a driver who has few accidents and infractions. Upon successful completion of both the theory and driving portions of this course, students may qualify for a substantial reduction in insurance premiums and gain full driving privileges at the age of 17. During the school year, this course is offered on a tuition basis in both the fall and the spring, after school on selected days. Driver Education is also offered during summer school. This course is open to any student 16 years old or older with priority being given to upperclassmen, then older students in the other classes.

VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

The Volunteer Work Experience Program is open to all students interested in an opportunity to test their aptitudes, interests and skills in the area of helping other people. In cooperation with community agencies, participating students will determine an out-of-school service project to pursue. Successful completion of the volunteer community service (60 hours minimum) will result in one-half credit. Community service forms are available in the Guidance Office. For further information, students should meet with their counselor.



Capital Region Career & Tech Education Programs



The following programs are offered to a limited number of juniors and seniors at the Capital Region BOCES Career & Technical School (formerly Vo-Tech) in Colonie. They are part of the regular school program. Students typically spend half a day (AM or PM) at Career & Tech and the rest at BH-BL.

Detailed descriptions of these courses are available through your counselor. Students in many programs continue their studies in college, and some courses allow students to earn early college credit.

Criteria for participation in BOCES CTE programs

Interested students must:

- Demonstrate strong daily attendance.
- Complete required ninth and tenth grade academic courses.
- Demonstrate appropriate conduct and behavior in school.

The Tech Prep programs listed on the following pages are the result of partnerships with local colleges. Through hands-on training, Tech Prep students learn about the field from industry-trained instructors and earn college credits in the process. Upon completion of the one-year program, students are ready to go on to college with a strong academic foundation, advanced technical skills and a college transcript.

AUTOMOTIVE COLLISION AND TECHNOLOGY I & II

Automotive Collision Technology is a two-year program in which students learn about ever-changing materials, methods and technology in this high-paying industry. Students explore career opportunities as well as participate in a work-based learning experience at various local collision repair centers. Students repair damaged vehicles back to pre-accident condition. They learn the proper way to repair vehicles per the manufacturer's recommendations. Students perform high-tech welding methods such as MIG and STRSW as well as nitrogen plastic welding. Students will repair, replace and align body panels on various vehicles as well as spray single-stage paint, base coat, clear coat and three-stage pearl finishes. From the initial estimate to the final detail, students learn what is needed to get cars looking

good again. Students also work towards these industry level certifications: I-Car Refinishing Prolevel, I-Car Non-Structural Prolevel 1, ASE Refinishing, EPA 609 and Sp2 certifications.

AUTOMOTIVE TRADES TECHNOLOGY I & II

From computerized diagnostics to hands-on repair, students will learn to repair and maintain all types of cars and trucks. This two-year program takes them from engine theory and customer relations to the use of specialized tools and equipment. Many graduates go on to college or automotive training schools to qualify for more advanced jobs.

BUILDING TRADES I & II

In this two-year course students will learn skills through standardized craft training programs developed by the Home Builders Institute (HBI) and the National Center for Construction Education and Research (NCCER). They



Capital Region Career & Tech Education Programs, continued



will learn about green construction, insulation and energy conservation. On- and off-campus projects provide valuable, real-life experience. Students who pass written exams and performance tests gain a portable skill set and may earn HBI and NCCER certifications, which are recognized by contractors and employers nationwide.

COSMETOLOGY I & II (2 YEARS PLUS SUMMER SCHOOL)

This program offers theory and practical experience to assure that students receive a complete and balanced training in all phases of this most interesting and challenging occupation. The cosmetology classroom is fully equipped with facilities and equipment one would find in a modern beauty salon. Upon successful completion of the program, students are eligible to take the New York State Licensing exam.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE I & II

This two-year program focuses on civil and criminal law, emergency tactics, patrol functions, crime prevention and detention equipment, polygraph techniques, fingerprinting, investigation methods, client contact and business management.

CULINARY ARTS & HOSPITALITY TECHNOLOGY I & II

This program provides students with foundations in quality food preparation from American to classical cuisine. Areas of emphasis include meats, poultry, seafood, appetizers, soups, sauces and beverages. The course can be taken for one or two years.

DIESEL TECH I & II

Medium and heavy-duty trucks require educated and experienced technicians for their maintenance and repair. Students in this two-year program will work on late-model trucks and diesel engines. They'll learn electrical and electronic theory, which they will apply to computerized control systems used on today's trucks. They'll also learn how to service and maintain steering, suspension, chassis and braking systems. Alternative fuels, such as biodiesel, and hybrid vehicle technology will also be studied. Automotive Service Excellence (ASE)-style testing during the program prepares students to pursue certification after graduation. Upon completion of the program, students may secure employment as entry-level technicians or advance their education and training. Medium/Heavy-Duty Truck Repair at Career & Tech is the only high school-level program in the state to earn certification by the National Automotive

Technician Education Foundation/Institute for Automotive Service Excellence (NATEF/ASE).

DIGITAL MEDIA DESIGN

This two-year program prepares students for creative careers in web design, multimedia communications, graphic design and other related areas. Students develop professional level skills in Adobe software applications and learn to apply design processes and design theory to improve the quality and consistency of their work. In addition to digital output, the classroom lab provides specialty printing experiences including wide format poster and banner printing, dye sublimation printing on metal, ceramics and textiles as well as t-shirt transfer printing. Students demonstrate their technical abilities through the Adobe Certified Expert Program. In a two-year period, it is possible for students to earn up to five industry recognized certifications. This combined with work samples provides students with the opportunity to graduate with an impressive portfolio. For real-world experience, students participate in a variety of work-based learning activities designed to provide professional level practice including exposure to the expectations they will encounter in their future employment.

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION I & II

Interested in a career in education or operating your own daycare center? The Early Childhood Education program is for you! In this new course, students learn the fundamentals of how children develop as they prepare for entry-level employment or further educational training. Students learn

Capital Region Career & Tech Education Programs, continued

the basics and methodology of child development and early childhood education while gaining a solid foundation in classroom arrangement, classroom management and curriculum development for infants/toddlers/preschoolers and young children. Students will also learn how to communicate and work with parents/guardians and staff in an education setting. Through on-site work-based learning in a daycare center, students also gain formal childcare hours required to apply for Child Development Associate (CDA) certification.

ELECTRICAL TRADES I & II

Experienced electricians are in serious demand. This program offers students the opportunity to learn basic electrical skills and progress to the cutting-edge of 21st-century green technologies. Students learn fundamental skills in electrical theory, and through classroom instruction and hands-on shop lessons, they can become successful residential wiring professionals. In each theory class and lab, students construct the circuits discussed, gaining skill and experience as they move from residential into commercial and industrial wiring. The materials, meters, and methods used in Electrical Trades gives students an in-depth understanding of their field and the knowledge needed to work with the latest environmentally friendly technologies. Electrical Trades students may earn advanced standing in the National Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee (NJATC) and International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) programs.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIAN

The Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) is a one-year course that prepares students to respond confidently and effectively in emergency medical situations. This hands-on, fast-paced program combines classroom instruction, laboratory skill practice, and real-world scenarios to develop the knowledge and competencies required for pre-hospital emergency care. Students learn to assess, treat, and transport patients experiencing medical and traumatic emergencies while emphasizing teamwork, safety, communication, and professionalism. The course aligns with New York State Department of Health standards, and upon successful completion, students are eligible to take the New York State Department of Health EMT-Basic (EMT-B) certification exam.

GAME DESIGN AND IMPLEMENTATION I & II

This is a two-year program for students interested in the creative worlds of video game design, 3-D modeling, and computer programming. Students learn the history of games from ancient times to present. They create board games, card games and dice games while learning the fundamentals of Game Design. Then students create digital games using Game Maker software, GameSalad and Unity. Students will



explore various art concepts during the first year and 3D modeling during the second year. Finally, students will design their own video games in groups as well as create a virtual video game design company.

GLOBAL FASHION STUDIES I & II

In this two-year program students will learn about garment theory, textiles, fashion and apparel manufacturing, sales and promotion and college and career opportunities. First-year students will focus on merchandising; second-year students will learn about marketing and master National Retail Federation customer service standards. The course features specialized software, hands-on projects, lectures and guest speakers, videos, field trips, job shadowing and internships and community service. Through a year-long entrepreneurship project, students design a product, conduct market research and then produce and sell their creations. They create a professional portfolio to showcase their best work and earn college credits. After completing Global Fashion Studies, students may start their careers or advance their education at college.

HEATING, VENTILATION, AIR CONDITIONING AND REFRIGERATION (HVAC/R) I & II

This two-year program teaches the skills and technical knowledge required for entry-level employment in this challenging field. Units of instruction include heating, refrigeration, air-conditioning systems, heating pumps, reverse-cycle systems, heat loss and cooling load

Capital Region Career & Tech Education Programs, continued

calculations, electrical circuit troubleshooting and repair and solar energy. Students participate in highly individualized lab projects.

HEAVY EQUIPMENT REPAIR AND OPERATION I & II

Experienced construction professionals and equipment operators are in high demand. This two-year program is based on the National Center for Construction Education and Research (NCCER) curriculum. Students will learn how to operate and maintain large, construction-related equipment. Types of equipment may include backhoes, dozers, front end loaders, and excavators. Students will also learn how to diagnose and repair common issues with diesel engines and heavy machines. The program enjoys specialized training at corporate sites, as well as instructional opportunities at our education centers, field trip experiences, internships and job shadowing opportunities. In addition, students will have the opportunity to practice essential skills on our state-of-the-art simulators to further enhance the learning experience. Students also learn about drone usage on job sites and in various careers. Students who pass the written exams and performance tests gain a portable skill set and may earn professional certifications (including OSHA 10), which are recognized by contractors and employers across the country.

MANUFACTURING AND MACHINE TECHNOLOGY I & II

Students in this program focus on skilled manufacturing, machining and advanced manufacturing, and learn how products are taken from concept to consumer using the latest technology to compete in a global marketplace. They learn computer-aided design (CAD), engineering drawing and sketching and a number of computer programs used in today's highly technical manufacturing operations. Students benefit from partnerships with such advanced manufacturers as Greno Industries Inc., GE Energy, Simmons Machine Tool, PVA and Atlas Copco, which offer opportunities for field trips, job shadowing and internships. Developed in cooperation with local businesses and industries, colleges and professional associations, our Manufacturing & Machining Technology program working to meet our region's growing demand for advanced manufacturing professionals.

NETWORK TECHNOLOGY I & II

The Network Technology program, or Net Tech, offers students the chance to acquire industry-recognized certifications in copper and fiber optic cabling, wireless technologies, digital literacy and cybersecurity. During the course of two years, participants gain a distinct understanding of the rapidly expanding field of network technology while integrating 11th-grade math and 12th-grade English. Through a blend of lectures and hands-on

activities, students delve into this dynamic domain, acquiring the technical expertise and professionalism necessary for thriving careers in the industry. As a part of our commitment to career and college readiness, critical thinking, communication, collaboration and public speaking skills are integrated into the learning experience, preparing students for their journey beyond high school..

NEW VISIONS: EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES

This one-year honors-level program will offer seniors a comprehensive introduction to two rapidly growing industries: hydrogen fuel cell technology and semiconductor manufacturing. Students will gain hands-on experience and theoretical knowledge in advanced manufacturing, mechanical and electrical systems, hydrogen safety and semiconductor processes. The program covers key topics such as fuel cell systems, pneumatics, automation, cleanroom protocols, and troubleshooting techniques.

NEW VISIONS: HEALTH CAREERS

This one-year honors-level course for seniors is a competitive, rigorous, immersion-based program located at St. Peter's Hospital and Ellis Medicine. Students obtain up to 130 observation hours in over 30 different clinical rotations. Clinical rotations take place at their respective hospitals and several off site clinics throughout the region.

PLUMBING TECHNOLOGY

This one-year course for seniors only is a comprehensive, hands-on program designed to prepare students for entry-level positions in the plumbing industry. Students will learn essential skills, including safety protocols, plumbing math, and blueprint reading, while working with various piping materials such as plastic and copper. The course covers key plumbing systems such as drain, waste, and vent (DWV) systems, water distribution, and much more.

STERILE PROCESSING TECHNICIAN

Sterile processing technicians decontaminate, inspect, package and sterilize equipment and devices used in the health care environment. These items range from complex devices to simple, hand-held surgical instruments. Technicians serve a vital role in the healthcare industry, combating the spread of hospital-borne illnesses, as well as diseases. During this one-year program, students will learn what it takes to enter this industry and even gain clinical experience at Albany Medical Center and at Ellis Hospital. Sterile processing technicians find employment in hospitals, ambulatory surgical centers, medical laboratories, birth centers and other facilities where sterilized equipment is needed. They are also in demand nationally as travel sterile processing technicians.

Capital Region Career & Tech Education Programs, continued



WELDING AND METAL FABRICATION I & II

Welders and sheet metal fabricators are in high demand globally. The Welding and Metal Fabrication program is a two-year program that is aligned with American Welding Society standards. During the duration of the program, students learn the skills and techniques necessary for success in a career that values well-trained, experienced professionals. Students learn shielded metal arc welding (SMAW), gas metal arc welding (GMAW), flux cored arc

welding (FCAW), gas tungsten arc welding (GTAW), oxy fuel cutting and plasma cutting. They also learn about the operation of welding and metal fabrication machinery, blueprint reading and shop theory. Upon completion, students are prepared to seek employment or proceed with more advanced training at a technical school or college. Career information may be found at American Welding Society website.

TWO-YEAR SEQUENCE OF HEALTH CAREERS

With double-digit job growth forecast across the nurse assistant, home health aide, personal care assistant, and direct support professional careers, this is a great program for someone looking to get into the healthcare industry! Students can take courses during their junior and senior years. Students may also have the option of taking a one-year program to earn certification as a Direct Support Professional (DSP), Home Health Aide (HHA), Personal Care Aide (PCA), or a separate one-year program to earn certification as a Certified Nurse Assistant (CNA). Through both plans students will earn American Heart Association

BLS/CPR and First Aid certifications while also gaining valuable hands-on experience in area healthcare and direct support facilities. Below is the breakdown of how the sequences work:

HOME HEALTH AIDE/PERSONAL CARE AIDE—ONE YEAR SEQUENCE

Students learn through clinical training and classroom preparation how to provide valuable skills in conjunction with professional nurses in a home health care setting. Services range from health-related tasks such as obtaining vital signs to doing laundry, personal care and housekeeping. Students

Capital Region Career & Tech Education Programs, continued

will complete 108 hours in a clinical setting. Students will also learn about the burgeoning demand for DSPs. These professionals assist people with developmental disabilities of all ages and ability levels. Students learn the skills necessary for a career that's all about helping people with developmental disabilities live fulfilling lives. Students gain such important skills as putting people first; developing positive relationships; being professional; supporting the health and safety of a person with

a developmental disability; assisting them in their needs for life at home and being active members of their community.

CERTIFIED NURSE ASSISTANT—YEAR TWO

Students learn total patient care through training in the classroom and off campus. They prepare to take the Certified Nurse Assistant examination (Prometric) that qualifies CNAs to work in any nursing home in NYS. Students complete 108 hours of clinical work in a nursing home.

Saratoga Career & Tech Educational Programs



The following programs are offered at the Washington/Saratoga BOCES Career & Technical Education Center (formerly Vo-Tech) in Saratoga.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION & FORESTRY

This two-year program aligns with the Society of American Foresters Programs in Forest and Technology standards and procedures. The program emphasizes forest ecology and silviculture, forest management, woods safety, forest land usage, forest protection, fish and wildlife management, forest recreation, trends in urban forestry, and current and emerging environmental conservation issues. Students learn land/forest management practices, tree identification, wildlife identification, tree scaling and lumber grading, timber harvesting and reforestation techniques, orienteering, soil conservation, stream bank repair, equipment safety and operation, and wood utilization/forest products production. Students spend over 75% of their time outdoors in "land labs." These labs enable students to participate in projects that put theory into practice. There are a number of different types of land labs from entrepreneurial endeavors to community service projects.

HORSE CARE

This two-year program includes training Standardbred horses for racing, using all related tack and equipment. It encompasses equine systems and physiology, nutrition, health, disease, emergency medical care, and stable management. Students learn about bloodlines, breeding, purchasing, selling, the daily care of horses, safe handling of horses, and breaking a yearling. Students spend a majority of their time at the Upstate Equine Vet Clinic where they learn and apply equine and veterinary science on horses.

HORTICULTURE, LANDSCAPING & FLORAL DESIGN

This two-year program aligns with the NYS Nursery & Landscaping Association and incorporates contemporary knowledge, skills, and trends in the horticulture, floral, and landscaping industries. Students design and implement landscaping. They operate and manage on-site greenhouses and floral shops, gaining hands-on experience in retail sales, merchandising, customer service, and shop management. Students have the opportunity to participate in a work-based learning experience.

SMALL ANIMAL SCIENCE

A two-year program based on Industry Standards from National Agricultural, Food & Natural Resources. The Cornell University Veterinary Curriculum is used as the guide for developing topics to be covered. Some topics covered include Personal Safety & Animal Handling, Animal Roles in Society, Veterinary Terminology, Care & Management of Small Animals, Exotic Animals, Microbiology, Biosecurity, Anatomy & Physiology, Various Body Systems: Skeletal, Muscular, Nervous, Cardiovascular, Respiratory, Digestive, Urinary, Endocrine, Immune; Animal Reproduction & Genetics, Pharmacology, Parasitology, Physical Exams, Hospital Procedures, Office Management, and Laws & Ethics. Students can earn the following certifications & endorsements: NOCTI Small Animal Science & Technology or Precision Small Companion Animal Science; OSHA 10; Cat and Dog First Aid (American Red Cross); and Groomer (not certified).

Career Exploration Internship Program



■ The Career Exploration Internship Program (CEIP) is a 1/2-year, 1/2-credit or 1-year, 1-credit, non-paid internship open to all juniors and seniors. CEIP provides a link between school and possible careers. The program gives students hands-on experience in a variety of careers so that they can become aware of what it is really like to work in those careers.

Students will gain an understanding of the importance of a positive work ethic, timeliness and good study habits. In addition, they will have an opportunity to improve their teamwork and human relation skills. Relationships will be developed between the mentor and the student that could result in recommendation for employment, future careers and/or college. A classroom component is also required.

Individual student interests will be accommodated as much as possible. Internships may occur outside the school day. Students will need to provide their own transportation. Interns must be willing to make completing internship hours a priority. All interested students must complete an application and be interviewed by a Work-based Learning Coordinator.

CEIP was developed cooperatively between the NYS Departments of Education and Labor and fulfills credit toward graduation.

Examples of internships that CEIP students may explore include, but are not limited to:

- Accounting
- Interior Design
- Architecture
- Journalism
- Athletic Training
- Marketing
- Culinary Arts
- Medicine
- Education
- Pharmacy
- Graphic Design

Work Experience Program



This program allows students to combine work experience with school. Students selecting this program plan a program of work and education with the assistance of their counselor and the Work Experience Coordinator leading to success on the job and in school. The Work Experience Office assists students in their search for a job and, through weekly sessions, explores with students their future career choices and job retention skills. During the working portion of the school day, students are supervised by a Work Experience Coordinator and the employer.

WORK STUDY - IN DISTRICT

Grades 10, 11, 12

¼, ½ or 1 credit

Students often work for the school district in a paid or unpaid work experience position. Job sites are located throughout various district buildings, offices, cafeterias and with building

custodial. A student's work performance is regularly reviewed by the supervisor and the Work Experience Coordinator. Students who successfully complete this program may earn up to one credit.

WORK EXPERIENCE - OUT OF DISTRICT

Grades 11, 12

¼, ½ or 1 credit

Students in grades 11 and 12 select a school program with afternoon blocks left open to work. Job sites are targeted in the private sector. The Work Experience Coordinator assists students in their search for a job and, through required weekly sessions, explores with students their future career goals. Students who successfully complete this program may earn up to one credit.

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CURRICULUM GUIDE & PROFILE



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