

**8TH TO 9TH GRADE CURRICULUM
PRESENTATION**

CLASS OF 2030

2026 - 2027

Welcome

Douglas Walker, Ph.D.
Principal

Assistant Principals

Lori Gironda
Connor Henderson

Darren D'Alconzo
Athletic Director

CURRICULUM/ORIENTATION

Curriculum Night

- Scheduling process
- Program of Studies
- Grade 9 core/elective options

8th Grade Orientation

- High School schedule
- Student life
- Student/Parent panel
- Student tour

AGENDA

- Preparing for course selection
- Academic levels
- Elective options
- 4-year vision
- Website for presentation and scheduling information

Course Selection & Teacher Recommendations



Course Credits

Full Year Courses = 5 Credits

Semester Courses = 2.5 Credits

Full Year Science Courses = 6 Credits

Semester Science Courses = 3 Credits

Study Hall FY or Semester = 0 Credits

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS-120 CREDITS

20 credits in Language Arts

20 credits in H/PE (each year in school)

15 credits in Mathematics

15 credits in Science

15 credits in Social Studies

10 credits in World Language

5 credits in Visual and/or Performing Arts

5 credits in 21st Century Life and Careers Education

2.5 credits in Financial Literacy

12.5 credits (minimum) in Electives

Passing score on the New Jersey Graduation Assessment (Grade 11)

SAMPLE WORKSHEET - REQUIRED CORE COURSES

English 9	English 10	English 11	English 12
Comp H/PE 9	Drive Ed/PE 10	Comp H/PE 11	Comp H/PE 12
Mathematics	Mathematics	Mathematics	
Science	Science	Science	
US History 1	US History 2	World History	
World Language	World Language		
Study Hall or Elective			
Elective			

Required credits in V&P Arts (5), 21st Century Skills (5), Fin. Lit. (2.5)

ACADEMIC COURSE LEVELS

C, B, A: All course levels are college preparatory.

Level C:

- Special Education resource

Level B:

- Provides more individualized and small group instruction
- Additional support and modifications
- Pacing /rigor adjusted

Level A:

- Independent and small group work
- Analysis of information, synthesis and application of ideas

Honors:

- Deeper expectations of skills in analyzing, synthesizing, and applying knowledge

WHAT WILL YOU RECOGNIZE...

- Writing in various forms, reading from many genres, and literature analysis in English
- Analyzing and interpreting primary and secondary source evidence and supporting judgements and interpretations with evidence through discussion and in writing in Social Studies
- Solving problems in different ways, applying concepts, and collaborative opportunities for learning and discussion in Math
- Inquiry learning and using evidence and reasoning to explain and argue scientific claim

WHAT WILL BE DIFFERENT...

- Increased expectations for reading and writing volume and more focused instruction on writing in English and Social Studies
- More sophisticated analysis of texts and increased collaborative exercises, and Socratic discussions
- Increased expectations for explanations of processes in Math as well as real-world connections
- Increased laboratory skills and time creating further and deeper connections to the science content
- Interactions with students across grade levels, primarily in elective courses and extra or co-curricular clubs and activities

TEACHER RECOMMENDATIONS

What are teachers evaluating?

- Overall achievement
- Assessment grades
- Specific knowledge and skills required for the next course
- Self-direction, growth, and application of feedback
- Ability to maintain pacing and rigor
- Level of support needed

CHS & CMS teachers and administrators collaborate

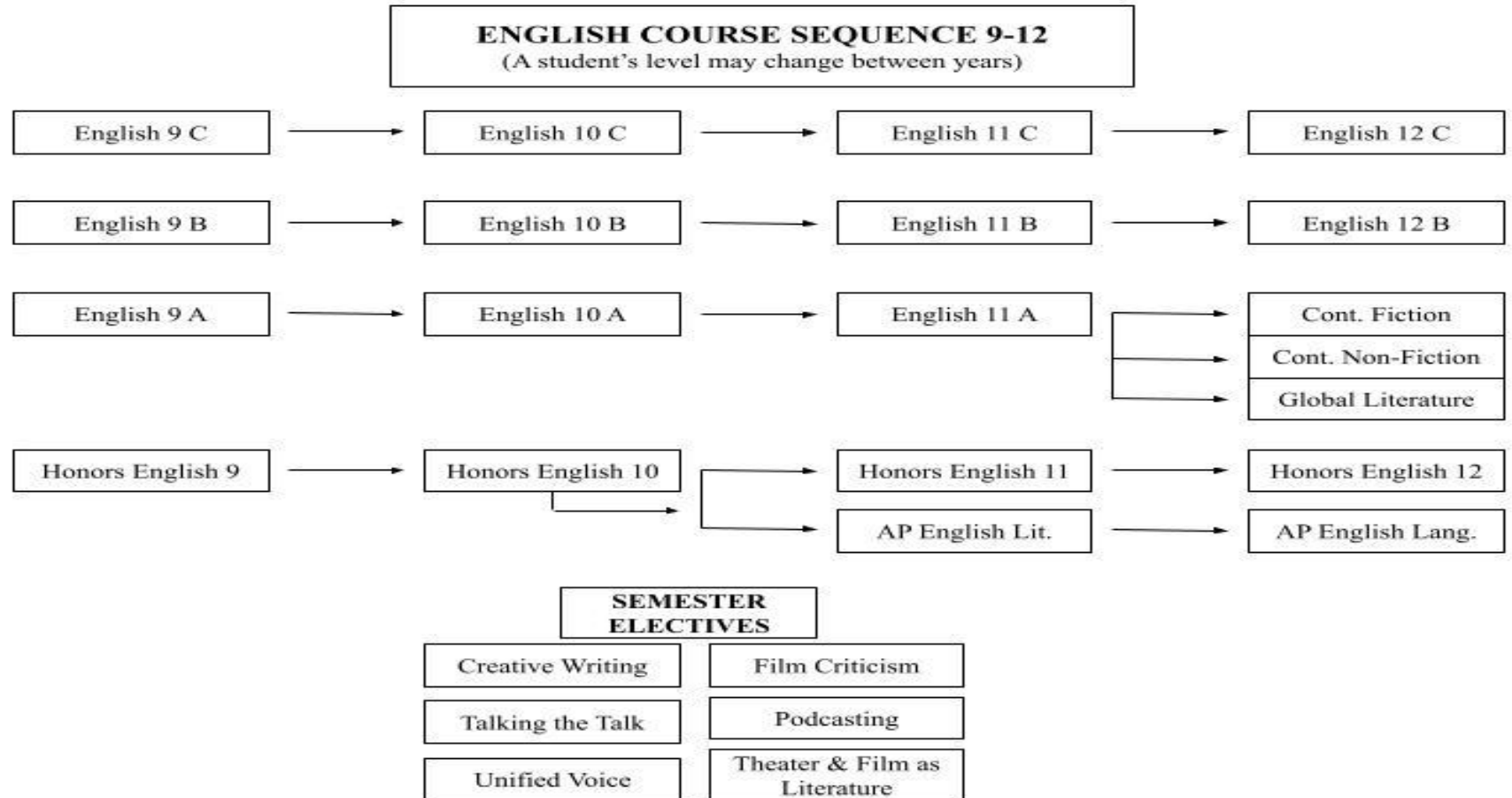
CHATHAM HIGH SCHOOL



PROGRAM OF STUDIES

2026-2027

COURSE SEQUENCE FLOW CHART ENGLISH



REVIEW OF PROGRAM OF STUDIES

Sample Course Description

Take Note of the following:

EXPERIENCING FINE ART (2111)

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12

Half Year: 2.5 credits

Prerequisite: None

* **Grade level(s)**

* **Course Duration**

* **Prerequisite for each**

Experiencing Fine Art provides students with the knowledge of basic art principles and core concepts at the secondary level. Students will experience many forms of art making, techniques, and materials including (but not limited to) drawing, painting, sculpture, graphic design, multimedia, and collaborative concepts. Students are evaluated on their process of artistic creation in addition to their completed products. In this format, students are encouraged to take creative risks and challenge their artistic comfort zones. This course is a required prior to enrollment in additional art electives.

9TH GRADE WORKSHEET

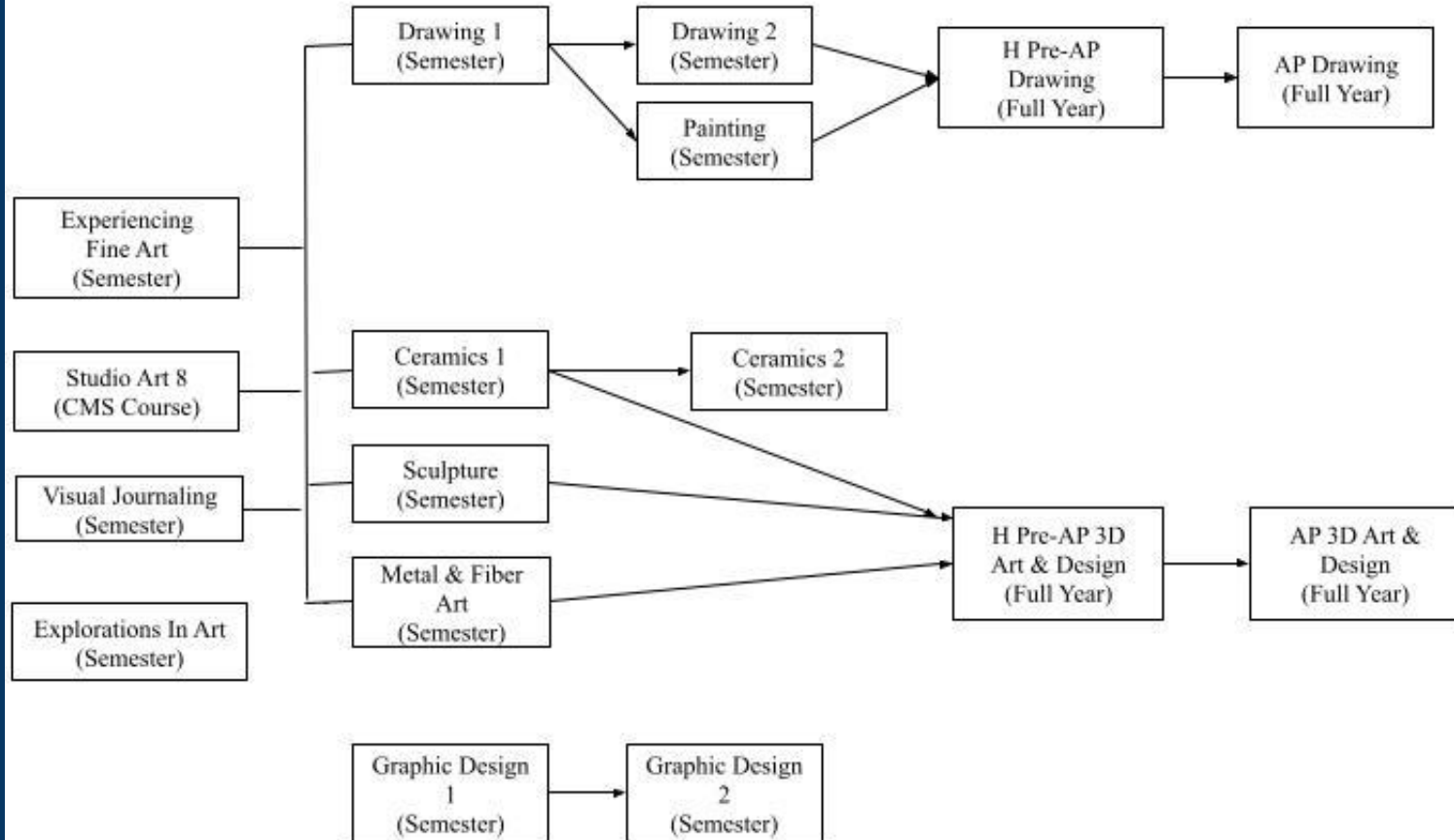
English 9	English 10	English 11	English 12
Comp H/PE 9	Comp H/PE 10	Comp H/PE 11	Comp H/PE 12
Mathematics	Mathematics	Mathematics	
Biology	Science	Science	
US History 1	US History 2	World History	
Sp/Fr/Gr/Ch/ASL	World Language		
Elective/Elective			
Study or Elective			

Required credits in V&P Arts (5), 21st Century Skills (5), Fin. Lit. (2.5)

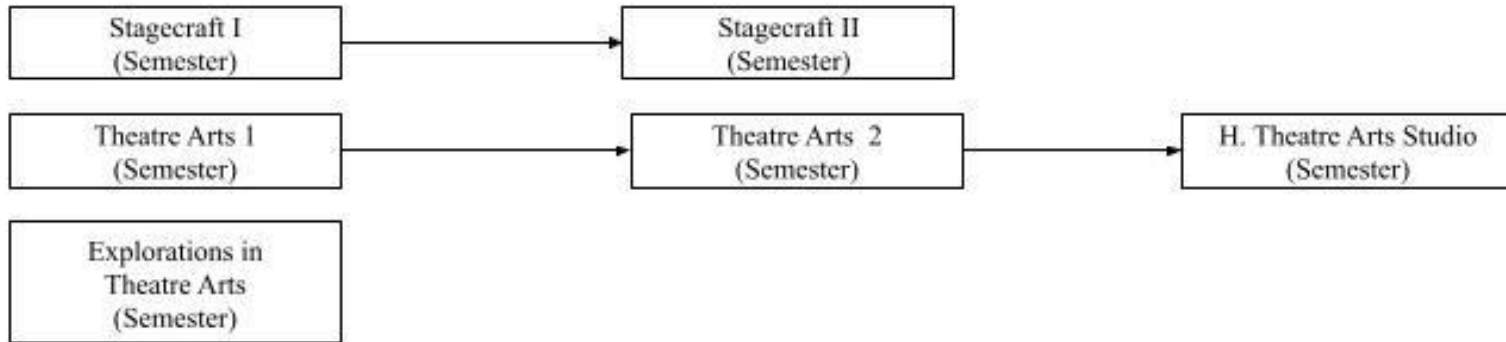
Fine & Performing Arts

5.0 Credit Graduation Requirement

Visual Arts

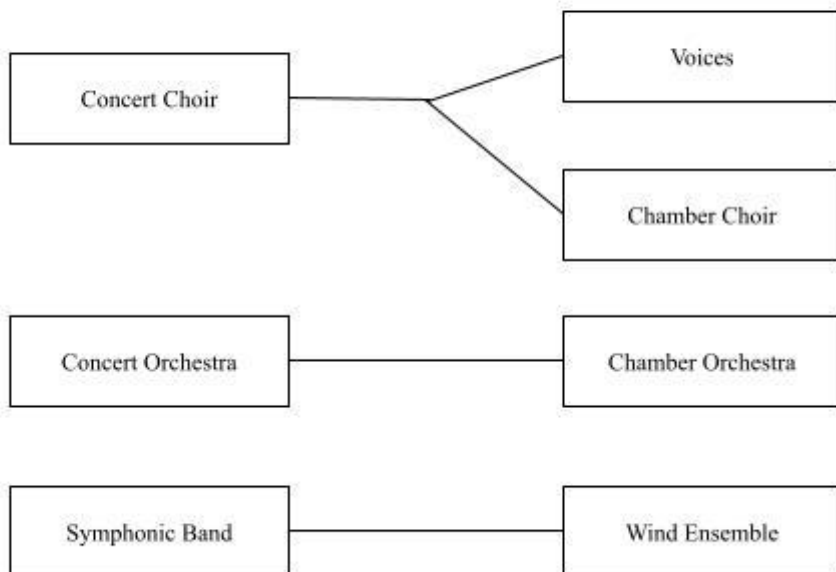


Theatre



Music

Full Year Courses



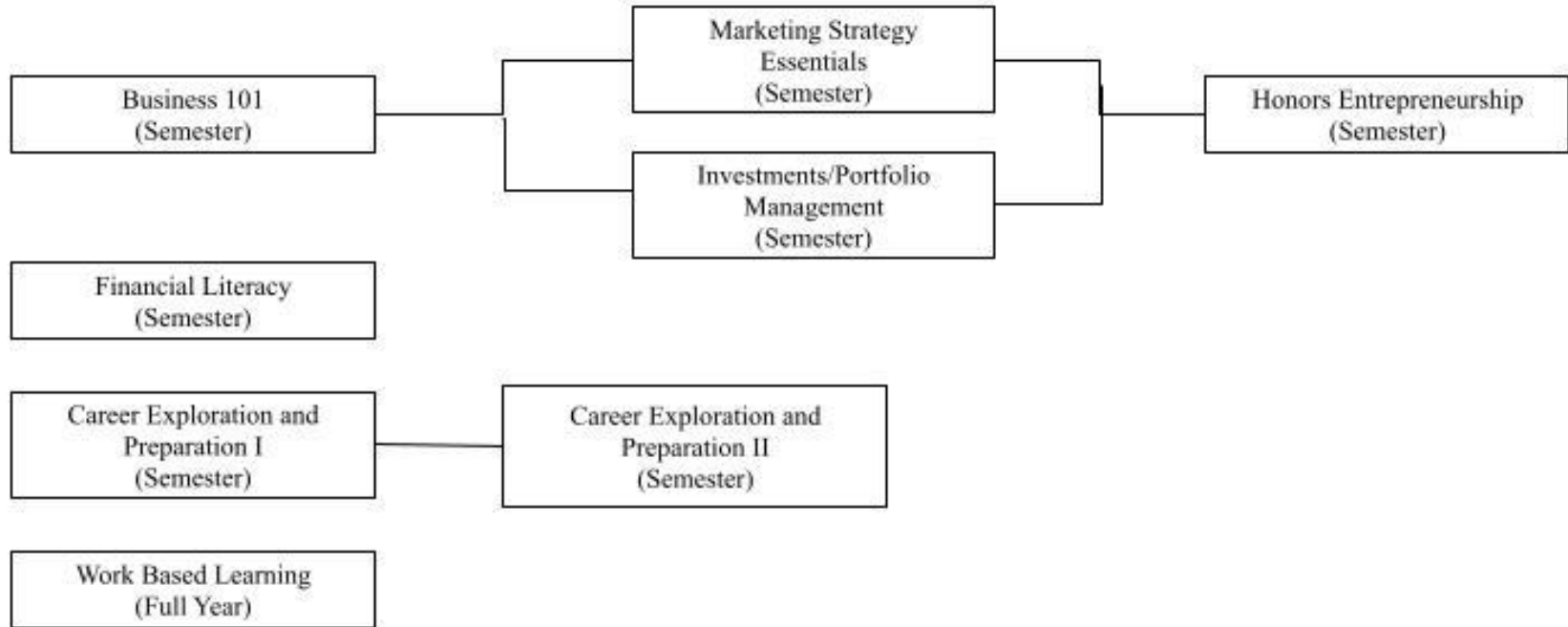
Semester Electives

Music Theory
Piano Lab
Critical Music Analysis
Music Technology & Sound Engineering
Explorations In Music

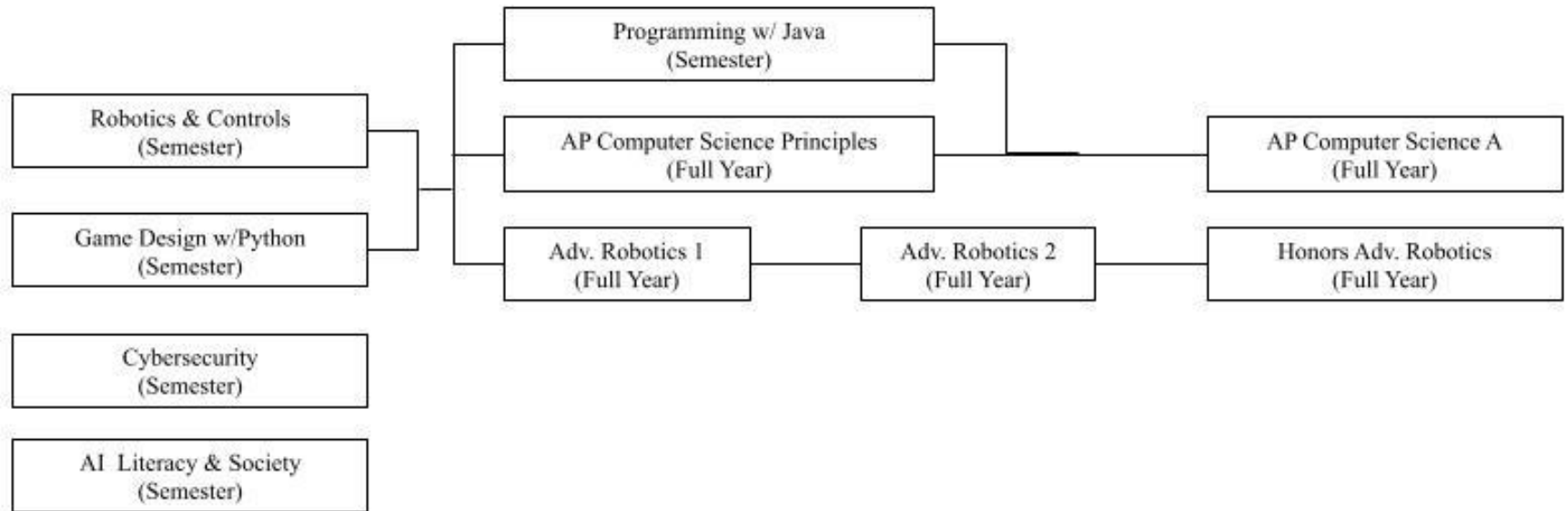
21st Century Life and Careers

5.0 Credit Graduation Requirement

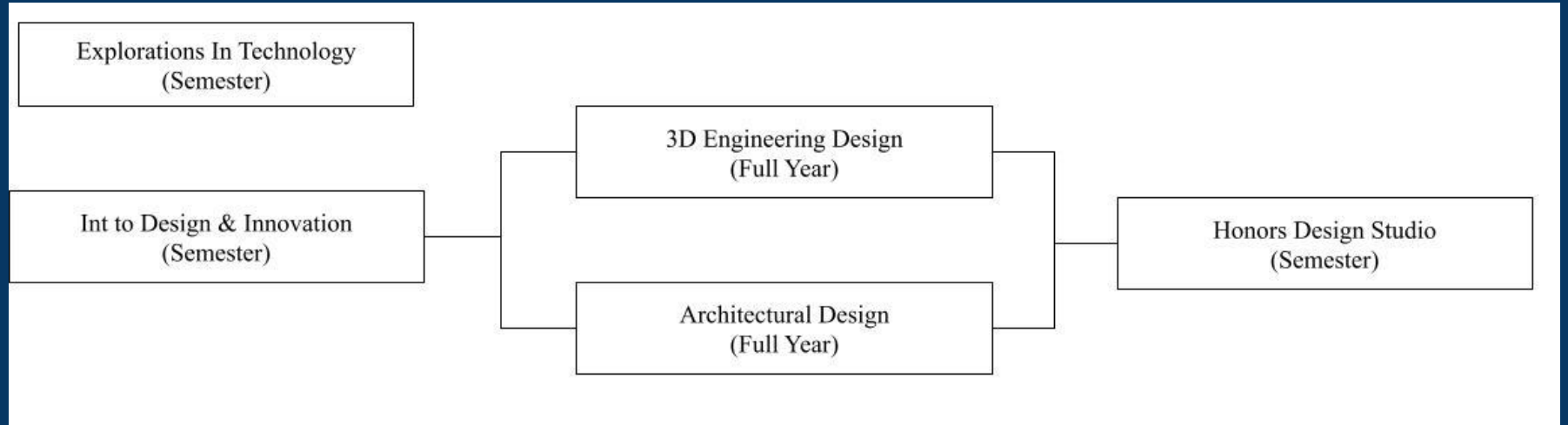
Business



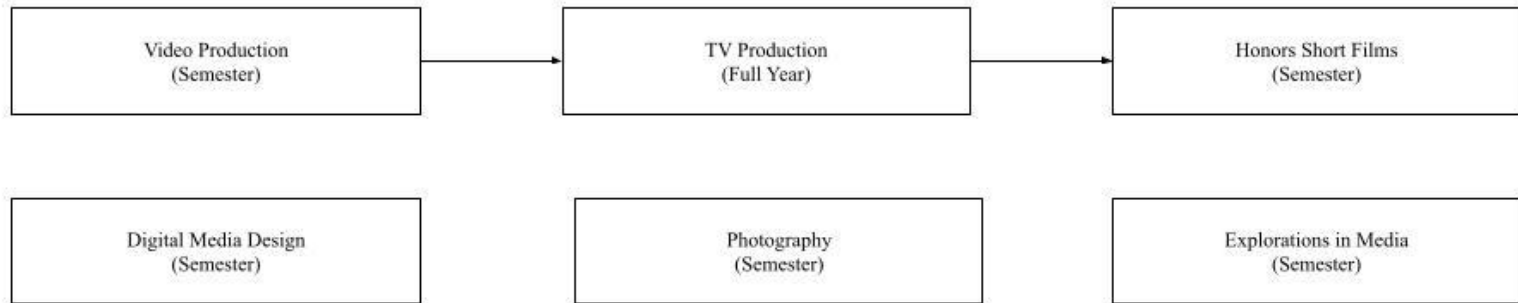
Computer Science & Robotics



Engineering/Architecture



Video/Multimedia



Family & Consumer Science

Culinary Arts and Nutrition 1
(Semester)

Culinary Arts and Nutrition 2
(Semester)

Early Childhood Education
(Semester)

Fashion, Design, Construction, and
Textiles
(Semester)

Course Level Waivers

Waiver Windows

February 6 - March 13

- Before the master schedule is built

May 11 - 15

- After the master schedule is built
- Subject to seat availability

Please be thoughtful when considering teacher recommendations and waiving.

A student who waives must remain in that course until the mid point of the first semester (Early November).

The grade that a student earned in the waived course will follow to the lower level course if a student drops. Weighting is not applied to the grade that moves to the new course level.

Virtual Courses & Summer School

Virtual Courses

- Students may not take required core courses virtually.
- Electives and Financial Literacy may be taken through our approved course provider.
- [Virtual Course Policy.](#)

Geometry A summer course at CHS

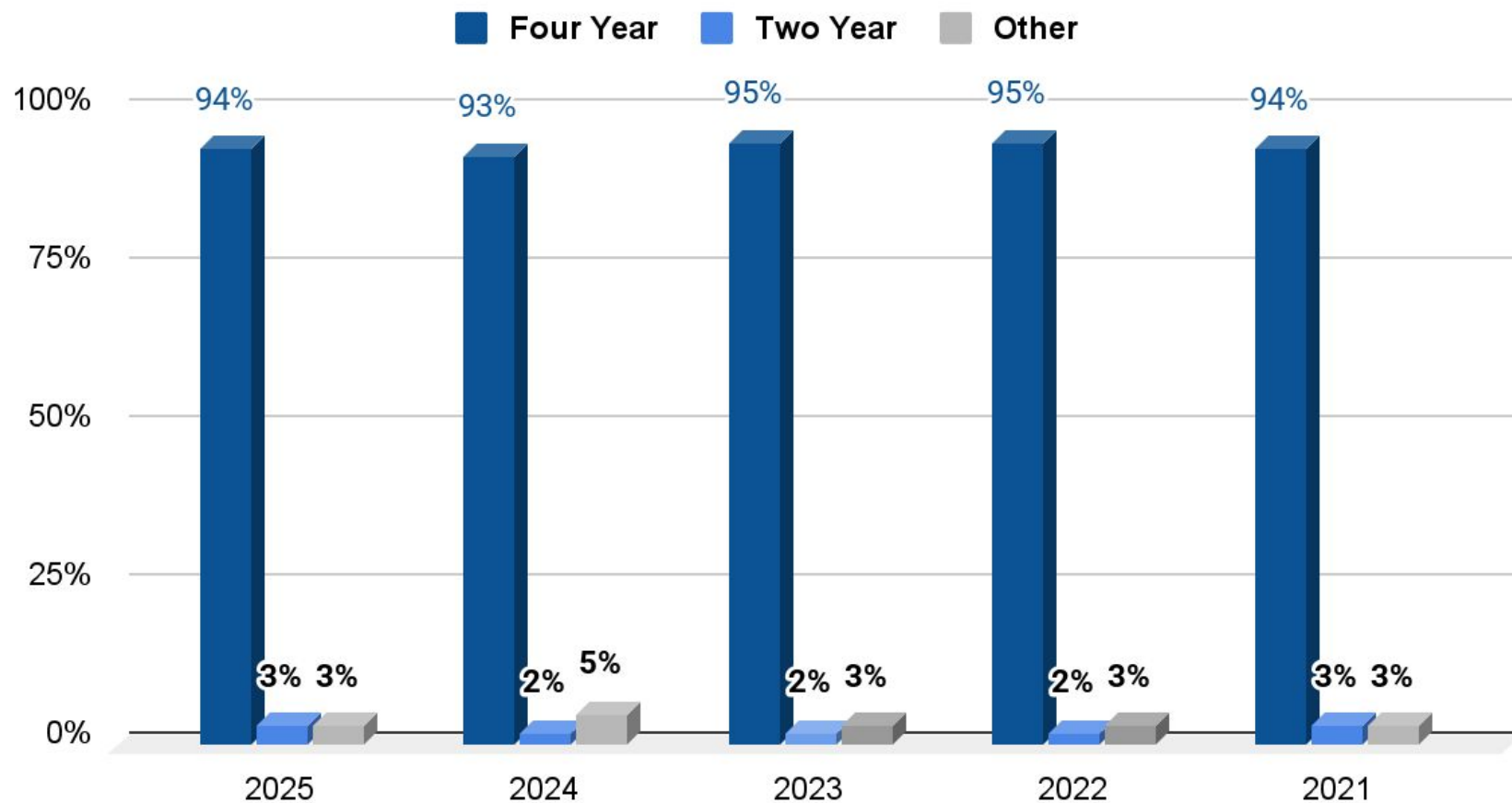
- Available for rising 10th grade students who take Algebra 1 in grade 9

Four Year Plan & Outcomes

ONE STEP AT A TIME...

- Build an appropriate schedule
- Acclimate, build confidence, get involved
- Consider academics & extra-curricular activities

Post CHS Plans



GPA DISTRIBUTION

Class of 2025 N=291

GPA	4.5+	4.0 - 4.49	3.0 - 3.99	< 3.0
Percent	12%	32%	52%	4%

SAMPLE MATRICULATION

GPA Range 3.0 - 4.0

- Drexel University
- Elon University
- Fairfield University
- High Point University
- Indiana University
- James Madison University
- Miami University Oxford
- Michigan State University
- Pennsylvania State University
- Quinnipiac University
- Rutgers University
- Seton Hall University
- Stevens Institute of Technology
- Syracuse University
- University of Alabama
- University of Delaware
- University of Pittsburgh
- University of Rhode Island
- Virginia Tech

SAMPLE ACCEPTANCES

(No Honors Courses in Grade 9)

- Drexel University
- Fairfield University
- James Madison University
- Marist University
- Montclair State University
- New Jersey Institute of Technology
- Rutgers University
- Stevens Institute of Technology
- University of Alabama
- University of Arizona
- University of Connecticut
- University of New Hampshire

THE JOURNEY OF HIGH SCHOOL

- Your child will be prepared for whatever he/she would like to do after high school.
- Each student's path may be different which is OK.
- Your child will soon take the lead. Support and encourage the initiative.
- Challenges lead to growth.

TIMELINE

- January - Teachers will discuss courses and recommendations
- CHS administrators visit CMS to discuss scheduling and courses with grade 8 (Jan 20)
- Teachers will input recommendations into Genesis by 2/6
- Parent Portal opens to view recommendations and select electives (February 6 - 17) - You will pick 5 options and prioritize them
- CHS Counselors and Administrators meet with grade 8 students individually to finalize schedule course requests (March 4 & 5)
- Schedules released in early June

FALL SPORTS

- **Registration forms will be available on the Parent Portal - June 1**
 - Medical Paperwork is due by June 30th
- **Football, Cheer and Tennis begin August 10**
- **All other fall sports begin on August 17**
- **Attendance is mandatory for participation on a fall team. Please plan vacations accordingly. First day of tryouts is the first day of practice.**

CHATHAM HIGH SCHOOL WEBSITE

- Tonight's presentation
- Program of Studies
- Supervisors' contact information

THANK You!