



COUGARS

CRESSKILL HIGH SCHOOL

Program of Studies

2026-2027

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Dear Cougars:

Cresskill High School promotes academic excellence and fosters self-esteem in a dynamic, caring environment. Students are prepared to be lifelong learners and contributors in an evolving and ever-changing world. We are committed to providing the best possible educational program for all of our students. This Program of Studies is an important resource that includes curriculum, course offerings, and requirements to assist your high school education planning, representing a starting point for you and your family to determine your optimal sequence of studies.

Cresskill High School provides many varied opportunities to explore your passions, develop your talents, meet new friends, and develop a personal support network that can last a lifetime. We offer a variety of co-curricular and extracurricular experiences, elective, honors and advanced placement courses, and learning opportunities beyond the traditional classroom. We encourage you to keep open lines of communication with parents, family, friends, teachers, counselors, advisors, coaches, administrators, staff and others who have earned your trust and respect in life.

Know that we are all invested in your success and happiness as you navigate your life path through high school and beyond!

Sincerely,

Mr. John Massaro
Principal
Cresskill Middle School/High School

Requirements for the Cresskill High School Diploma

All students must complete 130 credits for graduation

English

4 years of core English courses – 20 credits

Math

4 years – 20 credits

Science

3 years – 15 credits

Required Course Sequence:

Biology (Grade 9), Chemistry (Grade 10), Physics or Environmental Science (Grade 11 or 12)

Social Studies

4 years – 20 credits

Required Course Sequence:

World History (Grade 9), U.S. History I (Grade 10), U.S. History II (Grade 11)

World Languages

1 year – 5 credits (*Note: Most colleges require applicants to have 2 years of the same World Language*)

High School ESL class counts for a year of World Language credit

Physical Education/Health/Driver Education

1 course for each year of enrollment – 5 credits per year

Visual & Performing Art

1 year – 5 credits

21st Century Career

1 year – 5 credits

Financial Literacy

½ year – 2.5 credits

Additional Electives

3 ½ years – 17.5 credits

Grading System and Grade Point Average

To determine grades for student work, the numerical grades from 0-100 are converted to letter grades.

To determine the Grade Point Average (GPA), the final letter grades from all courses are used, except those designated Pass/Fail. The GPA is cumulative and is calculated at the end of each school year.

GPA Scale				
Percent Range	Letter Grade	GPA Value	Honors GPA Value (+0.5)	AP/MCP GPA Value (+1.0)
98-100	A+	4.3	4.8	5.3
93-97	A	4.0	4.5	5.0
90-92	A-	3.7	4.2	4.7
88-89	B+	3.3	3.8	4.3
83-87	B	3.0	3.5	4.0
80-82	B-	2.7	3.2	3.7
78-79	C+	2.3	2.8	3.3
73-77	C	2.0	2.5	3.0
70-72	C-	1.7	2.2	2.7
68-69	D+	1.3	1.8	2.3
66-67	D	1.0	1.5	2.0
65	D-	0.7	1.2	1.7
0 – 64	F	0	0	0
Other Grade Distinctions				
INC = Incomplete	WF = Withdraw Fail	WP = Withdraw Pass	MED = Medical	
EX = Excused	P = Pass	AU = Audit		

Steps to Make Course Requests

1. Students and parents/guardians need to sign into the **Parent Portal**
2. Click on the **SCHEDULING** tab
3. Click on the **REQUESTS** tab
4. Request your classes (*Keep in mind that many classes have Prerequisites*)
5. When a Course Requests is entered, simply click the “**OK**” pop-up to proceed
6. Students will meet with their counselor to discuss choices and to ensure proper class placement
 - Students will be invited to set up appointments through Calendly to meet with their counselor

Placement into Honors and Advanced Placement Classes

- If you qualify for an advanced class now but your grade drops below the required average in the second semester, you will be removed from the Honors/AP class.
- In the event you do not currently have the Prerequisite for an advanced class, you must submit an [Appeal Form](#).
- ***For final placement, additional measures of performance and growth will be evaluated. This can include standardized test scores and other forms of assessment.***

Current/Previous Class	Desired Class	Required Grade	Additional Requirements
College Prep	Honors / MCP	A	
College Prep	AP	A	A- on Final Exam
Honors	Honors / MCP	B	
Honors	AP	B+	
AP	AP	B	

Additional Academic Opportunities

Students who wish to pursue academic studies beyond the courses we offer at CHS, including Advanced Placement courses, are permitted to enroll in online classes. Students must receive approval prior to enrolling in the course. Once the course is approved and the class is completed, the course name and grade will be added to the high school transcript as an online class. **This grade will not be used in the GPA calculation and classes must be applied for and approved prior to the end of the academic year in June.**

Students in grades 11 or 12 who are interested in online AP courses must have previous or current experience with AP level courses. *Courses available include but are not limited to: AP Psychology, AP Macroeconomics, AP Microeconomics, AP Environmental Science, AP Human Geography.*

Schedule Changes, Adjustments, & Withdrawals

Schedule Changes - Course Requests

After the request deadline date has passed (typically in late March), students may not alter their course requests. Any [Honors/AP appeals](#) must also be submitted prior to the deadline (also in late March).

Scheduling - Changes to Academic Schedule and Elective Courses

Once the school year has begun, a change to the schedule may be permitted for the following reasons:

- To resolve schedule conflicts or correct clerical errors.
- Child Study Team recommendation.
- Intervention and Referral Services (I&RS) or 504 committee recommendation.
- Teacher, subject supervisor, and counselor agree that the selection of a course was inappropriate due to indicators such as previous grades, standardized test scores or classroom performance.

Schedule changes other than for the reasons listed above must be initiated as soon as possible and require a discussion or conference with the guidance counselor before being reviewed by administration.

Changing courses after the academic year has started can be very disruptive to a student's schedule and may impact courses other than the primary one being adjusted. Elective course changes may not be permitted if they interfere with academic courses already scheduled. In addition, the administration may consider such factors as: minimum and maximum class size, teacher's total student course-load, physical room size, and district budgetary staffing requirements. For any approved schedule changes, the student is responsible for completing any missed work as determined by the teacher.

Scheduling – Withdrawals

A student who withdraws from a course prior to the Drop/Add or Academic Misplacement Deadline for that course will have no entry on his/her transcript nor report card. The transcript will only include the class they are entering. Their grades from the class they are leaving will be averaged into the grades in the new course.

After the Academic Misplacement Deadline, a student who withdraws from a course will receive a "WP" indicating Withdrawal Passing or a "WF" indicating Withdrawal Failing. This grade is included in the GPA computation. After completion of 50% of the course (end of Semester 1), the student is not permitted to withdraw.

Students carry earned grades 'as is' with them when they change course sections and/or when they move from one academic level to another. For example, a student will carry a D/65 earned points in a Geometry Honors to a Geometry (CP) course and will have the opportunity to improve that grade with subsequent work in the course.

English

English I (1111)	Full Year / 5 credits <i>Grade 9</i>
<p>This course is an introduction to the various genres students will encounter in their experience with literature throughout the high school career. In this course students will read, discuss, and respond to various literary works from several different time periods, experiences, and cultures. These works will include novels, short stories, poems, plays, and biographies, among others. By sampling literature of various genres, students will get a better sense of how literature works as a whole which will better prepare them for future English classes that will focus more on specific cultures and times.</p>	
English I Honors (1113) <i>Prerequisite: Meet placement requirements</i>	Full Year / 5 credits <i>Grade 9</i>
<p>This course is an introduction to the various genres students will encounter in their experience with literature throughout the high school career. In this course students will read, discuss, and respond to various literary works from several different time periods, experiences, and cultures. These works will include novels, short stories, poems, plays, and biographies, among others. By sampling literature of various genres, students will get a better sense of how literature works as a whole which will better prepare them for future English classes that will focus more on specific cultures and times. As an honors-level class, this course places an emphasis on written expression. Students should expect to write several essays over the course of the year, as well as short/paragraph responses, journal entries, poetry analysis, and narrative writing. By practicing writing at every available opportunity, students will be able to fine-tune their writing skills which will assist not only in this and other English classes, but in other subjects, as well.</p>	
English II (1211)	Full Year / 5 credits <i>Grade 10</i>
<p>This course focuses on the study of American literature. Specifically, we will be studying American literature through a couple of different lenses which will help us to better understand the literature itself, the time in which each piece was written, and the culture and society of the author and his audience. This year, perhaps for the first time in your career as students of literature, we will be studying not only the writing itself, but the way in which the stories created by authors and playwrights reflect and manifest the story of the American experience.</p>	
English II Honors (1213) <i>Prerequisite: English I Honors (min. grade B) OR English I (min. grade A)</i>	Full Year / 5 credits <i>Grade 10</i>
<p>This course focuses on the study of American literature. Specifically, we will be studying American literature through a couple of different lenses which will help us to better understand the literature itself, the time in which each piece was written, and the culture and society of the author and his audience. This year, perhaps for the first time in your career as students of literature, we will be studying not only the writing itself, but the way in which the stories created by authors and playwrights reflect and manifest the story of the American experience. Students will engage in critical, persuasive writing, research, and thesis development.</p>	

English III (1311)	Full Year / 5 credits Grade 11
<p>Junior year is a study of British literature. The tradition of Western storytelling extends back beyond the origins of written language, and we will explore the trajectory taken by those stories, and how they came to be written down. However, getting those stories into writing is only the first step, some of these very stories that were told before the written word existed are still being told today. We are still reading them. We are still making movies about them. We are still transforming those stories to make them relevant to our contemporary times and culture. The question that naturally follows in thinking about millennia old tales is, why? Why are we still reading them? Why are we still revisiting them? Those are the questions we are going to explore and attempt to answer this year. Two of the central questions around which we will organize our studies are: What does literature tell us about language? What makes a text timeless?</p>	
English III Honors (1313) <i>Prerequisite: English II Honors (min. grade B) OR English II (min. grade A)</i>	Full Year / 5 credits Grade 11
<p>Junior year is a study of British literature. The tradition of Western storytelling extends back beyond the origins of written language, and we will explore the trajectory taken by those stories, and how they came to be written down. However, getting those stories into writing is only the first step, some of these very stories that were told before the written word existed are still being told today. We are still reading them. We are still making movies about them. We are still transforming those stories to make them relevant to our contemporary times and culture. The question that naturally follows in thinking about millennia old tales is, why? Why are we still reading them? Why are we still revisiting them? Those are the questions we are going to explore and attempt to answer this year. Two of the central questions around which we will organize our studies are: What does literature tell us about language? What makes a text timeless? In English III Honors, we will be exploring these questions through research, writing, and different translations and interpretations of the various texts of the course. The course focuses on critical thinking and analytical writing through more rigorous texts that go deeper into the lens of the canon of British Literature.</p>	
AP English Language (1315) <i>Prerequisite: English II Honors (min. grade B+) OR English II (min. grade A and min. grade A- on final exam)</i>	Full Year / 5 credits Grade 11
<p>This is the most rigorous English course available on the eleventh-grade level. Students mostly read nonfiction as they explore the four modes of discourse (expository, descriptive, narrative, and argumentative) as both readers and writers in preparation for the May AP exam. <i>All students taking this class are required to take the AP exam.</i></p>	

English IV (1411)	Full Year / 5 credits Grade 12
<p>This course divides itself over two semesters, the first being devoted to comedy in literature and satire. For this portion of the course students will examine humor as it develops over time and in different places, exploring questions such as what makes something "funny" and what qualifies as satire? The concept and purpose of humor in literature and as a culturally specific and responsive phenomenon will be investigated. Additionally, students will spend time studying author craft in comedy and will respond to issues such as how do we make something that is seen, but not heard, funny? In the second semester the theme will shift to great villains of literature and the rise of the anti-hero. A close look will be offered at how the term "antagonist" is defined, and antagonists of the literary world will be explored in terms of their purposes, their development, and from where they arise. Selective re-readings will occur for the purpose of looking for development in antagonists (i.e. Lady Macbeth's speeches). Concepts such as "other"-ing, voice, and privilege will offer a focus to analyzing the place of the villain's story in literature (ex. <i>The Wizard of Oz/Wicked</i>, <i>Jane Eyre/Wide Sargasso Sea</i>, <i>Beowulf/Grendel</i>). The anti-hero's popularity in pop-culture will also be explored, from the time of <i>Macbeth</i> to popular anti-heroes of today in the effort to determine what makes them so appealing.</p>	
English IV Honors (1413)	Full Year / 5 credits Grade 12
<p>This course divides itself over two semesters, the first being devoted to comedy in literature and satire. For this portion of the course, students will examine humor as it develops over time and in different places, exploring questions such as what makes something "funny" and what qualifies as satire? The concept and purpose of humor in literature and as a culturally specific and responsive phenomenon will be investigated. Additionally, students will spend time studying author craft in comedy and will respond to issues such as how do we make something that is seen, but not heard, funny? In the second semester, the theme will shift to great villains of literature and the rise of the anti-hero. A close look will be offered at how the term "antagonist" is defined, and antagonists of the literary world will be explored in terms of their purposes, their development, and from where they arise. Selective re-readings will occur for the purpose of looking for development in antagonists (i.e. Lady Macbeth's speeches). Concepts such as "other"-ing, voice, and privilege will offer a focus to analyzing the place of the villain's story in literature (ex. <i>The Wizard of Oz/Wicked</i>, <i>Jane Eyre/Wide Sargasso Sea</i>, <i>Beowulf/Grendel</i>). The anti-hero's popularity in pop-culture will also be explored, from the time of <i>Macbeth</i> to popular anti-heroes of today, in the effort to determine what makes them so appealing. In the Honors section, students will engage with additional enrichment opportunities, including deeper comparative analyses, independent research projects, and creative writing assignments that reflect the themes of comedy, satire, and villainy. Honors students will also explore more rigorous texts, participate in advanced discussions, and produce analytical essays with a focus on critical interpretation and authorial intent. These enrichment activities aim to challenge students and prepare them for college-level literary analysis and composition.</p>	
AP English Literature (1415) <i>Prerequisite: AP English Language (min. grade B+) OR English III Honors (min. grade B) OR English III (min. grade A and min. grade A- on final exam)</i>	Full Year / 5 credits Grade 12
<p>This is a college-level course designed to prepare students for the Advanced Placement exam in May. Throughout this course, students will be exposed to numerous works of literature across various genres and time periods, including 20th century novels, 19th century novels, international novels, Greek drama, Elizabethan drama, modern drama, short stories and poems. The majority of the course will focus on discussion, close reading analysis, and writing about literature. <i>All students taking this class are required to take the AP exam.</i></p>	

High School ESL English (1517)	Full Year / 5 credits <i>Grade 9-12</i>
<p>This is a multi-leveled class of students with varying English proficiencies. It is designed to allow students to grow in their English skills at a pace that prepares them for the rigors of high school work. Incorporated into the class is a focus on SAT-level vocabulary based root words. The structure and direction of the class varies year to year depending on the students' needs. The focus of this class is based in reading and writing (form and function). Literature is chosen based on the students' reading level.</p>	
High School ESL (1518)	Full Year / 5 credits <i>Grade 9-12</i>
<p>This is a multi-leveled class of students with varying English proficiencies. It is designed to allow students to grow in their English skills at a pace that best fits their learning style and needs. The structure and direction of the class varies year to year depending on the students' needs. The focus of this class is based on understanding and using grammatical structures as well as improving listening comprehension and vocabulary.</p>	
Film Studies (ENG811)	Full Year / 5 credits <i>Grade 10-12</i>
<p>In Film Studies, a 10-12 grade elective English class, students are exposed to a variety of movies and genres throughout the year, starting with the classic Citizen Kane. Most films are viewed in class, but each marking period students pick a current movie to watch at a theater and then write a review of it. Although technical aspects of film making are explored, the approach of the course is mostly film as literature with emphasis placed on plot, character development, and symbolism. Among the units covered are Hitchcock, thriller, horror films, directors, crime, comedy, and drama. Some of the movies include Psycho, The Godfather, Saving Private Ryan, Dune, and Star Wars.</p>	
Journalism I (ENG821)	Full Year / 5 credits <i>Grade 9-12</i>
<p>Journalism I will cover all the basics of journalistic writing, including: writing news articles, editorials, features, profiles, sports coverage, and developing interview techniques. Journalism I students will have the opportunity to publish their writing with The Communicator both online and in print, and will begin to learn about leadership roles within journalistic organizations. In addition to writing, Journalism I students will learn about the role of media in society, journalistic ethics, and how to interpret the news in all of its forms.</p>	
Journalism II Honors (ENG822) <i>Prerequisite: Journalism I</i>	Full Year / 5 credits <i>Grade 10-12</i>
<p>Journalism II is open only to students who have already taken Journalism I. Students will continue to build the skills learned in the first year of the program, take leadership roles on the student newspaper, and be responsible for leading class discussions and helping to instruct Journalism I students. Journalism II students will also work with mediums other than writing, including podcasting, and will develop and hone their web design skills. Finally, Journalism II students will engage with journalism as activism by both studying journalists in the field and taking on their own year-long projects aimed at affecting change through publication.</p>	

Mathematics

Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II taken in Middle School count toward High School graduation requirements

Algebra I (3111)	Full Year / 5 credits Grade 9
This is a course in elementary algebra that has, as a goal, full student proficiency in computation and elementary algebra. The major areas of study include fundamental operations, real numbers, polynomials, linear equations/inequalities, systems of equations/inequalities, quadratic equations and relations, exponential equations, functions, and statistics.	
Geometry (3211) <i>Prerequisite: Algebra I</i>	Full Year / 5 credits Grade 9-10
Geometry is a study of figures in two- and three-dimensional space. This course provides an experience in logical reasoning to develop a fluency in working with formal proof. Topics include measurement, congruency, similarity, coordinate geometry, area, and volume of familiar solids. The study of geometry also creates a foundation for trigonometry.	
Geometry Honors (3123) <i>Prerequisite: Algebra I Honors (min. grade B) OR Algebra I (min. grade A)</i>	Full Year / 5 credits Grade 9-10
Geometry is a study of figures in two- and three-dimensional space. This course provides an experience in logical reasoning to develop a fluency in working with formal proof. Topics include measurement, congruency, similarity, coordinate geometry, area, and volume of familiar solids. The study of geometry creates a foundation for trigonometry. The honors-level instructional rigor is intended for high-achieving students who have a passion for learning mathematics and future interest in Advanced Placement level mathematics courses.	
Algebra II (3311) <i>Prerequisite: Algebra I, Geometry</i>	Full Year / 5 credits Grade 10-11
This is an extension of Algebra I which has similar goals, full student proficiency in computation and second level algebra. The major areas of study include operations, real numbers, polynomials, linear equations, systems of equations, rational expressions and equations, radical expressions and equations, quadratic equations and relations, exponential and logarithmic functions, trigonometry, and statistics.	
Algebra II Honors (3213) <i>Prerequisite: Algebra I, Geometry; Algebra I Honors (min. grade B) OR Algebra I (min. grade A) AND Geometry (min. grade B+)</i>	Full Year / 5 credits Grade 10-11
This is an extension of Algebra I which has similar goals, full student proficiency in computation and second level algebra. The major areas of study include fundamental operations, real numbers, polynomials, linear equations, systems of equations, rational expressions and equations, radical expressions and equations, quadratic equations and relations, exponential and logarithmic functions, trigonometry, and statistics. The honors-level instructional rigor is intended for high-achieving students who have a passion for learning mathematics and future interest in Advanced Placement level mathematics courses.	

Trigonometry/Pre Calculus (3313) <i>Prerequisite: Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II</i>	Full Year / 5 credits Grade 9-12
<p>This course presents a thorough study of all elementary function families (polynomial, rational, exponential, and logarithmic), as well as circular and trigonometric functions. It stresses the logical structure of algebra and trigonometry and emphasizes understanding of concepts and strategic problem solving. Additionally, the representations of functions in their various forms (analytically, graphically, and numerically) and the connections between these forms are emphasized. Applications of the principles and concepts of these functions to real-life situations are included. Other important areas of study are trigonometric identities, solutions of triangles, complex numbers, piecewise functions, and inverse functions. This course builds on all the topics covered in algebra and geometry and includes additional topics such as advanced transformations, conic sections, and sigma notation. It serves as a brief introduction to calculus as well as the fundamental concepts of higher mathematics.</p>	
Math Analysis Honors Pre Calculus (3331) <i>Prerequisite: Geometry Honors or Algebra II Honors (min. grade B) OR Algebra II (min. grade A)</i>	Full Year / 5 credits Grade 9-12
<p>This course presents a thorough study of all elementary function families (polynomial, rational, exponential, and logarithmic), as well as circular and trigonometric functions. It stresses the logical structure of algebra and trigonometry and emphasizes understanding of concepts and strategic problem solving. Additionally, the representations of functions in their various forms (analytically, graphically, and numerically) and the connections between these forms are emphasized. Applications of the principles and concepts of these functions to real-life situations are included. Other important areas of study are trigonometric identities, solutions of triangles, complex numbers, piecewise functions, and inverse functions. This course builds on all the topics covered in algebra and geometry and includes additional topics such as advanced transformations, conic sections, sigma notation, and limits. It serves as a preparation for and brief introduction to calculus as well as the fundamental concepts of higher mathematics. The honors-level instructional rigor is intended for high-achieving students who have a passion for learning mathematics and future interest in Advanced Placement level mathematics courses.</p>	
Calculus Honors (3413) <i>Prerequisite: Trigonometry/Pre Calculus (min. grade A) OR Math Analysis Honors (min. grade B)</i>	Full Year / 5 credits Grade 10-12
<p>Calculus Honors offers an in-depth coverage of selected topics in differential and integral calculus and includes many practical applications in fields of science, business, and industry. The following topics are investigated with the use of a graphing calculator: limits, continuity, differentiation, logarithmic and exponential functions, trigonometric functions, and techniques of integration. The honors-level instructional rigor is intended for high-achieving students who have a passion for learning mathematics and future interest in Advanced Placement level mathematics courses.</p>	

AP Calculus AB (3415) <i>Prerequisite: Math Analysis Honors (min. grade B+)</i>	Full Year / 5 credits Grade 10-12
<p>Advanced Placement Calculus offers an in-depth coverage of selected topics in differential and integral calculus and includes many practical applications in fields of science, business, and industry. The following topics are investigated with the use of a graphing calculator: limits, continuity, differentiation, logarithmic and exponential functions, trigonometric functions, and techniques of integration. This course prepares students for the AP examination. Students in this course are eligible to take the AP Calculus BC exam if they choose to independently study the additional content and have supervisor approval. All students taking this class are required to take the AP exam.</p>	
Multivariable Calculus (3414) <i>Prerequisite: AP Calculus AB</i>	Full Year / 5 credits Grade 11-12
<p>Multivariable Calculus offers a thorough study of advanced calculus topics, including vectors and analytic geometry, partial derivatives, double and triple integral applications, line integrals, and surface integrals. In addition, the course will review and enhance the topics of Calculus BC, including advanced integration techniques. This course is intended for high-achieving students who have a passion for learning mathematics and successfully completed AP Calculus AB. Students in this course are eligible to take the AP Calculus BC exam with supervisor approval.</p>	
Probability/Statistics (3612)	Full Year / 5 credits Grade 11-12
<p><i>Probability:</i> This course covers the basic principles of the theory of probability and its applications. Topics include combinatorics, conditional probability, independence of events, discrete and continuous random variables, marginal and conditional distributions, law of large numbers, and binomial distributions. Applications in the business workplace will be discussed.</p> <p><i>Statistics:</i> This course is an introduction to statistical reasoning. Emphasis will be on concepts and applications rather than in-depth coverage of traditional statistical methods. Topics include sampling and experimentation, descriptive statistics, single sample, and two sample hypothesis tests for means and proportions. Students will gain additional expertise in the use of a graphing calculator, which is required for the course.</p>	
AP Statistics (3615) <i>Prerequisite: Meets AP placement requirement</i>	Full Year / 5 credits Grade 11-12
<p>AP Statistics acquaints students with the major concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing, using probability techniques, and drawing conclusions from data. Ideas and computations presented in this course have immediate links and connections with actual events. Calculators will allow students to focus deeply on the concepts involved in statistics. This course prepares students for the AP examination. All students taking this class are required to take the AP exam.</p>	

Advanced Mathematics Applications (3411)	Full Year / 5 credits <i>Grade 12</i>
<p>This is a course offered to seniors only who have completed Geometry and Algebra II by junior year. Students will be introduced to statistics, probability, financial applications, as well as applications of mathematical concepts previously learned. Testing strategies and the collegiate application process will also be discussed. This course will focus on applying problem solving strategies to aid students in today's data driven world.</p>	
Honors Engineering Mathematics (3416) <i>Prerequisite: Trigonometry/Pre Calculus, Meets Honors placement requirement</i>	Full Year / 5 credits <i>Grade 11-12</i>
<p>Students will experience the field of engineering by exploring the concepts behind some of the world's greatest engineering marvels. From the Roman Colosseum to the Eiffel Tower, and from the Empire State Building to the great Gothic cathedrals of medieval Europe, students will gain a deeper appreciation for the mathematical and engineering concepts that have allowed some of these landmarks to endure for thousands of years. In an approach that combines both quantitative and qualitative problems, students will be introduced to topics such as statics and fluid mechanics, and see how they apply to engineering innovations throughout history. This course will appeal to anyone interested in pursuing engineering, mathematics, or architecture, and to anyone curious about the world around them. <i>This course fulfills the requirement for 21st Century Careers</i></p>	

Science

Biology (4111)	Full Year / 6 credits <i>Grade 9</i>
<p>Biology is the study of living organisms, their structure, life processes, and relationships with each other and the environment. The course covers cells and their organelles, the production of cellular energy, cellular reproduction, genetics, both Mendelian and molecular, evolution, and ecology. Students engage in laboratory and authentic learning experiences that encourage the application of biological knowledge to make decisions and solve problems. The three dimensional structure of the course connects overarching science concepts, science and engineering practices, and biology content. Students will become scientifically-literate citizens with knowledge and understanding of scientific concepts required for personal decision-making, participation in civic and cultural affairs, and economic productivity.</p>	
Biology Honors (4113) <i>Prerequisite: Meets placement requirements</i>	Full Year / 6 credits <i>Grade 9</i>
<p>Biology is the study of living organisms, their structure, life processes and relationships with each other and the environment. The course covers cells and their organelles, the production of cellular energy, cellular reproduction, genetics, both Mendelian and molecular, evolution, and ecology. Students engage in laboratory and authentic learning experiences that encourage the application of biological knowledge to think critically, make decisions and solve problems. The three dimensional structure of the course connects overarching science concepts, science and engineering practices, and biology content. Students will become scientifically-literate citizens with knowledge and understanding of scientific concepts required for personal decision-making, participation in civic and cultural affairs, and economic productivity. The honors-level instructional rigor is intended for high-achieving students who have a passion for learning science and future interest in Advanced Placement level science courses.</p>	
Chemistry (4211) <i>Prerequisite: Biology</i>	Full Year / 6 credits <i>Grade 10</i>
<p>Chemistry is the study of matter, its structure, properties, composition and changes. The course covers matter and its organization, the language of chemistry, phases of matter, solutions, chemical reactions and nuclear chemistry. Students engage in laboratory and authentic learning experiences that encourage the application of chemistry knowledge to make decisions and solve problems. The three dimensional structure of the course connects overarching science concepts, science and engineering practices, and chemistry content. Students will become scientifically-literate citizens with knowledge and understanding of scientific concepts required for personal decision-making, participation in civic and cultural affairs, and economic productivity.</p>	
Chemistry Honors (4213) <i>Prerequisite: Biology Honors (min. grade B) OR Biology (min. grade A)</i>	Full Year / 6 credits <i>Grade 10</i>
<p>Chemistry is the study of matter, its structure, properties, composition and changes. The course covers matter and its organization, the language of chemistry, phases of matter, solutions, chemical reactions and nuclear chemistry. Students engage in laboratory and authentic learning experiences that encourage the application of chemistry knowledge to make decisions and solve problems. The three dimensional structure of the course connects overarching science concepts, science and engineering practices, and chemistry content. Students will become scientifically-literate citizens with knowledge and understanding of scientific concepts required for personal decision-making, participation in civic and cultural affairs, and economic productivity. The honors-level instructional rigor is intended for high-achieving students who have a passion for learning science and future interest in Advanced Placement level science courses.</p>	

Physics (4311) <i>Prerequisite: Biology, Chemistry</i>	Full Year / 6 credits Grade 11-12
<p>Physics is the most fundamental of the natural sciences dealing with the properties, changes, and interactions of matter and energy. The course covers measurement, vectors, kinematics, Newton's Laws of Motion, work and energy, momentum and collisions, uniform circular motion, universal gravitation, simple harmonic motion, waves, electricity and magnetism, Earth's place in the universe, and Earth's systems. Students engage in laboratory and authentic learning experiences that encourage the application of physics knowledge to make decisions and solve problems. The three dimensional structure of the course connects overarching science concepts, science and engineering practices, and physics content. Students will become scientifically-literate citizens with knowledge and understanding of scientific concepts required for personal decision-making, participation in civic and cultural affairs, and economic productivity.</p>	
AP Physics (4315) <i>Prerequisite: Chemistry Honors (min. grade B+) OR CP Chemistry (min. grade A and A- on final exam) AND previously taken or currently taking Trigonometry/Pre Calculus or Math Analysis Honors</i>	Full Year / 7 credits Grade 11-12
<p>Following the Advanced Placement Course Description of the Category B College Board Physics Exam, AP Physics is designed to be an in-depth and systematic development of the main principles of physics. The course consists of an advanced exploration of the properties, changes, and interactions of matter and energy. Topics include: mechanics, kinetic energy and fluid dynamics. This course also contains a lab component typical of a college lab experience that is used to complement the topics in the course and help students reach success on the AP test. <i>All students taking this class are required to take the AP exam.</i></p>	
Environmental Science (4411) <i>Prerequisite: Biology, Chemistry</i>	Full Year / 6 credits Grade 11-12
<p>Full-year laboratory elective course for 11th and 12th graders. Students will explore the natural functioning of the different Earth systems. The course covers the history of the Universe and Earth, Earth's spheres, soil, weather and climate, ecology, population dynamics, human health, and emerging technologies in the field of environmental science. Students engage in laboratory and authentic learning experiences that encourage the application of environmental science knowledge to think critically, make decisions, and solve problems. The three dimensional structure of the course connects overarching science concepts, science and engineering practices, and environmental science content. Students will become scientifically-literate citizens with knowledge and understanding of scientific concepts required for personal decision-making, participation in civic and cultural affairs, and economic productivity.</p>	

AP Biology (4515) <i>Prerequisite: Meets AP placement requirements</i>	Full Year / 7 credits Grade 11-12
<p>Following the Advanced Placement Course Description of the College Entrance Examination Board, AP Biology is an in-depth exploration of concepts in three areas: molecules and cells, heredity and evolution, and organisms and populations. Important concepts are unified and organized by applying eight major themes across the three areas. These eight major themes include Science as a Process, Evolution, Energy Transfer, Continuity and Change, the Relationship of Structure to Function, Regulation, Interdependence in Nature, and Science, Technology and Society. In addition, laboratory investigations are performed, emphasizing observation, experimental design and manipulation, and the recording and analysis of quantitative data. All students taking this class are required to take the AP exam.</p>	
AP Chemistry (4615) <i>Prerequisite: Meets AP placement requirements</i>	Full Year / 7 credits Grade 11-12
<p>The AP Chemistry course is designed to be the equivalent of the general chemistry course usually taken during the first college year. For some students, this course enables them to undertake, as freshmen, second-year work in the chemistry sequence at their institution or it fulfills the laboratory science requirement and frees time for other courses. Students in such a course should attain a depth of understanding of fundamentals and a reasonable competence in dealing with chemical problems. Students will participate in a laboratory experience equivalent to that of a typical college course to succeed both on the Advanced Placement test and in any future chemistry classes the student will take in college. All students taking this class are required to take the AP exam.</p>	
Bioethics (SCI801) <i>*This semester-long course is taken in combination with Forensic Science.</i>	Semester / 2.5 credits Grade 11-12
<p>This course is taken with Forensic Science as a science elective semester course for 11th and 12th graders. Students will be introduced to bioethics as a field of inquiry and will develop ethical reasoning skills to develop nuanced positions on controversial topics. Students will recognize the interrelationship among science, society, and ethical considerations. They will also develop the ability to recognize important bioethical concepts and ways of thinking and will use critical-reasoning skills, especially the ability to justify an ethical position. Students will become scientifically-literate citizens with knowledge and understanding of scientific concepts required for personal decision-making, participation in civic and cultural affairs, and economic productivity. They will also learn to recognize the importance of scientific knowledge when making an ethical decision and be able to dialogue respectfully among individuals with diverse perspectives. *Required Reading: The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks*</p>	

Forensic Science (SCI802) <i>*This semester-long course is taken in combination with Bioethics.</i>	Semester / 2.5 credits Grade 11-12
<p>This course is taken with Bioethics as a science elective course for 11th and 12th graders. Forensic Science is an applied science that incorporates biology, chemistry, physics, psychology, and scientific reasoning. The area of studies include: the background and development of the field of forensic science, crime scene evaluation, impression evidence including fingerprinting and footwear analysis, handwriting analysis, toxicology, criminal profiling, serology, and the analysis of trace evidence. Students engage in laboratory and authentic learning experiences that encourage the application of their knowledge of forensic science to make decisions and evaluate evidence. The three dimensional structure of the course connects overarching science concepts, science and engineering practices, and forensic science content.</p>	
Anatomy & Physiology (SCI821) <i>*Tentatively scheduled for 2026-2027, 2028-2029, etc.</i>	Full Year / 5 credits Grade 11-12
<p><i>Anatomy and Physiology is a science elective course for 11th and 12th graders interested in the medical field or pursuing a career in a related field. Anatomy is the scientific study of the structure of organisms and their parts, while physiology is the scientific study of how those parts function. Topics covered include: tissues, the integumentary system, the skeletal system, the muscular system, the circulatory system, the respiratory system, the lymphatic/immune systems, the digestive system, the urinary system, and the nervous system. Students engage in laboratory and authentic learning experiences that encourage the application of knowledge of human body systems and their interactions.</i></p>	
Organic Chemistry (SCI811) not offered in 2026-27 <i>*Tentatively scheduled for 2027-2028, 2029-2030 etc.</i>	Full Year / 5 credits Grade 11-12
<p><i>This elective course is designed for high school students interested in studying Chemistry beyond the first-year requirement. The course will focus on organic chemistry and the study of carbon and carbon-containing compounds such as hydrocarbons, alcohols, carbonyl compounds, and other functional groups. Beginning with a brief review of some of the important concepts established in first-year Chemistry, students will develop an understanding of molecular structures, functions, and reactivity. The course will also include Biochemistry topics and applications. In the context of biological systems, students will learn about carbohydrates, proteins, lipids, and other macromolecules and make interdisciplinary connections to everyday application such as in rubber, plastics, fuel, medicine, and carbon nanofibers, among other things. College and career applications of related topics include medicine, biotechnology, pharmaceuticals, consumer products, petrochemicals, and other fields of science. Students will gain an appreciation and a new perspective on the many facets of the world on both the molecular and macroscopic levels.</i></p>	

Social Studies

World History (2111)	Full Year / 5 credits <i>Grade 9</i>
This course spans from the Renaissance through 20th century Europe, Asia, and the Middle East. Emphasis is placed on the geographic, political, social, economic, and cultural factors that have shaped the development of ideas and institutions from the beginning of man to the present day.	
US History I (2211)	Full Year / 5 credits <i>Grade 10</i>
This course will investigate topics in United States history ranging from Columbus to Reconstruction (approximately 1492-1877). Students will be engaged in historical analysis as well as critical thinking, debate, and discussion in order to best determine how historical events worked together to create the nation that we live in today. Each of our individual lives are shaped by those who came before us and it is the goal of the historian to learn how and why. Through this course, students will develop analytical and critical thinking skills as well as writing and communication techniques that will serve them not just in the history classroom but in other disciplines and in life beyond high school. Students will also develop media literacy skills to help them navigate current events in the news. Finally, students will be encouraged to question, investigate, and judge the common stories/myths told about United States history and arrive at their own interpretation of what America means to them as an individual.	
US History I Honors (2213) <i>Prerequisite: World History (min. grade A)</i>	Full Year / credits <i>Grade 10</i>
This is a one year survey of our nation's history starting in the pre-Columbian period, through the colonial and antebellum periods, and finishing with the post-Civil War Reconstruction era. The course emphasizes an understanding of the foundations of our government and the ideals on which the nation was constructed, as well as the evolution of social, political, and economic patterns that influenced the nation's development. Advanced Placement U.S. History themes such as Identity, Peopling, Politics and Power, America in the World, and Environment and Geography are used to connect events across time and to organize key concepts. In addition, the course stresses the critical thinking, analytical, and information and media literacy skills students will need to be thoughtful and productive citizens in a democracy.	
US History II (2311)	Full Year / 5 credits <i>Grade 11</i>
The ever-changing landscape of information and communication technologies have transformed the roles and responsibilities of the next generation of learners. Inquiry-based learning in social studies prepares students to produce and critically consume information in our global society. This course will investigate topics in United States history ranging from the end of Reconstruction to the Modern day (approximately 1877-present). The curriculum taught in this course follows the New Jersey Student Learning Standards for Social Studies and will serve as a vehicle to provide learners with the knowledge, skills, attitudes, and perspectives needed to become active, informed, and contributing members of local, state, national, and global communities.	

US History II Honors (2313) <i>Prerequisite: US History I Honors (min. grade B) OR US History I (min. grade A)</i>	Full Year / 5 credits Grade 11
<p>The ever-changing landscape of information and communication technologies have transformed the roles and responsibilities of the next generation of learners. Inquiry-based learning in social studies prepares students to produce and critically consume information in our global society. This course will investigate topics in United States history ranging from the end of Reconstruction to the Modern day (approximately 1877-present). The curriculum taught in this course follows the New Jersey Student Learning Standards for Social Studies and will serve as a vehicle to provide learners with the knowledge, skills, attitudes, and perspectives needed to become active, informed, and contributing members of local, state, national, and global communities. Although the CP and Honors courses cover the same time period in history the Honors course is more rigorous. Ideas and concepts will be synthesized and connected from one unit to the next. This will culminate with a historical research project of the students' choice.</p>	
AP US History (2315) <i>Prerequisite: US History I Honors (min. grade B+) OR US History I (min. grade A and A on final)</i>	Full Year / 5 credits Grade 11-12
<p>This Advanced Placement course is the second part of the two year sequence of the in depth approach to the study of United States history from the time of the Industrial Revolution through the Administration of Barack Obama. The students will study the political, economic, social, and intellectual aspects of Modern America. This concentration requires the use of a college level text along with the additional books, essays, periodicals, and primary documents. The student will be expected to demonstrate mastery and understanding by presenting written essays on the aspects under study. Document based questions will continue to be used to prepare the students for the Advanced Placement Exam given each May. All students taking this class are required to take the AP exam.</p>	
Humanities Honors (HIS803) <i>Prerequisite: Meets Honors placement requirements</i>	Full Year / 5 credits Grade 11-12
<p>The term “Humanities” encompasses all of the various ways in which people express the experience of being human. Therefore, in this Honors Humanities course students will explore and compare art, architecture, literature, music, philosophy, religion, and politics throughout several different eras of history. In addition, the students will be asked to consider how the beliefs and ideas from each era influenced different societies throughout history, including contemporary society. The central focus for this course is: How is the human experience expressed?</p>	
AP Government (HIS805) <i>Prerequisite: Meets AP placement requirements</i>	Full Year / 5 credits Grade 11-12
<p>This course will give students an analytical perspective on government and politics in the United States. Students will study the following themes: democracy, constitution, federalism, civil rights & liberties, Congress, Presidency, Supreme Court, elections and campaigns, policy making, media, interest groups, bureaucracy, political parties, public opinion, and participation and voting. All students taking this class are required to take the AP exam.</p>	

AP World History (HIS815) <i>not offered in 2026-27</i> <i>*Tentatively scheduled for 2027-2028, 2029-2030, etc.</i> Prerequisite: World History. Meets AP placement requirements	Full Year / 5 credits Grade 10-12
<p>This course will provide an opportunity for students to expand on their knowledge of World History learned in ninth grade and for those who want to pursue an in-depth, college-level history course. The course highlights the nature of changes in international frameworks and their causes and consequences, as well as comparisons among major societies. The course emphasizes relevant factual knowledge deployed in conjunction with leading interpretive issues and types of historical evidence. All students taking this class are required to take the AP exam.</p>	
AP European History (HIS816) <i>*Tentatively scheduled for 2026-2027, 2028-2029, etc.</i> Prerequisite: World History. Meets AP placement requirements	Full Year / 5 credits Grade 10-12
<p>Have you ever wondered how events during the Renaissance impact your life today? Or how Napoleon changed politics forever? In AP European History, you'll study the rich history of countries such as France, England, Spain, and many others from c. 1450 to the present. You'll cover key events and uncover the political, social, economic, cultural, and intellectual developments that shaped Europe and subsequently the world. The AP European History Exam will test your understanding of the historical concepts covered in the course units, as well as your ability to analyze primary and secondary sources and identify patterns and connections that can support a historical interpretation. All students taking this class are required to take the AP exam.</p>	
Global Issues (HIS821) <i>This semester-long course is taken in combination with Human Rights.</i>	Semester / 2.5 credits Grade 9-12
<p>The world today faces many pressing problems that we will need to solve in the present as well as in the future. In order to accomplish this, today's students need to be informed as to these problems and equipped to think about possible solutions to them. The purpose of this course is to increase students' awareness of the world around them and prepare them to be active, informed, open-minded global citizens and problem solvers. This course introduces students to various issues facing the world today. Through taking this course, students will first evaluate media sources and develop basic media literacy skills in order to study current events. Then, using current world problems as case studies, students will learn how to evaluate sources of information, research current world issues, discuss different perspectives, and investigate actions that are being taken to address the problems of the world. In this course, there is an emphasis on class discussion, group collaboration, unit projects, and presentations. Students are also expected to complete weekly current events assignments. Students will then use these skills to complete a cumulative research project on a global issue of their choice.</p>	

Human Rights (HIS822) <i>This semester-long course is taken in combination with Global Issues.</i>	Semester / 2.5 credits Grade 9-12
<p>The world today faces many pressing problems that we will need to solve in the present as well as in the future. In order to accomplish this, today's students need to be informed as to these problems and equipped to think about possible solutions to them. The purpose of this course is to increase students' awareness of the world around them and prepare them to be active, informed, open-minded global citizens and problem solvers. This course will build upon the learned skills of Global Issues but focus exclusively on human rights concerns. Using historic and current genocides as case studies, students will examine what human rights are, why they are protected, how they are violated, why they are violated, and what can be done about it. Students will also critically examine the different perspectives of those involved in human rights violations (the victims as well as the perpetrators) in order to gain an in-depth understanding as to why human rights violations continue to take place in the modern era. In this course, there is an emphasis on class discussion, group collaboration, unit projects, and presentations. Students are also expected to complete weekly current events assignments. As with Global Issues, students will be expected to complete a cumulative research project on a human rights issue of their choice.</p>	
US Presidents (HIS851)	Full Year / 5 credits Grade 10-12
<p>This course studies the origin and evolution of the American presidency. We will examine different perspectives on understanding presidential leadership. With these perspectives, we will be able to pursue the question of what makes good presidents and how we define successful presidents. We also deal with the issue of the nomination and election of presidents; the way the presidential office works and is organized; and presidential governance in relation to the public, mass media, Congress, other executive branches, and the Judiciary. Lastly, we look at how presidents engage and exert power in making domestic, economic, and foreign policies.</p>	

World Language

****Many colleges require two years of the same World Language***

Heritage learners and/or students who have background knowledge and experience in a language may request a placement assessment and interview to determine the appropriate course/level. Teacher approval is based on both written and oral assessment.

Spanish I (5521)	Full Year / 5 credits <i>Grade 9-12</i>
The Spanish I course introduces students to the foundational skills of language study in listening, speaking, reading, and writing. The focus of this course is to develop conversational and written skills necessary to communicate in basic terms in the target language. A study of Hispanic cultures provides students with an understanding of the lives, customs, and history of Hispanic people worldwide.	
Spanish II (5121) <i>Prerequisite: Spanish I OR Spanish 7 & Spanish 8</i>	Full Year / 5 credits <i>Grade 9-12</i>
The Spanish II course focuses on the continuation of formal study in the target language. Listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills are further developed through a concentrated study of vocabulary and grammar. Study of the diversity of Hispanic cultures provides students with a deeper understanding of customs and habits of Spanish-speaking people.	
Spanish II Honors (5123) <i>Prerequisite: Spanish I (min. grade A)</i>	Full Year / 5 credits <i>Grade 9-12</i>
The Spanish II Honors course advances students' knowledge of the language and customs of Spain and the Hispanic world through the development of vocabulary and grammar in a rigorous program of study. Enhancing language skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writing targets fluency. Students will be offered the opportunity to learn about the culture of several countries where Spanish is spoken. Formative, summative, and performance assessments are employed to track individual student progress.	
Spanish III (5221) <i>Prerequisite: Spanish II</i>	Full Year / 5 credits <i>Grade 10-12</i>
The Spanish III course transitions from the beginning levels of language study to an advanced linguistic learning experience. Development of listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills is promoted through a variety of strategies, including vocabulary enhancement, application of advanced grammar, and examination of culturally-authentic materials from diverse Hispanic nations. Through the use of digital tools, students connect with their peers to share information, solve problems, and gain insight into the varied experiences of young people around the world. Knowledge of art, literature, and social issues enhances fluency and prepares students to function creatively and productively in a Spanish-speaking environment.	

Spanish III Honors (5223) <i>Prerequisite: Spanish II Honors (min. grade B) OR Spanish II (min. grade A)</i>	Full Year / 5 credits Grade 10-12
The Spanish III Honors course advances students' knowledge of the language and customs of Spain and the Hispanic world through the development of vocabulary and grammar in a rigorous program of study. Enhancing language skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writing targets fluency. Students will be offered the opportunity to learn about the culture of several countries where Spanish is spoken. Formative, summative, and performance assessments are employed to track individual student progress.	
Spanish IV Honors (5323) <i>Prerequisite: Spanish Intermediate (min. grade A) OR Intermediate Honors (min. grade B)</i>	Full Year / 5 credits Grade 11-12
Students in the Spanish IV Honors course develop advanced knowledge of the language and customs of Spain and the Hispanic world through the development of a wider vocabulary and sophisticated use of grammar in a rigorous program of study. Students read a wide spectrum of literature, non-fiction text, and current international articles, view Internet clips and television programs, listen to various genres of music and global news, and use these authentic resources as vehicles for real life conversations in the community. Through the study of language, students will also gain an understanding and appreciation of other cultures as well as their own. Formative, summative, and performance assessments are employed to track individual student progress.	
AP Spanish (5425) <i>Prerequisite: Spanish Advanced Honors (min. grade B+)</i>	Full Year / 5 credits Grade 11-12
The Advanced Placement Spanish course develops student proficiency in the areas of listening, speaking, reading, and writing through a variety of learning experiences. Students' understanding of Hispanic history and culture is expanded through exposure to authentic art, literature, and music. Emphasis is placed on the development of self-expression that is accurate, fluent, and coherent in both written and oral forms. The Advanced Placement Spanish curriculum is submitted to and approved by the College Board. Heritage learners and/or students who have background knowledge and experience in Spanish may request a placement assessment and interview to determine the appropriate course level prior to completion of Spanish IV Honors. Teacher approval is based on both written and oral assessment. All students taking this class are required to take the AP exam.	
Spanish Language and Culture I (5522) <i>Prerequisite: Recommendation of case manager/counselor</i>	Full Year / 5 credits Grade 9-12
Students in the Spanish Language and Culture are introduced to formal language study, using a variety of modalities and technology support. The focus of the course is to develop conversational skills in Spanish, as well as cultural knowledge of the various Hispanic cultures. Pacing of the course is student-led and differentiated as needed.	
Spanish Language and Culture II (5523) not offered in 2026-27 <i>Prerequisite: Spanish Lang. & Culture I & recommendation of case manager counselor</i>	Full Year / 5 credits Grade 10-12
<i>Students in the Spanish Language and Culture II course continue their formal study of the Spanish language through a wider development of vocabulary and communicative tasks. Continued study of Hispanic culture is supplemented with a variety of resources, including authentic materials. Pacing of the course is student-led and differentiated as needed.</i>	

French I (5110)	Full Year / 5 credits <i>Grade 9-12</i>
<p>Students in the French I world language course are introduced to formal language study. The focus of this first-level course is to assist the student to develop conversational and written skills necessary to express oneself and one's needs using basic vocabulary and grammar forms in the French language. A study of the Francophone culture provides students with a better understanding of the lives, customs, and history of French-speaking people.</p>	
French II Honors (5111) <i>Prerequisite: French 7 & French 8 OR French I (min. grade B)</i>	Full Year / 5 credits <i>Grade 9-12</i>
<p>Students in the French II Honors course advances students' knowledge of the language and customs of the Francophone world through the development of vocabulary and grammar. Fluency is expanded by applying language learning skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writing. The culture of Francophone nations is explored through exposure to culturally-authentic documents and media, as well as short reading passages and visual supports.</p>	
French III Honors (5211) <i>Prerequisite: French II Honors (min. grade B)</i>	Full Year / 5 credits <i>Grade 10-12</i>
<p>The French III Honors course is designed to foster skills in the areas of reading, writing, listening, and speaking through a rigorous program focusing on French history and culture, the francophone world, and contemporary issues in France and the world. Through a thorough and efficient study of grammar, vocabulary, and conversational techniques, fluency is enhanced. Formative, summative, and performance assessments are employed to track individual student progress.</p>	
French IV Honors (5313) <i>Prerequisite: Spanish III Honors (min. grade B)</i>	Full Year / 5 credits <i>Grade 11-12</i>
<p>The French IV Honors course builds students' proficiency through a variety of instructional and linguistic activities. The study of French history and literature enhances the development of listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills. Language proficiency is demonstrated through the completion of digital portfolio projects, listening exercises, conversations, written assignments including compositions, and Internet-based research communication experiences. Formative, summative, and performance assessments are employed to track individual student progress.</p>	
AP French (5415) <i>Prerequisite: French IV Honors (min. grade B+)</i>	Full Year / 5 credits <i>Grade 11-12</i>
<p>Students in Advanced Placement (AP) French build language proficiency in all modalities: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Students will demonstrate ability to understand spoken and written French in various contexts, to converse comfortably about a variety of topics with grammatical accuracy, and to read diverse French literary genres. The Advanced Placement French curriculum is submitted to and approved by the College Board. Formative, summative, and performance assessments are used to track student progress. Heritage learners and/or students who have background knowledge and experience in French may request a placement assessment and interview to determine the appropriate course level prior to completion of Spanish IV Honors. Teacher approval is based on both written and oral assessment. <i>All students taking this class are required to take the AP exam.</i></p>	

Italian I (5141)	Full Year / 5 credits <i>Grade 9-12</i>
<p>The Italian I course focuses on the continuation of formal study in the target language. Listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills are further developed through a concentrated study of vocabulary and grammar. Study of Italian history and culture provides students with a deeper understanding of customs and habits of Italian-speaking people.</p>	
Italian II Honors (5241) <i>Prerequisite: Italian 7 & Italian 8 (min. grade B)</i>	Full Year / 5 credits <i>Grade 9-12</i>
<p>The Italian II Honors course focuses on the continuation of formal study in the target language. Listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills are further developed through a concentrated study of vocabulary and grammar. Study of Italian history and culture provides students with a deeper understanding of customs and habits of Italian-speaking people.</p>	
Italian III Honors (5242) <i>Prerequisite: Italian II Honors (min. grade B)</i>	Full Year / 5 credits <i>Grade 10-12</i>
<p>Italian III Honors course advances students' knowledge of the language and customs of Italy and influence of Italian history and culture through the development of vocabulary and grammar in a rigorous program of study. Enhancing language skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writing targets fluency. Students will be offered the opportunity to learn about the regional cultures of Italy. Formative, summative, and performance assessments are employed to track individual student progress.</p>	
Italian IV Honors (5432) <i>Prerequisite: Italian III Honors (min. grade B)</i>	Full Year / 5 credits <i>Grade 11-12</i>
<p>Students in the Italian IV Honors course develop proficiency in listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills and expand their understanding of Italian culture and its global influence. Authentic documents, as well as classical and contemporary reading materials, reinforce reading comprehension. A conversational approach to learning vocabulary and grammar concepts promotes the ability to express ideas fluently, coherently, and accurately in the target language. Technology applications allow opportunities for communication with Italian-speaking students in other locales while listening exercises, videos, cooperative group work, and individual presentations enrich the language learning experience.</p>	
AP Italian (5445) <i>Prerequisite: Italian IV Honors (min. grade B+)</i>	Full Year / 5 credits <i>Grade 11-12</i>
<p>The Advanced Placement Italian course develops student proficiency in the areas of listening, speaking, reading, and writing through a variety of learning experiences. Students' understanding of Italian history and culture is expanded through exposure to authentic art, literature, and music. Emphasis is placed on the development of self-expression that is accurate, fluent, and coherent in both written and oral forms. The Advanced Placement Italian curriculum is submitted to and approved by the College Board. Heritage learners and/or students who have background knowledge and experience in Italian may request a placement assessment and interview to determine the appropriate course level prior to completion of Spanish IV Honors. Teacher approval is based on both written and oral assessment. <i>All students taking this class are required to take the AP exam.</i></p>	

21st Century Career Electives

Introduction to Business (21CC511)	Full Year / 5 credits Grade 9-12
This course will introduce the students to a wide variety of topics in the field of business. The students are introduced to the various roles of the economy. Students will learn the roles of marketing, entrepreneurship, the use of social media, the economy and how to manage financial and technological resources.	
Marketing (21CC521)	Full Year / 5 credits Grade 10-12
This course is designed to provide an understanding of marketing principles. The course will focus on marketing principles, market planning, promotional strategies, and advertising techniques. Students will learn about buyer behavior, distribution, demand analysis and product management. The marketing course is formatted in a project based learning setting in which students use the skills they will gain and apply them to real-life examples.	
Business Law Honors (21CC545) <i>not offered in 2026-27</i> <i>*Tentatively scheduled for 2027-2028, 2029-2030, etc.</i> Prerequisite: Intro to Business or Marketing. Meets Honors placement requirements	Full Year / 5 credits Grade 11-12
<i>This Business Law course provides a comprehensive examination of the legal principles and frameworks essential for understanding business operations. Beginning with Ethics and the Law, students explore how ethical considerations intersect with legal standards and influence business conduct. The course then covers The Court System, detailing the structure, roles, and processes of various courts and legal proceedings. In Contract Law, students delve into the fundamentals of contract formation, performance, and enforcement, equipping them to analyze and draft legal agreements. The Employment Law unit addresses the rights and responsibilities of employers and employees, focusing on labor laws, workplace safety, and anti-discrimination regulations. Additionally, if included, Criminal & Civil Law explores the differences between these legal domains, emphasizing the processes and outcomes of legal disputes and offenses. Through case studies and practical applications, students will gain a thorough understanding of business law, enhancing their ability to make informed decisions and manage legal issues effectively in various business contexts.</i>	
Accounting Honors (21CC546) <i>*Tentatively scheduled for 2026-2027, 2028-2029, etc.</i> Prerequisite: Intro to Business or Marketing. Meets Honors placement requirements	Full Year / 5 credits Grade 11-12
Honors Accounting is a rigorous course designed for 11th and 12th grade students interested in exploring the foundational principles and practices of accounting. The course emphasizes financial literacy, ethical decision-making, and the critical role accounting plays in business and personal finance. Students will learn to analyze and record financial transactions, prepare financial statements, and interpret data to make informed decisions. Advanced topics include cost accounting, budgeting, and an introduction to managerial accounting. Real-world case studies, hands-on projects, and technology integration will help students develop problem-solving and analytical skills. By the end of the course, students will be well-prepared for further studies in accounting or related fields and gain insights into career opportunities in finance.	

Engineering Design (21CC841)	Full Year / 5 credits Grade 9-12
<p>The major focus of Engineering Design is to expose students to the design process, research and analysis, collaborative strategies, global and human impacts, engineering and technical documentation standards. Engineering Design gives students the opportunity to develop skills and understanding of course concepts through activities, projects, and problem-based learning. Students will continually work on their interpersonal skills, creative abilities, and understanding of the design process to solve real world problems. They will then use these skills to explore different branches of engineering, Robotics, various design tools, and processes typically performed by engineers. Students will work to select a problem, design a solution, conduct patent research, build a prototype, conduct testing on the prototype, evaluate the results, and present to an engineering panel.</p>	
Python (21CC111) <i>Prerequisite: Algebra 1</i>	Full Year / 5 credits Grade 9-12
<p>Python is an introductory programming course that focuses on the basic syntax of Python and its applications. Topics covered range from decision statements to implementing dictionaries and a brief introduction to object-oriented programming. The course focuses on designing programs to build collaborative programming solutions. Arduino hardware will be used to expose students to implementing programming to produce physical output. Students will also be able to program drones. Students will learn the fundamentals of Python through a graphics-first approach while creating games, interactive data visualizations and audio landscapes.</p>	
C++ Computer Programming (21CC121) <i>Prerequisite: Algebra 1</i>	Full Year / 5 credits Grade 9-12
<p>C++ is a course that focuses on the syntax and applications of the C++ language. The course also explores computer science and its applications in problem solving through various hands-on projects using Raspberry Pi hardware, and other select programming languages. The course covers implementing logic to create programs and games. Each student creates an ePortfolio that is developed over the course of the year. It is recommended that you take C++ after Python, and before the AP Computer Science A course.</p>	
AP Computer Science A (21CC145) not offered in 2026-27 <i>*Tentatively scheduled for 2027-2028, 2029-2030, etc.</i> Prerequisite: Python and/or C++ (both courses recommended) and meet AP placement requirements.	Full Year / 5 credits Grade 10-12
<p><i>AP Computer Science A introduces students to computer science through programming. Fundamental topics in this course include the design of solutions to problems, the use of data structures to organize large sets of data, the development and implementation of algorithms to process data and discover new information, the analysis of potential solutions, and the ethical and social implications of computing systems. The course emphasizes object-oriented programming and design using the Java programming language. Each student builds an ePortfolio that is used as a study tool in preparation for the AP exam in May. All students taking this class are required to take the AP exam.</i></p>	

AP Computer Science Principles (21CC155) <i>*Tentatively scheduled for 2026-2027, 2028-2029, etc.</i> Prerequisite: Algebra 1 and meets AP placement requirements	Full Year / 5 credits Grade 10-12
<p>AP Computer Science Principles is an introductory course aimed towards students who want to focus more on the foundational concepts of computer science rather than the syntax of a particular language. This course challenges students to explore how computing technology is designed to solve problems and how these technologies can impact the world. Students will use online simulators and programming editors provided by code.org to explore real world concepts such as cybersecurity, internet protocols, binary code, digital information, and big data. Although students will have the opportunity to program applications using JavaScript, the course highlights the value of understanding the computer concepts, such as variables, functions, and arrays, rather than the syntax of the computing language, which better prepares students for the computational thinking that is necessary for learning other computer languages. All students taking this class are required to take the AP exam.</p>	
Applied Computer Science Honors (21CC131) Prerequisite: AP Computer Science A	Full Year / 5 credits Grade 11-12
<p>Students pursuing Applied Computer Science can choose between two primary pathways:</p> <p>Option 1: Enrollment in Carnegie Mellon University's College Programming and Computer Science course. This rigorous and fast-paced curriculum, equivalent to Carnegie Mellon's 15-112 course, focuses on a technical introduction to the fundamentals of Python programming. Students have the opportunity to take an end-of-year examination to earn undergraduate credits from Carnegie Mellon University. Admission requires successful completion of a mathematics pre-assessment.</p> <p>Option 2: Completion of a capstone project centered on the development of a comprehensive full-stack web application. This pathway involves identifying a client and producing multiple prototypes throughout the year. The development process includes an initial client interview, wire framing, designing, testing, and iterative refinement based on feedback from both test groups and the client. The project culminates in a final presentation. Furthermore, students must produce a detailed technical paper documenting the application and its development process.</p>	
Video Production II (21CC222) Prerequisite: Any of the following courses - Video Production I, Photography I, Digital Art, Interactive Design & Animation	Full Year / 5 credits Grade 10-12
<p>This course provides an outlet for the practical application of the fundamental communication skills and production methodologies learned in Video Production I. By analyzing the historical significance and evolution of communication technology, students become more efficient consumers of twenty-first century participatory media. This program generates critical and analytical learners who are prepared to navigate the sea of mass media culture. Projects include commercials, public service announcements, movie trailers, abstract films, profile interviews, screenwriting, music videos, sports, & film analysis. Videos produced in this course may be featured on Cresskill Update and are entered into contests and festivals. Field trips can include behind the scenes at the Prudential Center and Rutgers basketball games, SNY, The Paley Center, & Inside the NFL, etc.</p>	

Broadcast Journalism Honors (21CC225) <i>Prerequisite: Video Production II and teacher approval</i>	Full Year / 5 credits Grade 11-12
<p>The focus of this course is to produce a magazine-style television show, Cresskill Update. Students apply media collection skills and techniques inside and outside of a studio environment to encourage a critical understanding of past and present media technologies as well as the purpose media serves in local and global society. Students experience and evaluate media's impact on contemporary culture, social situations, politics, and economics. Videos produced in this course are featured and distributed globally on Cresskill Update and are entered in various contests and festivals. Specific video projects are tailored to the individual interests of the student producers and the needs of the school district. Field trips can include behind the scenes at the Prudential Center and Rutgers basketball games, The Paley Center, Inside the NFL, etc.</p>	
Digital Cinematography Honors (21CC224) <i>Prerequisite: Broadcast Journalism Honors and teacher approval</i>	Full Year / 5 credits Grade 12
<p>Students enrolled in this independent study program are responsible for a series of independent media production projects based on their individual areas of interest. Alternately, students can share their production experiences by serving as a Teaching Assistant within the Video Production I and II courses. Students should seek instructor approval for registration.</p>	
Interactive Design & Animation (21CC261)	Full Year / 5 credits Grade 9-12
<p>This course is a 2 part course. For the first semester the course focuses on aspects of interactive design within web applications and the second semester deepens student knowledge by incorporating animation into web applications. This hands-on course utilizes multiple programs such as Adobe Photoshop and Adobe Animate. Students will create design prototypes for web designs and mobile app designs, as well as 2D animation. Students will learn terminology, protocols, and communication fundamentals of web and app design, as well as the beginning basics to creating interactive animations that can be applied to websites, apps, ebooks and more.</p>	
Advanced Digital Art Honors (21CC242) <i>Prerequisite: Digital Art (Graphic Design) , Web/App Design, Illustration/Animation, Photo I/Video I (min. grade C+)</i>	Full Year / 5 credits Grade 10-12
<p>Advanced Digital Art Honors is a hands-on graphic design based class that will teach the next level of design application from introductory digital classes. This class will build students' skills for design and layout for print graphic design components such as logo, letterhead, business card, poster, t-shirts, brochure, etc. Understanding more in depth knowledge of resolution/file size, design aesthetics, layout, production and printing techniques. The skills covered in this class prepare students for real-world design projects in the Design Studio level course as well as building a student design portfolio. Applications covered: More advanced techniques in Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Illustrator and Adobe Indesign.</p>	
Financial Literacy (3514)	Full Year / 5 credits Grade 9-12
<p>Financial Literacy provides the tools for financial security required by the NJ Department of Education. This asynchronous online course, delivered via Canvas through a partnership with Bergen Community College, covers career exploration, net pay calculation, banking, tax preparation, and investment strategies. Students work at their own pace to develop lifelong financial skills and gain experience with postsecondary learning platforms. The course is graded as Pass/Fail.</p>	

Visual & Performing Arts Electives

Printmaking (VPA261)	Full Year / 5 credits Grade 9-12
<p>Printmaking is a fun and versatile type of art that allows a person to make multiple copies of the same image. This course is perfect for anyone who likes art—total beginners and highly advanced art students can both have a great experience and make high-quality artworks. Some of the printmaking techniques covered in this course include: linoleum printing, silkscreen, sun prints, rubbings, mono-printing, and other less conventional processes. Students even get the opportunity to silkscreen t-shirts or other fabric surfaces in the spring.</p>	
Video Productions I (VPA221) <i>This semester-long course is taken in combination with Photography I</i>	Semester / 2.5 credits Grade 9-12
<p>This course is the first in a series that utilizes Cresskill High School's video production facility. The class blends theory and practical training to help students experience web-based media, production work in digital video and audio, and multimedia as a communication tool. By visiting multiple, related disciplines, students develop creativity in problem-solving strategies while becoming effective and efficient communicators. Group discussion and critique help students evaluate their own work as well as their peers'. Projects include exercises in audio, directing, acting, composition, editing, & continuity.</p>	
Photography I (VPA211) <i>This semester-long course is taken in combination with Video Productions I</i>	Semester / 2.5 credits Grade 9-12
<p>Photography I is a semester-long elective class taken mostly by students in 9th and 10th grades. It is a survey course that focuses on many different topics from cameras to Photoshop.</p>	
Advanced Photography Honors (VPA212) <i>Prerequisite: Photography I (or other classes that involve the Adobe suite such as Digital Art, Advanced Digital Art, Interactive Design & Animation, Illustration, Animation, Advanced Art, or AP Art)</i>	Full Year / 5 credits Grade 10-12
<p>Advanced Digital Photography Honors is a second-level studio course. Students in this class have an advanced level of understanding of some form of digital media (video, graphic design, or photography). The purpose of this class is to get students to develop their skills in digital art by working with high-end equipment, complicated editing techniques, and higher standards.</p>	
Introduction to Art (VPA111) <i>not offered in 2026-27</i> <i>*Tentatively scheduled for 2027-2028, 2029-2030, etc.</i>	Full Year / 5 credits Grade 9-12
<p><i>This course allows you to learn a variety of art techniques including drawing, painting, photography, and graphic design. You will be able to explore different art concepts in preparation for more advanced, concentrated high school art electives.</i></p>	

Fashion Forward: Art, Style & Innovation (7311) <i>*Tentatively scheduled for 2026-2027, 2028-2029, etc.</i>	Full Year / 5 credits Grade 9-12
<p>This hands-on art course explores fashion as creative expression, cultural influence, and global industry in today's digital world. Students will study fashion history and trends, create inspiration boards and fashion illustrations, experiment with textiles and pattern making, and explore accessories, sustainability, and upcycled design. The course also introduces fashion marketing, branding, merchandising, and trend forecasting through real-world projects and digital platforms. This course is ideal for students interested in art, design, culture, media, or entrepreneurship.</p>	
Drawing and Painting (VPA121)	Full Year / 5 credits Grade 9-12
<p>Students with little experience in art can take this course—you don't have to know how to draw or paint. Students learn why drawing is often viewed as difficult—because most people just don't know how to start! New ways of “seeing” the world are revealed that allow students to take what they see and put it on paper. More traditional drawing activities will be alternated with more creative/expressive ones. After learning drawing fundamentals, students will learn about painting: how color works in art, how to draw and paint objects using colored materials, and how to mix and blend paint to create both expressive and realistic images.</p>	
Advanced Fine Art Honors (VPA131) <i>Prerequisite: Intro to Art or Drawing and Painting</i>	Full Year / 5 credits Grade 10-12
<p>The focus of this course is to take your art beyond just drawing and painting. You will do projects that allow for true self-expression and creativity, allowing you to explore some unusual materials and ways of making artworks. You will also be challenged to push your skills to a higher level. This course can also serve as preparation for AP Studio Art or for building a portfolio to add to your college applications, which can help you stand out even if you don't plan on majoring in art.</p>	
AP Studio Art I (VPA145) <i>Prerequisite: Two years of art or teacher recommendation</i>	Full Year / 5 credits Grade 11-12
<p>This is a challenging and rewarding AP course where students build a Drawing OR 2-Dimensional Design portfolio as their AP “exam.” Students will increase the strength and versatility of their technical skills as well as discover and cultivate their own personal artistic voice. AP Studio Art students will also curate an exhibition of their own work at least twice a year. The bulk of the course will be on the creation of the Sustained Investigation portion of the AP portfolio, so students will be spending the school year focused on a visual idea of their choice. This course provides a wonderful opportunity for a student to build a portfolio for their college application as well as receive a rigorous, first-year-of-college-level experience. Students interested in photography and digital art CAN take this course, as long as they have taken photo and/or digital art classes.</p> <p>All students taking this class are required to submit a portfolio.</p>	

AP Studio Art II (VPA155) <i>Prerequisite: AP Studio Art I and teacher recommendation</i>	Full Year / 5 credits Grade 12
<p>This is a challenging and rewarding AP course where students build a Drawing OR 2-Dimensional Design portfolio as their AP exam. Students will increase the strength and versatility of their technical skills as well as discover and cultivate their own personal artistic voice. AP Studio Art students will also curate an exhibition of their own work at least twice a year. This course provides a wonderful opportunity for a student to build a portfolio for their college application as well as receive a rigorous, first-year-of-college-level experience. All students taking this class are required to submit a portfolio.</p>	
Sculpture (VPA251)	Full Year / 5 credits Grade 9-12
<p>This full year course allows the students to explore all facets of 3-dimensional art creation. Students will discover the connections between Sculpture and other art disciplines as they relate specifically to three-dimensional art. Students will gain knowledge in additive, subtractive, and assemblage techniques as sources of construction. A variety of art mediums will be used in this course.</p>	
Digital Art (VPA241)	Full Year / 5 credits Grade 9-12
<p>This course will introduce you to the basics of Adobe Programs including: Adobe Photoshop & Adobe Illustrator. You will also learn the basics to design layout, composition, and color theory. This is a great class in preparation for all of our advanced digital courses offered.</p>	
Music Technology I (VPA341)	Full Year / 5 credits Grade 9-12
<p>Music Technology is a music elective for students wishing to explore their musical creativity through composition and recording while utilizing tools and techniques that music technology has to offer. In this hands-on, project based environment, students can schedule what they choose to work on day-to-day from activity lists. The class is designed as one that can be structured to fit the needs of each individual and the varied levels they may be working at, from beginner to expert. Students will explore the areas of ear training and music theory through Rising Software's Auralia and Musition, composition and publishing through Avid's Sibelius, and various forms of digital recording through Acoustica's Mixcraft and Avid's ProTools. The goals will proceed from the basics of each program's operation and layout, to recording and note entry, to advanced recording and compositional techniques as well as constant improvement in the individual student's ear training and music theory abilities. For our class pages, go to http://www.cresskillmusic.org/music-technology/.</p>	
MCP Music Technology II (VPA345) <i>Prerequisite: Music Technology I</i>	Full Year / 5 credits Grade 10-12
<p>MCP Music Technology II is the second level of Music Technology I (VPA341). This course is a dual enrollment credit course. For our class pages, go to http://www.cresskillmusic.org/music-technology/.</p>	

Music Studies (VPA361)	Full Year / 5 credits <i>Grade 9-12</i>
<p>Music Studies is a course comprised of three major areas:</p> <p>MUSIC HISTORY - An overview of Western Music History from ancient Greece and Rome through mid-20th Century classical music. Students will have the opportunity to explore how musical styles and ideas were developed over time and how composers influenced each other throughout Europe and North America.</p> <p>MUSIC THEORY - The fundamentals of music composition from reading/constructing notes, chords, melodies, progressions, etc. Students will work on developing their listening, reading, and writing skills and will discover what it takes to create an original piece of music.</p> <p>MUSIC APPRECIATION - A closer look at the development of popular musical styles from the mid-20th century through today. Students will gain a greater understanding of how today's music came into being and what genres influenced their development.</p>	
Introduction to Creative Movement (VPA371)	Full Year / 5 credits <i>Grade 9-12</i>
<p>This course provides an opportunity for students to explore and express themselves through movement, fostering a deeper understanding of their own bodies and the art of dance. Through a series of structured units, students will develop foundational skills in body awareness, improvisation, composition, and performance. Students will learn about the mechanics and capabilities of their bodies. Emphasis will be placed on developing proper alignment, strength, flexibility, and coordination. Students will engage in various improvisational exercises to discover new ways of moving and expressing themselves. They will also learn about the elements of dance composition, including space, time, and energy, and how to apply these concepts to create original dance pieces. Students will be assessed through a combination of class participation, skill development, creativity in improvisation and composition, and performance quality. Constructive feedback will be provided to support each student's growth and development in dance.</p>	

Band, Choir, & Orchestra

All of the following courses have an Honors option available. To be eligible for Honors, students will need to fulfill 12 Honors Points in available school sponsored music-related activities that serve as an extension of the class curriculum. "Honors Points" can be achieved via a variety of extra-curricular music based ensembles which are hosted by CHS. [CLICK HERE](#) to see more information regarding the Honors points system. For our class page, go to this link: <http://www.cresskillmusic.org/hs-concert-band/>

Note: Participation in high school instrumental classes no longer require students to participate in marching band. Students are still strongly encouraged to join marching band as an extracurricular activity.

Band (VPA311)

Full Year / 5 credits
Grade 9-12

High School Band is a large instrumental ensemble which performs at the annual holiday and spring concerts each year. Band class is available to all woodwind, brass, string and percussion instruments. Although used occasionally, piano and guitar are not instruments that can be played full time in band, so students who play those instruments will need to learn a secondary instrument in order to be in band class.

Students in band will also have the opportunity to take part in marching band, jazz band, chamber ensembles and pit orchestra among other musical opportunities and may also audition for the festival bands and orchestras on the county, region, and state level available with the approval and sponsorship of their instructor.

Band Honors (VPA313)

Prerequisite: Meets Honors placement requirements

Full Year / 5 credits
Grade 9-12

Please see the above description for Band (VPA311).

Band/Choir (VPA331)

Full Year / 5 credits
Grade 9-12

High School Band/Choir is a music elective for students who enjoy singing as well as playing an instrument and, due to scheduling, choose to do both during a single class period. Students receive a similar experience to those students who partake in High School Concert Choir or High School Band however, split their time amongst the two groups. The High School Band/Choir students perform in all of the same performances as the High School Concert Choir and High School Band. Students may also participate in the same competitions, festivals, arts related field trips, and extended performance tours. Students in High School Band/Choir may also audition for the festival choirs/bands on the county, region, and state level available with the approval and sponsorship of their instructor. Students must take into the consideration the expanded amount of homework and preparation to be successful in both large ensemble classes at once. For our class pages, go to <http://www.cresskillmusic.org/hs-concert-band/>, and <http://www.cresskillmusic.org/hs-choir/>.

Band/Choir Honors (VPA333)

Prerequisite: Meets Honors placement requirements

Full Year / 5 credits
Grade 9-12

Please see the above description for Band/Choir (VPA331).

Choir (VPA321)	Full Year / 5 credits Grade 9-12
<p>High School Choir is a music elective for students who enjoy singing and desire to study a wide variety of styles from the earliest written vocal music to that of the twenty-first century. The repertoire includes classic vocal masterworks, as well as that of Broadway, jazz, rock, folk, and multi-cultural works. The Concert Choir performs at least two concerts annually. Students may also participate in competitions, festivals, and arts-related field trips. Extended tour opportunities are available to students. The High School Concert Choir has performed previously on tour in locations such as Chicago, Boston, Toronto, Montreal, and Orlando. Select members may also choose to audition for and participate in our high school vocal ensembles, and may choose to audition for festival choirs on the county, region, and state level with the approval of their instructor. For our class page, go to http://www.cresskillmusic.org/hs-choir/.</p>	
Choir Honors (VPA323) <i>Prerequisite: Meets Honors placement requirements</i>	Full Year / 5 credits Grade 9-12
Please see the above description for Choir (VPA321).	
Orchestra (VPA315)	Full Year / 5 credits Grade 9-12
<p>High School Orchestra is a large instrumental ensemble which performs at the annual holiday and spring concerts each year. Orchestra class is available to all string players in grades 9-12 and includes violin, viola, cello, and string bass. Although occasionally used, piano is not an instrument that can be played full time in Orchestra. Wind and percussion instruments are not eligible to be part of Orchestra as a class, but may be invited to be a part of some larger symphonic orchestra projects as extra curricular activities. Students in grades 6-8 will be invited to audition to be a part of this class as an extra-curricular activity to help enhance the size and sound of the group. Students in Orchestra will also have the opportunity to take part in chamber ensembles and pit orchestra among other musical opportunities and may also audition for the festival orchestras on the region and state level available with the approval and sponsorship of their instructor.</p>	
Orchestra Honors (VPA317) <i>Prerequisite: Meets Honors placement requirements</i>	Full Year / 5 credits Grade 9-12
Please see the above description for Orchestra (VPA315).	
Orchestra/Choir (VPA316)	Full Year / 5 credits Grade 9-12
<p>This elective is designed for students who enjoy both singing and playing a string instrument. Students split their rehearsal time between the High School Concert Choir and the High School Orchestra within a single class period. Participants perform in all concerts for both groups and are eligible for competitions, festivals, and tours. Students should be prepared for the increased workload of managing two large ensembles simultaneously. For our class pages, go to http://www.cresskillmusic.org/hs-choir/. A link to our High School Orchestra page will be added as soon as possible..</p>	

Orchestra/Choir Honors (VPA318) <i>Prerequisite: Meets Honors placement requirements</i>	Full Year / 5 credits Grade 9-12
Please see the above description for Orchestra/Choir (VPA315).	
Introduction to Theatre Arts (VPA351)	Full Year / 5 credits Grade 9-12
<p>Introduction to Theatre Arts is a course for the beginning actor and is designed to build confidence through meeting challenges presented by dramatic situations and to provide students with a working vocabulary and an informed eye. This course places equal emphasis on the reading of texts essential to the actor's craft, and the practical hands-on work in the studio to help beginning students understand performance as living literature. The studio component of this course is designed to introduce students to the basic tools and techniques of the actor's craft. These include scene analysis, entering the world of the scene, freeing vocal and physical expression, sense awareness, improvisation and ensemble skills, listening and relating, strengthening concentration and attention, memorization, and understanding basic scene dynamics. Students will explore a wide variety of exercises, games and improvisational techniques. Students will prepare a classical and contemporary monologue and scene.</p>	

Physical Education & Health

Physical Education 9-12	Full Year / 4 credits <i>Grade 9-12</i>
Physical Education students are challenged daily to improve and expand their knowledge, skills and attitudes pertaining to their own body and ways in which they can efficiently use and care for it across their lifetime. Through movement, play, direction-following, problem-solving, activity, and sport they will realize the multitude of growth possibilities that exercise and play provide. The development of strength, flexibility, agility, cardio-vascular endurance, coordination, and balance are among the physical benefits and by-products that will enhance their experience. Improved teamwork, empathy, confidence, problem-solving, decision-making, and general well-being are expected outcomes throughout our program.	
Educated Choices	Quarter / 1 credit <i>Grade 9</i>
This course is designed to provide students with knowledge and skills to develop a healthy relationship with themselves and others. Topics will include strategies for emotional, social, and sexual health as well as developing healthy behaviors regarding social media.	
Drivers Education	Quarter / 1 credit <i>Grade 10</i>
This course is designed to provide the students with the knowledge necessary to become safe and effective drivers. Students will understand road signs and markings, the laws governing driving, and how to safely maneuver a car in changing environments. They will also understand how to avoid the risks associated with unsafe driving including driving under the influence, distracted driving, and road rage.	
Self-Care, First Aid, & CPR	Quarter / 1 credit <i>Grade 11</i>
This course introduces students to providing first responder care in various types of emergency situations. Students will learn how to provide first aid as well as administering CPR/AED use. This course will also emphasize living a healthy lifestyle including nutrition and exercise.	
Family Living	Quarter / 1 credit <i>Grade 12</i>
This course introduces the basic concepts of family planning, budgeting, and problem solving. Students are encouraged to look beyond high school, to examine the importance of building interpersonal relationships, and developing skills to manage personal and family issues. Students will learn how to advocate for themselves and others and to identify resources for help in regards to dating and/or domestic violence.	

Supported Classes

**Please consult with case manager/504 coordinator*

1112	English I	92209	Foundations of History I
1212	English II	92210	Foundations of History II
1312	English III, British Literature	92211	Foundations of History III
1412	English IV	92212	Foundations of History IV
2112	World History	92309	Life Skills History I
2212	US History I	92310	Life Skills History II
2312	US History II	92311	Life Skills History III
3112	Algebra I	92312	Life Skills History IV
3212	Geometry	93109	Algebra I
3312	Algebra II	93110	Geometry
91109	English I	93111	Algebra II
91110	English II	93209	Foundations of Math I
91111	English III	93210	Foundations of Math II
91112	English IV	93211	Foundations of Math III
91209	Foundations of English I	93212	Foundations of Math IV
91210	Foundations of English II	93309	Life Skills Math I
91211	Foundations of English III	93310	Life Skills Math II
91212	Foundations of English IV	93311	Life Skills Math III
91309	Life Skills English I	93312	Life Skills Math IV
91310	Life Skills English II	94109	Biology
91311	Life Skills English III	94110	Environmental Science
91312	Life Skills English IV	94111	Chemistry
92109	World History	94309	Life Skills Science I
92110	US History I	94310	Life Skills Science II
92112	US History II	94311	Life Skills Science III
		94312	Life Skills Science IV

Study Skills 9 & 10 (991910)	Full Year / 5 credits <i>Grade 9-12</i>
<p>Study Skills is a course designed to reinforce and build upon the student's previously learned organizational, study, test taking, and advocacy skills. Specific IEP goals and objectives for each student are integrated into the framework of this class as well. The main objectives for this course are: IEP implementation; learning style recognition; development of learning and coping strategies; organization and time management; self-advocacy skills; collaboration with staff and peers; and increasing independence. Students should expect to use half of their study skills period receiving direct instruction to help prepare them with their critical reading, writing, and math skills for standardized testing such as the HSPA, SAT, and ACT. Students will also be responsible for learning about personal financial literacy. Important topics such as fiscal knowledge, habits, and skills, to better inform individual decisions about personal finance in order to maintain financial wellness. The remaining time is allotted for students to work independently on course assignments and preparation of tests, while receiving support from the study skills teacher as needed.</p>	
Study Skills 11 (99111)	Full Year / 2.5 credits <i>Grade 9-10</i>
<p>Study Skills is a course designed to reinforce and build upon the student's previously learned organizational, study, test taking, and advocacy skills. Specific IEP goals and objectives for each student are integrated into the framework of this class as well. The main objectives for this course are: IEP implementation; learning style recognition; development of learning and coping strategies; organization and time management; self-advocacy skills; collaboration with staff and peers; and increasing independence. Students should expect to use half of their study skills period receiving direct instruction to help prepare them with their critical reading, writing, and math skills for standardized testing such as the HSPA, SAT, and ACT. The remaining time is allotted for students to work independently on course assignments and preparation of tests, while receiving support from the study skills teacher as needed. Students alternate days with an independent study hall.</p>	
Study Skills 12 (99112)	Full Year / 2.5 credits <i>Grade 11</i>
<p>Study Skills is a course designed to reinforce and build upon the student's previously learned organizational, study, test taking, and advocacy skills. Specific IEP goals and objectives for each student are integrated into the framework of this class as well. The main objectives for this course are: IEP implementation; learning style recognition; development of learning and coping strategies; organization and time management; self-advocacy skills; collaboration with staff and peers; and increasing independence. Students should expect to use half of their study skills period receiving direct instruction to help prepare them with their critical reading, writing, and math skills for standardized testing such as the HSPA, SAT, and ACT. The remaining time is allotted for students to work independently on course assignments and preparation of tests, while receiving support from the study skills teacher as needed. Students alternate days with an independent study hall.</p>	

Academic Support & Transition I (993912A)	Full Year / 5 credits <i>Grade 12</i>
Academic Support is a course designed to reinforce and build upon the student's previously learned organizational, study, test taking, and advocacy skills. Specific IEP goals and objectives for each student are integrated into the framework of this class as well. The main objectives for this course are: IEP implementation; learning style recognition; development of learning and coping strategies; organization and time management; self-advocacy skills; collaboration with staff and peers; and increasing independence. Students will work independently on course assignments, while receiving support from the Academic Support teacher as needed.	
Academic Support & Transition II (993912B)	Full Year / 5 credits <i>Grade 10-12</i>
Academic Support is a course designed to reinforce and build upon the student's previously learned organizational, study, test taking, and advocacy skills. Specific IEP goals and objectives for each student are integrated into the framework of this class as well. The main objectives for this course are: IEP implementation; learning style recognition; development of learning and coping strategies; organization and time management; self-advocacy skills; collaboration with staff and peers; and increasing independence. Students will work independently on course assignments, while receiving support from the Academic Support teacher as needed.	