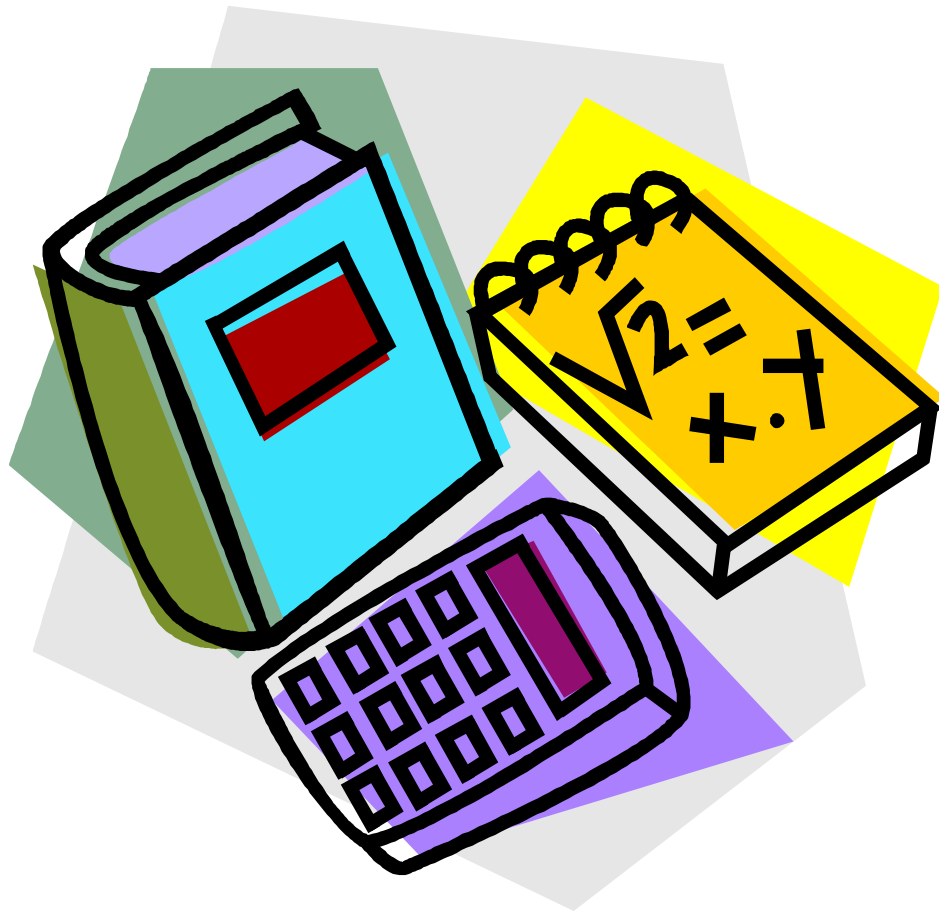


# WACO

## Course Descriptions

### 2023-2024



It is the policy of the WACO Community School not to discriminate on the basis of sex, race, national origin, creed, age, marital status in its educational programs, activities or employment policies as required by Title VI and VII of the 1964 Civil Rights Act, Title IX of the 1972 Education Amendments, and the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

It is also the policy of this district that curriculum content and instructional materials utilized reflect the cultural and racial diversity present in the United States and the variety of careers, roles, and life styles open to women and men. One of the objectives of the total curriculum and teaching strategies is to reduce stereotyping and to eliminate bias on the basis of sex, race, ethnicity, religion, and physical disability. The curriculum should foster respect and appreciation for the cultural diversity found in our country and an awareness of the rights, duties and responsibilities of each individual as a member of a multi-cultural, non-sexist society.

**IOWA REGENTS UNIVERSITIES**  
**Iowa State University - The University of Iowa - University of Northern Iowa**

**ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS**

To be considered for admission to Iowa Regents Universities:

1. Applicants must submit ACT or SAT score
2. Applicants must fulfill the course requirements for the institution (see below)
3. Applicants must have a Regent Admission Index (RAI) score of at least 245

**Regents Admission Index**

RAI = (3x ACT composite score) + (30x cumulative GPA)  
+ (5x number of years of RAI-approved High School courses completed in core subject areas)

. Iowa high school graduates must achieve a Regent Admission Index (RAI) score of at least 245 and take the minimum number of **required high school courses** to qualify for automatic admission as freshmen to Iowa State University, the University of Northern Iowa, and the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences at the University of Iowa. The **RAI Core Course Lists** provide each Iowa high school with a list of their respective courses that are accepted for the RAI. Students who achieve a score less than 245 will be considered for admission on an individual basis.

The RAI combines factors that strongly predict success at the Regent Universities: ACT or SAT test score, high school cumulative grade-point average and the number of completed high school core courses.

For more information regarding the Regents Admissions Index and to use the sample RAI calculator, visit the Iowa Board of Regents' website:

**[www.regents.iowa.gov/RAI/](http://www.regents.iowa.gov/RAI/)**

You can also find admissions information by visiting the individual university websites.

# NCAA INITIAL ELIGIBILITY FOR COLLEGE BOUND STUDENT ATHLETES

Students anticipating participation in NCAA Division I or Division II athletics should pay close attention to the approved core courses offered by WACO Community High School. Only approved courses can be used to fulfil the 16 course requirements for eligibility in NCAA athletics. *Please note: Division I schools will require 10 core courses to be completed prior to the 7<sup>th</sup> semester starting fall of 2016.*

## **Division I**

### **16 Core Courses:**

- 4 years of English
- 3 years of mathematics (Algebra I or higher)
- 2 years natural/physical science (1 year of lab if offered by high school)
- 1 year additional English, mathematics or natural/physical science
- 2 years of social science
- 4 years of additional courses (from any area above, foreign language or comparative religion/philosophy)

## **Division II**

### **16 Core Courses:**

- 3 years of English
- 2 years of mathematics (Algebra I or higher)
- 2 years of natural/physical science (1 year of lab if offered by high school)
- 3 years of additional English, mathematics or natural/physical science
- 2 years of social science
- 4 years of additional courses (from any area above, foreign language or comparative religion/philosophy)

## **WACO List of NCAA Approved Core Courses**

### **English**

- English I, II
- Junior Writing (sem)
- 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills (sem)
- Contemporary Literature (sem)
- Literature and Conflict (sem)
- Topics in Literature (sem)
- Media Studies (sem)
- Intro to Creative Writing (sem)
- Intro to Film (sem)

### **Social Studies**

- Modern American History
- Modern World History (sem)
- American Government (sem)
- Sociology (sem)
- Sociology II (sem)
- Character In Leadership (sem)
- Documentaries (sem)

### **Mathematics**

- Algebra I
- Geometry
- Algebra II
- Functions, Statistics & Trigonometry
- Calculus

### **Science**

- Physical Science
- Biology
- Earth Science
- Chemistry
- Physics

### **Foreign Language**

- Spanish I, II, III, and IV

# **STANDARDIZED TESTS**

## **Iowa Statewide Assessments of Student Progress**

The ISAP are assessments developed by Iowa Testing Programs at the University of Iowa for the state of Iowa. The assessments are aligned with the Iowa Core standards and provide a clear and accurate assessment of student learning outcomes. Student growth, proficiency and readiness indicators will be reported.

## **ACT**

The American College Test is used by four-year colleges and universities for admission and college course placement purposes. It measures the skills necessary for college work in English, mathematics, reading, and science reasoning. An optional writing portion has been added to the test. The ACT is an optional test offered in September, October, December, February, April and June. The deadline for registering for these tests is 5 weeks in advance of the test. Registration forms are available in the Guidance Office. Online registration is preferred at **[www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org)**. This website also has information about college planning and test preparation. The fee to take the ACT is approximately \$46.00 without the writing assessment and approximately \$63.00 with the writing assessment. It is recommended that students take the ACT in the spring of their junior year. This gives the student the opportunity to re-take the exam in the fall of their senior year if they wish. Either the ACT or the SAT is required for admissions to most four-year colleges and universities with 90% accepting the ACT for admission.

## **PSAT/NMSQT**

The Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test/National Merit Scholarship Test is used for the National Merit Scholarship competition. It is a practice SAT test which measures verbal and mathematical reasoning. It is an optional test for students in grade 11. Students who have previously scored very high on the Iowa Assessments are encouraged to take this test and the test is open to all juniors. The National Merit Scholarship is very competitive – students must score in the 99+ percentile to be identified as semi-finalists. Colleges and universities also use the PSAT for scholarship competitions. The PSAT will be administered during October and costs approximately \$16.00. Students will be given the opportunity to sign up for this exam in the fall.

## **ADD/DROP POLICY**

Students will be given two days to add/drop classes at the beginning of each semester.

## **GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS FOR WACO COMMUNITY SCHOOLS**

<b>Course</b>	<b>Starting with the Class of 2020</b>
<b>Computer</b>	1 Credit – Business Communications
<b>Language Arts</b>	8 Credits English I (9) – 2 credits English II (10) – 2 credits Junior English -Junior Writing – 1 credit 21 <sup>st</sup> Century Communication Skills – 1 credit Senior English - 2 credits
<b>Math</b>	6 Credits Algebra A/B, Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, FST, Pre-Calculus, Calculus
<b>Science</b>	6 Credits Earth Science (9) -2 credits (23-24) Biology (10) – 2 credits Physical Science (11) – 2 credits (23-24) Chemistry (11-12) – 2 credits Physics (11-12) -- 2 credits
<b>Social Studies</b>	6 Credits Modern American History (10) –2 credits Juniors – 2 credits Seniors - American Government – 1 credit Personal Finance (12) – 1 credit
<b>Physical Education</b>	4 Credits Waive PE-see the policy under Health and Physical Education
<b>Health</b>	1 Credits - Health I
<b>Electives</b>	20 Credits
<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>52 Credits</b>

Graduating seniors must earn 52 credits from WACO High School or other accredited institutions in order to qualify for a WACO diploma. The administration may waive or substitute specific course requirements for transfer students.

## **AG**

### **INRO TO AG, FOOD & NATURAL RESOURCES: ALL YEAR ELECTIVE Grade 9 2 CREDITS**

The Introduction to Agriculture course is designed as a prerequisite to all other Ag classes. This is a very broad course covering many area of agriculture such as animal sciences, plant sciences, natural resources, FFA and SAE integration, and some ag mechanics. Through all of this, students get to participate in hands-on learning labs and be exposed to agriscience topics and agribusiness. This class will focus on problem solving and leadership skills and will be a great way to find out what areas you are interested in for more specific ag classes in the future.

### **AG MECHANICS: FALL ELECTIVE Grades 10-12 1 CREDIT**

Ag mechanics is a class that will be based around hands-on learning opportunities in the shop facilities. There will be a large emphasis placed on safety and workplace safety procedures. Topics covered in the class may include electricity and wiring, plumbing, welding, metal fabrication, small engines, and other general tasks common to the agricultural setting. Students will learn the knowledge and skills to be able to complete these types of projects at home or enter an entry level position in the field.

### **SMALL ANIMAL SCIENCE: FALL ELECTIVE Grades 10-12 1 CREDIT**

Small animal science is a class that focuses on companion animals and their unique care requirements. Some examples include dogs, cats, rabbits, mice, rats, reptiles, birds, and aquatic life. We will learn about nutrition, reproduction, care management, behavior, veterinary practices, and more during this one semester long class. You will learn the knowledge and skills needed for entry level positions in this industry as well as explore career opportunities that are available.

### **PLANT SCIENCE: FALL ELECTIVE Grades 10-12 1 CREDIT**

Plant Science will cover a wide variety of topics related to all classifications of plants. Students will gain knowledge and skills in all areas of plant requirements and growth. This class will consist of a lot of lab experiments to explore more about plants. This class should also be taken before Advanced Horticulture which is offered in the spring.

### **AG CONSTRUCTION: SPRING ELECTIVE Grades 10-12 1 CREDIT**

Ag construction will be another class that will utilize the shop facilities. This course will focus more on woodworking and construction rather than welding and metal fabrication. Along with woodworking we will learn skills necessary for home maintenance and repair.

### **LARGE ANIMAL SCIENCE: SPRING ELECTIVE Grades 10-12 1 CREDIT**

Large animal science will be a class focused on livestock species that are used for food production in the Midwest. These may include beef, dairy, swine, poultry, and sheep/goats. Students will also learn about horses and their unique care requirements. Students will choose one species of interest (may be a non-food animal) to focus their learning on throughout the semester as we cover different topics. Those topics may include things such as housing, nutrition, genetics, reproduction, health, and environment.

### **LANDSCAPING & GREENHOUSE MGT: SPRING ELECTIVE Grades 9-12 1 CREDIT**

Greenhouse and Landscaping will develop students technical skills and knowledge in the areas of greenhouse growing and landscape design/installation. The first quarter of the class will be spent learning about greenhouse structures and operations. The second half will consist of landscape drawings,



## ***BUSINESS***

The number one college major for both men and women is **Business**. To that end WACO offers business classes which will allow students the opportunity to begin evaluating a potential career in business and the selection of business as a major or minor in college.

### **COMPUTER SCIENCE: FALL or SPRING ELECTIVE Grade 9-12 1 CREDIT**

Computer science students will explore multiple computing functions; HTML, Python and Java will be the primary languages. Students will learn how to program web pages, drones, and simple programs using various online platforms. The goal is to learn how to manipulate the coding languages to create new programs, solve real-life problems, investigate procedures, and create solutions while using various computing systems.

### **BUSINESS COMMUNICATION: FALL or SPRING REQUIRED Grade 9 1 CREDIT**

Communication is key! It's key to being successful in the business world and an important skill of an effective leader. During this business communication course, we will focus on the 4 essential keys of communication and communication skills necessary to succeed in business, including; communicating up, down, internally, externally, performance conversations, non-verbal cues, and professional business writing. The Microsoft Office Suite programs will be taught and utilized during this course as well.

### **INTRO TO ACCOUNTING: FALL ELECTIVE Grades 9-12 1 CREDIT**

This Accounting course is designed to provide students with a basic understanding of accounting. This is a one semester introductory course in double entry accounting procedures. Students will learn to keep financial records for a service or retail business. Principles covered include the bookkeeping cycle, debit/credit theory, financial statements, use of various journal and ledgers, worksheets, accounts receivable and payable, and payroll systems.

### **INTRO TO BUSINESS: FALL ELECTIVE Grades 9-12 1 CREDIT**

The purpose of business is to make the world a better place. Let's learn how! This introduction to business course is designed to expose you to different types of businesses and the importance of businesses in today's world. We will cover various areas of general business, economics, Entrepreneurship, legal forms of business, financing, basic marketing, and management.

### **INTRO TO ECONOMICS: SPRING ELECTIVE Grades 9-12 1 CREDIT**

This course reviews the basic tenets of economics, including the role of supply and demand and its effect on marginal analysis of both consumer and producer sovereignty. The course will also emphasize the structure of business and how each business works within its respective marketplace. The course will also emphasize financial literacy by reviewing money and the banking system, the U.S. tax system, the importance of savings and debt recognition, investments and policies that protect financial institutions.

### **INTRO TO MARKETING: SPRING ELECTIVE Grades 9-12 1 CREDIT**

This course focuses on strategies to grab consumer attention through marketing. Explores the marketing process and concepts of the 4 P's of marketing. Explores making marketing and promotional decisions from the concept of a product or service all the way to service after the sale. Students will investigate consumer wants and needs and how businesses satisfy those wants and needs through the marketing

mix. Students create various types of promotional and advertising materials through the use of technology for this class.

**DIGITAL MEDIA:            FALL or SPRING ELECTIVE    GRADE 9-12    1 CREDIT**

Students on the media production staff are responsible for writing and producing student media. Students will be responsible for content creation, writing, designing, photographing and video production. Students will gain skills in public relations, creativity, leadership, communication, ethics, videography/photography, web design, interviewing, fact gathering, marketing and sales.

This full-year course is designed to develop students' skills in yearbook production by providing experiences in selected aspects of yearbook production.

**YEARBOOK (1): ALL YEAR ELECTIVE GRADES 9-12 2 CREDITS**

Students will learn basic skills to create our printed yearbook. This includes the basics of photography, camera usage, and compositional skills. We will also focus on layout and page design. Writing assignments will include interviewing techniques, caption writing, and printed story methods, including polls, surveys, feature stories, and headline construction. In addition, we will focus on ethics in journalism, including libel, copyright, and proper use of trademarked materials. A special emphasis will be on staying organized, teamwork, critiquing, editing, and meeting authentic deadlines. Assignments will be within the school and extend into the community.

**JOURNALISM (2): ALL YEAR ELECTIVE GRADES 9-12 2 CREDITS**

Journalism courses (typically associated with the production of a school newspaper, yearbook, or literary magazine) emphasize writing style and technique as well as production values and organization. Journalism courses introduce students to the concepts of newsworthiness and press responsibility; develop students' skills in writing and editing stories, headlines, and captions; and teach students the principles of production design, layout, and printing. Photography, photojournalism, and digital technology skills may be included.

**PUBLICATION PRODUCTION (3): ALL YEAR ELECTIVE GRADES 9-12 2 CREDITS**

Publication Production courses provide students with the knowledge and skills necessary to produce the school newspaper, yearbook, literary magazine, or other printed publication. Students may gain experience in several components (writing, editing, layout, production, and so on) or may focus on a single aspect while producing the publication.

**PHOTOJOURNALISM (4): ALL YEAR ELECTIVE GRADES 9-12 2 CREDITS**

Photojournalism courses expose students to the manner in which photography is used to convey information and experiences. Typically coordinated with production of the school newspaper, yearbook, or other media product, photojournalism courses provide students with the opportunity to improve their photo composition and digital technology skills, and to apply their art to journalistic endeavors. These courses may also cover film development.

***INTERNSHIP***

**INTERNSHIP: FALL and/or SPRING ELECTIVE 2 CREDITS**

The internship represents an educational strategy that links classroom learning and student interest with acquisition of knowledge in an applied work environment. Through direct observation, reflection, and evaluation, students gain an understanding of the internships mission. Students will produce a critical reflection on their internship experience. Internships are done at the beginning or end of the school day. Students and staff will work together to secure internships, but all must be approved by staff. The

course is taken under the pass/fail criteria only

## **ENGLISH**

**ENGLISH I:            ALL YEAR            REQUIRED Grade 9            2 CREDITS**

English I is a comprehensive freshmen English course covering literature, composition, language arts, and speech. Through engagement with a wide range of novels, short stories, nonfiction, poetry, drama, and multimedia forms, students will become better communicators and come to a better, more critical understanding of themselves and the world around them. Communication skills will be developed through a focus on: listening and speaking; language targets like sentence framing, usage, mechanics, and vocabulary development; the development and expression of sound reasoning through student essays, creative writing, research, and multimodal projects. In addition to developing these key skills, students will begin to grapple with some of the key themes of literature and life, including meaning, identity, love, fate, community, power, and the pursuit of happiness.

**ENGLISH II:            ALL YEAR            REQUIRED Grade 10            2 CREDITS**

English II is a comprehensive sophomore English course covering literature, composition, language arts, and speech. This course reviews, responds to, and expands upon the work done in English I. Through engagement with a wide range of novels, short stories, nonfiction, poetry, drama, and multimedia forms, students will continue to develop a more nuanced understanding of who they are, what they want, and how they fit into their community. Students will also be engaged in important discussions about identity and truth, including questions about individual and community prejudice, and how to determine textual bias. All of this will be developed through the teaching and application of core literacy competencies, including listening and speaking, grammar usage and vocabulary, and the ability to write texts that convey complex ideas, concepts, and information clearly and accurately through effective selection, organization, and analysis.

**JUNIOR WRITING:    FALL or SPRING    REQUIRED Grade 11            1 CREDIT  
(PREREQUISITE ENGLISH I AND II)**

Composition is designed to help work-bound and college-bound juniors better their written communication skills. Students will practice expressive writing, including narrative and poetry, and transactional writing, including effective persuasion, complaint letters, resumes, and application letters as well as giving instructions. Spelling, mechanics, and usage skills are dealt with in the context of the writing.

**Junior English 21<sup>st</sup> CENTURY COMMUNICATION SKILLS:    FALL or SPRING REQUIRED  
Grade 11            1 CREDIT**

This course will help students understand, evaluate, and improve their interactions and communication with others in their personal and professional lives. Practical skills will include practicing multiple forms of public speaking, researching and presenting proposals, technical writing, interviewing, and dressing for various contexts. The class also will address the implications of non-verbal communication, the role of social media in their lives, and digital footprints. Emphasis is on the application of these basic concepts in the students' personal, academic and professional lives.

**Introduction to Creative Writing:    SPRING    ELECTIVE Grade 12            1 CREDIT**

This collaborative creative writing workshop is designed for beginning writers of fiction. Creative writing workshops are designed around peer participation, collaboration, and critique. This means that students will be reading, appreciating, and critiquing the work of their peers in a thoughtful and reflective space where participation is key. During the course of the semester, students will be

introduced to many important elements of storytelling through instruction and engagement with a wide range of twentieth and twenty-first century works of fiction. While providing students with specific tools to develop as writers, the class will also seek to challenge preconceived notions about how stories can and ought to be told, with particular attention to the role that setting plays in determining and informing other key elements of fiction, including character, mood, and plot.

**CONTEMPORARY LITERATURE: FALL or SPRING**

Contemporary Literature is a survey class where students will read and / or view 20th and 21st century literature including nonfiction articles and reports, novels, short stories, poems, essays, and films. Classic literary themes as well as contemporary issues will be examined, investigated, discussed, and written about. Assessments may take the form of journals, papers, tests, or projects.

**LITERATURE AND CONFLICT: FALL**

This class examines a variety of literary genres from around the world and across time, including novels, short stories, poetry, essays, and drama. We will explore the root of conflict in various texts and look at how society and history has impacted the literature. The format includes shared readings, class discussions, and writings, as well as individual readings. Students will do journal writing, formal papers, and projects.

**TOPICS IN LITERATURE: SPRING**

“Topics in Literature” is an English elective for juniors and seniors covering literature, composition, language arts, and speech. This course is designed as a survey of the “novella” genre. A fictional form that sits between the short story and the novel, the novella is an often neglected form of literature, but it offers us some of the greatest aspects of the novel, much of the economy of the short story, and we may often enjoy these books in a period as short as a single sitting. Through engagement with a wide range of novellas, this class will examine different elements of this unique literary form, including structure, common themes, style, and characterization, through the reading and analysis of a wide range of texts. During the semester, we will grapple with some of literature’s most enduring themes, including the search for meaning, the uncertainty of knowledge, the pursuit of happiness, and the struggle of the individual vs. other people, self, environment, and society.

**MEDIA STUDIES: SPRING Grades 11-12**

This is a one semester class. Students compare and critically evaluate different media including television programming, advertising, news sources, various forms of propaganda, and movies and films. The class also explores how media shapes culture and our thinking. Requirements include students reflections, participating in analytical discussions, and writing analytical reviews.

**Introduction to Film: FALL ELECTIVE Grades 11-12 1 CREDIT**

Bring the big screen to life in a way you never imagined with a course that helps you think about film through a whole new set of eyes. Move from passive viewer to active thinker about movies you watch. Develop skills that will help you think about and analyze film—from experimental classics to contemporary box office hits. See how key elements like editing, sound, narrative structure, mise-en-scene, performance, and cinematography reflect genre conventions and build stories that help audiences think and feel in new, interesting, and provocative ways. Classes will include weekly readings, viewings, and writings, so consistent attendance is of the utmost importance.

**DUAL CREDIT COLLEGE COMPOSITION I & II**

See list of Southeastern Community College classes offered at WACO on page 24.

## ***FAMILY AND HUMAN SERVICES***

Courses in Family and Human Services enhance the student knowledge and skills necessary for personal and career planning.

### **TEACHING PROFESSIONS: FALL ELECTIVE GR 9-12 1 CREDIT**

Principles of Education and Training is designed to introduce learners to the various careers available within the education and training career cluster. Students use self-knowledge and educational and career information to analyze various careers within the education and training career cluster.

### **AFTER THE DIPLOMA: FALL or SPRING ELECTIVE Gr 10-12 1 CREDIT**

This course gives students the tools to transition them in their chosen direction after high school. The skills taught in this course are imperative to ensuring that each and every student who graduates has a clear understanding of how to succeed and thrive in college, at work, and in society.

### **HUMAN DEVELOPMENT & WELLNESS: SPRING ELECTIVE Grades 9-12 1 CREDIT**

Do you think about having a family someday? Do you plan to have a career that relates to human services where you will be working with families, children, or people in general? If so, this course is for you! Topics include: human development and wellness; roles, responsibilities, and functions of families and family members; parenting; contemporary family issues; and community services and resources. You will also experience a parenting simulation with the Real Care baby experience.

### **FOODS & NUTRITION I: FALL ELECTIVE Grades 10-12 1 CREDIT**

This course is for every student who loves to cook, would like to learn to cook, or realizes they will be doing their own cooking someday. Emphasis is placed on fundamental skills needed in food preparation, knife skills, consumer decision-making, good nutrition, and careers in foods and nutrition. Students plan and prepare recipes, both individually and in cooperative group labs. All products are tasted and evaluated by students. Ultimately, students will be given the opportunity to have the necessary skills to plan, purchase, and prepare nourishing meals and to evaluate and improve their day-to-day food choices.

### **FOODS & NUTRITION II: SPRING ELECTIVE Grades 10-12 1 CREDIT**

This course is best suited for the student desiring above-average competency and in-depth learning in food preparation. This course provides individual laboratory experiences in food preparation. Students will study, prepare, sample, and evaluate foods from various units, as well as learn more about the purchase and use of small equipment. Students will also be responsible for demonstrating the preparation of a chosen food item. Some of the areas to be covered in this course are: regional and foreign foods, garnishing, table etiquette/manners, meals for entertaining, and career opportunities in food service. **Foods I is a prerequisite for this course or teacher approval is necessary.**

## ***FOREIGN LANGUAGE - SPANISH***

### **SPANISH I: ALL YEAR ELECTIVE Grades 9-12 2 CREDITS**

In Spanish I, students learn basic vocabulary, expressions and grammar. Listening, speaking, writing and reading skills will be partially developed in Spanish so students will start getting used to the Spanish language during the lessons. They will be encouraged to use Spanish as much as possible, although it may mean the use of only some words in speaking. Games and videos are some of the teaching strategies used in order to provide the knowledge.

### **SPANISH II: ALL YEAR ELECTIVE Grades 10-12 2 CREDITS**

In Spanish II, students review all of Spanish I content in addition to some more vocabulary and grammatical items taught to guarantee more effective communication. During the lessons, Spanish language will be used as frequent as possible. Students will be asked to develop their speaking skills in this foreign language. Some aspects of the Spanish culture will be introduced, such as the Spanish food, festivities and crafts. Games and videos will still play an important role in the teaching strategies. Reading fluency and comprehension will begin to be developed through group and individual reading.

### **SPANISH III: ALL YEAR ELECTIVE Grades 11-12 2 CREDITS**

Spanish III students will continue to develop and maintain vocabulary from Spanish I and II. They will develop more advanced grammatical techniques for higher order language skills. Speaking the language is required and will be expected during class time. Writing skills will be developed through daily oral language skills, journaling, papers, and speeches. Reading fluency and comprehension will be expanded through group and individual readings. Games and videos are a continued teaching strategy in this course.

### **SPANISH IV: ALL YEAR ELECTIVE Grade 12 2 CREDITS**

This course will promote the use of Spanish as the main language. This course is all application of prior knowledge. All the grammar and vocabulary taught during this course will have a practical use. Some aspects of the Spanish culture will be also experienced by the students. Students will write about current events, present speeches and write a research paper along with watching cultural videos in the Spanish language. Field trips will take place to practice Spanish in the real world.

## ***HEALTH and PHYSICAL EDUCATION***

### **HIGH SCHOOL PHYSICAL EDUCATION: ALL YEAR REQUIRED Grades 9-12 1 CREDIT**

Physical Education is a combination of Team and Lifetime sports. Planned activities include:

Team - soccer, flag football, kick ball, Hooverball, GaGa ball, basketball, indoor soccer, floor hockey, gym ball, ultimate frisbee, volleyball, chasing, fleeing and dodging games.

Lifetime - badminton, pickle ball, golf, frisbee golf, horse shoes, jogging, walking, fitness stations and assessment, weightlifting, core strength exercises, and medball workouts.

### **EARLY BIRD PHYSICAL EDUCATION: FALL and/or SPRING 2 mornings per week MAY REPLACE REQUIRED PE Credits Grades 9-12 .5 CREDIT per semester**

The early bird physical education class will focus on the strength and conditioning components of physical education. Students will learn about the importance of improving muscular strength and conditioning for personal wellness and athletic performance. Students will develop an understanding of the importance of self-discipline, punctuality, and mental preparation, while also acquiring the skills and knowledge to help them become life-long movers. Students will also learn about the physiological aspects of exercise, and why exercise is conducive to a healthy lifestyle.

*Students in grades 9 through 11 may opt out of PE for one semester due to academic overload or participation in an organized and supervised athletic activity if requested by a parent. Students in 12<sup>th</sup> grade may opt out of PE all year due to academic overload or participation in an organized and supervised athletic activity each semester. Permission must be granted by the school principal.*

### **HEALTH I: FALL or SPRING REQUIRED Grade 9 1 CREDIT**

This course is designed to develop an understanding of the principles necessary for promoting lifetime wellness, clarifying values, living effectively and improving the quality of life. This course will allow the student to assess their own lifestyle choices and to make adjustments where appropriate. Health instruction includes personal health, environmental health, consumer health, family life, emotional and social health, health resources, prevention and control of disease, including sexually transmitted diseases.

### **HEALTH II: FALL or SPRING ELECTIVE Grades 10-12 1 CREDIT**

This course is designed to develop an understanding of the principles necessary for promoting lifetime wellness, clarifying values, living effectively and improving the quality of life. This course will allow the student to assess their own lifestyle choices and to make adjustments where appropriate. Health instruction includes personal health, food and nutrition, consumer health, family life, substance abuse and nonuse, emotional and social health, health resources, first aid, prevention and control of disease, including sexually transmitted diseases.

## ***MATHEMATICS***

### **P-ALGEBRA: ALL YEAR (PREREQUISITE Teacher Recommendation) 2 CREDITS**

In this class you will learn how to use variables and procedures to solve problems. We will use these variables and procedures with equations, expressions, inequalities, sentences, exponents, coordinate plane and graphing. This class is intended for students whose scores indicate they are not ready for Algebra I.

### **ALGEBRA I: ALL YEAR 2 CREDITS**

In this class you will learn how to use variables and procedures to solve problems. We will use these variables and procedures with equations, expressions, inequalities, sentences, exponents, coordinate plane and graphing. These procedures you learn will be the building blocks for higher math classes.

**The Algebra course offered in junior high is equivalent to a high school algebra course. Successful completion of the course will go on a student's high school transcript and they will receive placement credit for college entrance. This course will count towards the students three years of high school math and will count towards the 52 credits required to graduate.**

**Eligibility for 8th graders seeking permission to be in Algebra 1 will be based on these three criteria: Iowa Assessments, a 2<sup>nd</sup> assessment, and teacher recommendation. Junior High students taking Algebra need to pass with at least an 85% to go on to Geometry. If a student earns an 85% or less then the student's Iowa Assessment and 2<sup>nd</sup> assessment scores will be used to determine placement (along with teacher's recommendation) in the next math class.**

### **GEOMETRY: ALL YEAR (PREREQUISITE Algebra I) 2 CREDITS**

In this class you will be drawing, constructing, measuring, visualizing, comparing, transforming, and classifying geometric figures, and applying these ideas in a wide variety of situations both inside and outside of mathematics. Algebra skills will be used to find values in these geometric figures. Deductive reasoning will be developed using proofs and multistep problems.

### **ALGEBRA II: ALL YEAR (PREREQUISITE Geometry) 2 CREDITS**

In this class you will start the investigation of functions and equations and how they are used to solve problems. You will study linear functions, quadratic functions, and systems of equations, powers, radicals and logarithms.

### **FUNCTIONS, STATISTICS and TRIGONOMETRY: ALL YEAR 2 CREDITS (PREREQUISITE Algebra II)**

In this class you continue the study of functions that was started in Algebra II, and continue on to circular and trigonometric functions. You will also be working with data and statistics and using functions to interpret the data.

### **PRE-CALCULUS: ALL YEAR (PREREQUISITE Functions, Statistics & Trigonometry) 2 CREDITS**

**A GRAPHING CALCULATOR IS REQUIRED.** Introduction to topics such as limits, rates of change, exponential functions, applications of the derivative and definite integral, multi-variable functions.

**Note: Graphing calculators currently used at WACO are the TI-82, TI-83, and TI-83 Plus. Scientific calculators should include trigonometric functions, a fraction key, exponent and root keys, logarithms and combinations/permutations.**

**CALCULUS: ALL YEAR (PREREQUISITE Teacher Recommendation) 2 CREDITS  
OFFERED WITH SUFFICIENT DEMAND**

Calculus is the mathematical study of continuous change. First is the introduction of limits, because the change is broken down into increments so small that they approach zero. Slopes of curves and rates of change are calculated using differential calculus. Areas under and between curves and accumulations of quantities are calculated using integral calculus.

## *MUSIC*

### **HIGH SCHOOL BAND: TWICE A WEEK ALL YEAR ELECTIVE Grades 9-12 1 CREDIT**

The High School Concert Band is an instrumental performance group consisting of 9-12 grade students. Rehearsals are two periods each week (opposite CHORUS). The Band performs at three concerts throughout the year and at Graduation. These are required and count for the majority of their grade. Students are expected to participate in football marching band and basketball pep band. Talk to Mrs. Koch if you have questions about this.

There are opportunities for students to play at contest, audition for SEIBA and All-State and to be selected to play in the super conference honor band.

*Band and Chorus Lessons - Lessons allow students to work on pitch, intonation, memorization, blend and overall musicianship. Students will select a lesson time that works for them. A missed lesson needs to be rescheduled. Lessons are a portion of the band and chorus grade.*

### **HIGH SCHOOL CHORUS: TWICE A WEEK ALL YEAR ELECTIVE Grades 9-12 1 CREDIT**

High School Chorus is open to all students in grades 9-12. Audition is not required. Rehearsals are held two periods each week (opposite BAND). Students are required to attend weekly lessons. (See Lessons above). The Chorus sings at three concerts plus Graduation. These are required and also count as part of the overall grade.

There are opportunities for students to perform at contest, All-State and the super conference honor choir.

### **HIGH SCHOOL ORCHESTRA: ALL YEAR ELECTIVE Grades 9-12 1 CREDIT**

Orchestra is open to all WACO students' grades 9-12. The Senior High Orchestra is comprised of 9-12th grade string students. This group performs at 2-3 school concerts each year in addition to the annual String Festival sponsored by the Southeast Iowa Symphony Orchestra, which is held on the campus of Iowa Wesleyan College. Students in grades 9-12 may choose to participate in solo and ensemble contest held in the spring. Each year additional performance opportunities are made available. Winds and percussion are added periodically for a full orchestra experience.

Each string student receives a 20-minute lesson each week in addition to weekly orchestra rehearsals.

**NOTE: All music courses taken in grades 9-12 earn credit toward graduation and cumulative grade point average.**

## **SCIENCE**

**PHYSICAL SCIENCE:      ALL YEAR                  REQUIRED Grade 11                  2 CREDITS**

Physical science is the study of matter and energy. The first quarter includes the nature of science, measurement, laws of motion, and forms of energy. The second quarter includes the conversion of energy from one form to another and work. The third quarter includes states of matter, atomic structure, elements and compounds, solutions, chemical reactions, acids and bases. The fourth quarter includes waves, sound, light, magnetism, and electricity. One lab report will be required each semester.

**BIOLOGY:                          ALL YEAR                  REQUIRED Grade 10                  2 CREDITS**

The biology course consists of the basics of life. The first semester is spent studying structure and function of the cell, biochemistry, bioenergetics, and genetics. The second semester begins with the continuation of genetics, followed by evolution, classification and botany. A lab report and/or project will be required per quarter.

**EARTH SCIENCE:                  ALL YEAR                  REQUIRED Grades 9                  2 CREDITS**

The Earth science course is designed to interpret and understand the world around you. Students will investigate and study the interactions between the four major Earth's spheres, including the geosphere, atmosphere, hydrosphere and biosphere in order to explain Earth's formation, processes, history, landscapes, how and why Earth changes over time. The course will also explore how current actions of man interact and affect Earth's spheres leading to local and global changes. Topics to be addressed include, but are not limited to, mapping Earth's surface, minerals, rocks, plate tectonics, earthquakes, volcanoes, geologic time, astronomy and meteorology. Students will participate in class discussions, projects, and research. This course is mandatory for all High School students.

**CHEMISTRY:                  ALL YEAR                  ELECTIVE Grades 11-12                  2 CREDITS  
(PREREQUISITE Physical Science)**

Chemistry provides knowledge and skills a preparation for college chemistry. The first quarter includes basic atomic structure, writing chemical formulas, bonding, and balancing chemical equations. The second quarter includes stoichiometry, atomic and molecular orbitals, the mole concept, and the gas laws. The third quarter includes solutions, net ionic equations, solubility, and vapor pressure, acids and bases, and pH. The fourth quarter includes oxidation-reduction reactions, chemical equilibrium and reaction kinetics, heat of reaction, organic chemistry, and nuclear reactions.

**PHYSICS:                          ALL YEAR                  ELECTIVE Grades 11-12                  2 CREDITS  
(PREREQUISITE Physical Science & Algebra II)**

Physics provides a basic understanding of the physical world by using mathematical representations of physical laws to solve problems. The first quarter includes using vectors and trigonometry to solve concurrent force problems, using moments of force (torque) to solve nonconcurring force problems, friction, and the law of conservation of momentum. The second quarter includes accelerated motion due to gravity, Newton's second law of motion, kinetic and potential energy. The third quarter includes centripetal force, universal gravity, and curvilinear motion. The fourth quarter includes electricity, heat, light, and sound. Computer based lab equipment is used to collect and analyze experimental data to relate theory to reality.

## ***SOCIAL STUDIES***

### **MODERN AMERICAN HISTORY: ALL YEAR REQUIRED Grade 10 2 CREDITS**

This course is a study of events in American history following Reconstruction to the present day. Topics include immigration, the Women's Movement, WWI, the Roaring Twenties, the Great Depression, WWII, the Cold War, the Civil Rights Movement, Vietnam conflict, counter-culture movement of the 1970s, and more. Students are expected to participate in class discussions & cooperative learning work, to connect the history they're learning about to the world today, and to complete group & individual readings & projects, personal reflections, and various other activities.

### **MODERN WORLD HISTORY: FALL or SPRING ELECTIVE Grades 10-12 1 CREDIT**

Modern World History will include topics from the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> centuries, including topics of totalitarianism, genocide, and war.

### **ANCIENT CIVILIZATIONS: FALL ELECTIVE Grades 10-12 1 CREDIT**

Ancient Civilizations is a World History course analysing the rise and fall of early empires, including Rome, Greece, and China.

### **WESTERN CIVILIZATION: SPRING ELECTIVE Grades 10-12 1 CREDIT**

Western Civilization is a World History course focusing on the Renaissance, Reformation, Enlightenment, and Revolutions.

### **AMERICAN GOVERNMENT: FALL or SPRING REQUIRED Grade 12 1 CREDIT**

This class will examine the purpose of government and how our government functions locally, nationally, and abroad. Students will study the formation of the United States Constitution, amendments to the Constitution with emphasis on the Bill of Rights, the three branches of government, political parties, and rights and responsibilities of citizenship. Students will be expected to apply new understandings of our government to current events. Students are expected to participate in class discussions & cooperative learning work, as well as complete group & individual readings & projects, personal reflections, and various other activities.

### **CHARACTER IN LEADERSHIP STUDIES: FALL ELECTIVE Grades 9-12 1 CREDIT**

Character and Leadership is a course that allows students the opportunity to explore and understand the essential characteristics and skills needed to be successful in life and to be a good citizen. The format uses ethical dilemmas, discussion, character movies, and core readings from the role model textbook. Students write weekly and practice basic interpersonal skills and leadership principles as a framework for their learning.

### **DOCUMENTARIES: SPRING ELECTIVE Grades 9-12 1 CREDIT**

This course studies documentaries, their context, their agendas, and their potential impact. Discussions and writings will require critical analysis of the films. Students are expected to participate in class

discussions and group activities, complete individual assignments, and ultimately film their own documentary.

**SOCIOLOGY I: FALL ELECTIVE Grades 10-12 1 CREDIT**

Sociology students study culture, American values and norms, social structure of groups, deviance and criminal behavior, adolescent & adult development, class stratification, and race. Students are expected to participate in class discussions & cooperative learning work, as well as complete group & individual readings & projects, personal reflections, and various other activities. There is an expectation that students independently make connections between learning and what's in the news, & discuss these connections in class.

**SOCIOLOGY II: SPRING ELECTIVE Grades 10-12 1 CREDIT**

Building on concepts learned in Sociology I, Sociology II explores gender, population growth, collective movements, & social institutions of family, education, politics, economics, religion, and sport. Students are expected to participate in class discussions & cooperative learning work, as well as complete group & individual readings & projects, personal reflections, and various other activities. There is an expectation that students independently make connections between learning and what's in the news, & discuss these connections in class.

**CONTEMPORARY WORLD ISSUES: SPRING ELECTIVE Grades 10 -12 1 CREDIT**

Students will study political, economic, and social issues facing the world in which we live. We will analyze current events and draw links in history in order to better understand contemporary world issues.

Course Goals:

- Understand how politics, economics, and social issues impact how countries confront major issues within and beyond their borders.
- Understand the real crisis behind each of the student selected topics in order to understand how we can move forward as a society and try to eliminate these issues in the future.

**PERSONAL FINANCE: FALL or SPRING REQUIRED Grade 12 1 CREDIT**

Why is personal financial planning important? The money choices we make now and after graduation can have a lasting effect on our future goals, success, and happiness. During this personal finance course, we will learn about general financial terms, saving, budgeting, debt, investing, retirement, insurance, basic accounting, and many other life changing topics.



***SOUTHEASTERN COMMUNITY COLLEGE CLASSES offered at WACO***  
**Available to juniors and seniors (sophomores if identified as Talented and Gifted)**

**ENG-105 Composition I                      FALL Mon-Thurs                      (3 college credits)                      1 CREDIT**  
A study of the principles of writing. Emphasis on rhetoric, mechanics, and development of expository patterns: narration, description, illustration, comparison/contrast, classification, process, and cause/effect. **Prerequisites:** High school Composition, Mandatory COMPASS or ACT test score and mandatory eWrite score (per SCC Writing Scores & Mandatory Course Placement Chart), **or** a C- or above in ENG-061, College Preparatory Writing II. No waivers.

**ENG-106 Composition II                      SPRING Mon-Thurs                      (3 college credits)                      1 CREDIT**  
A continuation of study of the principles of writing begun in ENG-105. Emphasis is placed on persuasive writing as well as literary analysis and students will do an MLA research paper. Time will also be spent exploring and evaluating the research sources available from various libraries and the internet. **Prerequisites:** C- or above in ENG-105

**LIT-101 INTRODUCTION TO LITERATURE: FALL Mon-Thurs (3 college cr) 1 CREDIT**  
Introduction to Literature: Designed to promote an appreciation of excellence in literature through illustrative types of short fiction, poetry, and drama. Emphasis is placed on the reader's interpretive skills in examining an author's craft, intent, and format.

**KIRKWOOD WASHINGTON REGIONAL CENTER**  
***Offered in Washington***

See School Counselor for more information on college classes offered at the Kirkwood Washington Regional Center.

**WACO POSTSECONDARY COURSE PROCEDURES**

**Eligibility Procedures for ALL College Classes:**

- Students must be proficient in reading, math and science to be eligible for Senior Year Plus classes. Proficient means scoring in the 41<sup>st</sup> percentile or higher. (legislated)
- Students have to meet the college's entrance test requirements. (legislated)

**Concurrent Enrollment:**

- WACO will pay the cost of concurrent enrollment classes.
- Both college and high school credit will be awarded with a passing grade.
- If a class is offered at WACO, students may not take a similar concurrent enrollment class elsewhere.

**General:**

- Students will be limited to 23 college credit hours per year for all dual enrolled college classes.
- Students may add or drop courses through their High School Counselor and determination of no grade, W, or failing grade will be based upon timing of the drop, which varies course to course. **A failing grade will affect ability to receive financial aid when attending college after high school.**
- It is the student's responsibility to monitor grades and attendance with the course instructor.
- Students must agree to abide by the college requirements to complete the course including attendance, assignment completion, test taking, and other procedures specific to the particular course.
- As a course that gives dual HS/college credit, WACO extra-curricular eligibility policies will be followed for all college classes.
- Reimbursement is **not** available for summer courses. Prior approval of all summer courses, by the principal and counselor, is required for acceptance of credits toward graduation.

## ***EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES***

### **PEP BAND: GRADES 7-12**

The Pep Band is made up of 9-12 grade students who volunteer their time to support the WACO basketball program. Junior High band members who can play the music will be offered the opportunity to play. This will be decided by the director. The band plays at all regularly scheduled home games.

### **MARCHING BAND: GRADES 8-12**

The Marching Band is made up of students in grades 8-12. They play pre-game and at half time for all home football games.

### **WACO DRAMA: GRADES 7-12**

Develop skills of performance. Be a part of a group onstage or behind the scenes. Use your skills as part of the tech crew. Theatre skills will be developed, as well as developing trust and working with others.

### **STUDENT COUNCIL:**

The basic objectives, purposes, and goals include developing good citizenship practices and attitudes. The Student Council members gain a basic understanding of how a representative democracy works by working together, making decisions, forming committees, accepting responsibilities, and meeting the group's expectations. The Student Council promotes good relationships between faculty and students, school and community, and among all students. The Student Council assists in directing student life activities and school spirit. Elections are held in May for the following year. Four students from each 9-12 grades are elected to the council by their classmates. The Student Body President is also the Student Council President. You must be a full-time WACO student to participate in voting or be eligible for a voted position on the council or any activity planned by the council.

### **NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY:**

Selection to National Honor Society is based on a student's achievement in character, scholarship, service, and leadership. A student may be selected through the following standards:

1. Any full-time WACO sophomore, junior or senior who has a cumulative grade-point average of 3.25 or higher is eligible.
2. All data needed for selection will be documented on the individual's character, scholarship, service, and leadership record.
3. At the end of the third, fifth, and seventh semesters, each candidate will meet with the sponsor to review and verify the accuracy of his/her record. Faculty Council shall use a combined total of 85 or more points in Leadership, Character and Service to issue an invitation for membership. This point total is not an absolute determinant of membership. The selection of each member shall be by a majority vote of the Faculty Council.

### **ACADEMIC QUIZ BOWL:**

Academic Quiz Bowl competition involves teams of students answering curriculum-based questions in an entertaining, fast-paced, game show type format. Questions pertain to all curriculum areas, as well as current events and pop culture. There is no limit on the number of students who can participate. We have several matches during February and March including the SEISC Conference Championship.

**HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETICS:**

**Boys**

Cheerleading  
Cross Country  
Football  
Basketball  
Wrestling  
Baseball  
Track  
Soccer  
E Sports

**Girls**

Cheerleading  
Cross Country  
Dance Team  
Volleyball  
Basketball  
Softball  
Track  
Soccer  
Wrestling  
E Sports