



## **Course Selection Guide**

**Grades K – 12**

**2025-26 School Year**

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|---|
| <b>SUBJECT AREA CREDIT REQUIREMENTS</b> |
|---|

Each student must earn 18 credits in the subject areas and courses specified below:

|   | Credits |
|---|---------|
| Mathematics.....  | 4.0     |
| • Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II + one additional credit (Precalculus, Technical Math)   |         |
| **One credit must be taken during the senior year   |         |
| English Language Arts.....  | 4.0     |
| • English 9, English 10, English 11, English 12   |         |
| Science.....  | 3.0     |
| • Integrated Science, Biology, Physics, Chemistry or Agriscience  |         |
| Social Studies.....   | 3.0     |
| • World History, US History (1/2 credit), Civics (1/2 credit), Economics.....   | 3.0     |
| Physical Education  |         |
| • Physical Education & Health .....   | 1.0     |
| <i>Participation in a district approved extracurricular activity involving physical activities may be substituted for 1/2 credit of physical education per district policy.</i>                               |         |
| World Language.....   | 2.0     |
| • Two credits in grades 9-12 OR equivalent learning experience in grades K-12 of languages other than English   |         |
| ** <i>Completion of a department approved formal career and technical education program or an additional visual, performing and applied arts credit may be substituted for one credit of foreign language</i> |         |
| Arts.....   | 1.0     |
| • General Art, Advanced Art, Studio Art, Graphics, Band   |         |
| <b>ALSO REQUIRED</b>  |         |
| Electives .....   | 9       |
| Total Credits Required To Earn A High School Diploma.....   | 27 *    |
| *units of credit for the graduating class of 2026   |         |

## **Personal Curriculum**

Parents/guardians of students who have completed the ninth grade may request a personal curriculum (PC). The PC is a process to modify specific credit requirements and/or content expectations based on the individual learning needs of a student. It is designed to serve students who want to accelerate or go beyond the MMC requirements and students who need to individualize learning requirements to meet the MMC requirements. More information on the PC process can be accessed by visiting the following website; [http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/PC\\_Guide\\_1\\_2015\\_482101\\_7.pdf](http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/PC_Guide_1_2015_482101_7.pdf). Parents/guardians may also contact the school for more information on the PC process.

The Board, recognizing the desirability of the total process of education and recognizing the necessity of social, motivation and activity processes, further requires that the normal program leading to graduation will consist of a minimum of four full years of course work, i.e. seniors must be enrolled as full-time student during both the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> semester of their senior year.

Special Education students at Ellsworth Community School will meet the same requirements for graduation and promotion as regular education students unless modified by an IEPC. In some cases special education students may choose to pursue a certificate of completion in lieu of a diploma. In addition, special education students will be encouraged to obtain a Michigan Driver's License. Special education students will be integrated into regular education whenever possible as deemed appropriate by IEPC.

Any exception to the above requirements for graduation must be made on an individual basis by the Superintendent. Exceptions will be made only when extenuating circumstances are involved.

Under normal circumstances, seniors must be within 0.5 credit of graduation, have been enrolled as a full time student during the second semester, have all books turned in, library fines paid, any other debts owed to the school paid, and all detention time served before they can participate in commencement exercises. Exceptions to this can only be made by the Superintendent. Students not meeting that criterion may be eligible to receive their diploma in August.

## **Grading Scale**

|           |           |           |          |           |           |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|-----------|-----------|
| A 95-100% | A- 90-94% | B+ 87-89% | B 83-86% | B- 80-82% | C+ 77-79% |
| C 73-76%  | C- 70-72% | D+ 67-69% | D 63-66% | D- 60-62% | F 0-59%   |

Semester grades will be computed by the following method: Semester Average = 80%, Semester Exam = 20%

## **Online Classes**

Occasionally due to scheduling conflicts of interest in electives not offered at ECS, students may choose to take an online course through Michigan Virtual. ECS considers two types of online courses. (1) Credit Recovery classes are online courses taken to remediate credit in a class/course in which a student has already received a failing grade. Credit Recovery online courses shall be graded on a pass/fail basis. (2) All other online courses, whether elective or core, will be considered to be on par with courses taken directly with a teacher and as a result students will receive a letter grade for such courses which will count towards their final GPA and shall affect valedictorian/salutatorian status.

## **Testing Out of High School Classes**

The Board of Education of the Ellsworth Community School District acknowledges that some pupils may have acquired knowledge or skills at levels that would allow them to demonstrate a reasonable degree of mastery without taking specified courses. Further, School Code 1279b states:

*“The board of a school district shall grant high school credit in any course to a pupil enrolled in high school, but who is not enrolled in the course, who has exhibited a reasonable level of mastery of the subject matter of the course by attaining a grade of not less than a C+ in the final exam in the course, or, if there is no final exam, by exhibiting that mastery through the basic assessment used in the course which may consist of a portfolio, performance, paper, project, or presentation. For the purpose of earning credit under this section, any high school pupil may take the final examination in any course. Credit earned under this section shall be based on a “pass” grade and shall not be included in a computation of grade point average for any purpose. Credit earned under this section may or may not be counted toward graduation, as the board of the school district may determine, but the board’s determination shall apply equally to all such credit for all pupils and credit earned under this section shall be counted toward the fulfillment of a requirement for a subject area course and shall be counted toward fulfillment of a requirement as to course sequence. Once credit is earned under this section, a pupil may not receive credit thereafter for a course lower in course sequence concerning the same subject area.”*

For our purposes, we will define these terms from the law in the following manner:

- “Pupil enrolled in high school” refers to a student who is currently attending that high school or who is formally registered for the next semester. (This includes 8th graders-entering grade 9 and students from private or parochial school settings.)
- “Enrolled in the course” refers to a student who is registered and has begun attending class sessions.
- “Any course” refers to any curricular offering available to students enrolled in our school; not to be confused with a class taught by a specific teacher.
- “Any” will be loosely interpreted. Exempted courses include Civics/American Government, Physical Education, and Band. Further recommended exemptions include all federally funded vocational programs.

- The requirements for “attaining a grade of not less than C+” are to be identified by District practice and shall apply equal to all students attempting to test out of a course. These standards must be comparable to standards used for the regular course.
- The “final exam” is a comprehensive semester assessment that includes the final student learnings of the course. In the past, a final exam had a variety of definitions; for example: the last test of the semester, a test covering half of the course, or a comprehensive assessment of the entire course. In the past and for the future, final exams may have multiple components (demonstrations, research papers, oral examinations, portfolios, paper/pencil, etc.) as long as the same components are part of the final exam for students taking the course in the normal fashion.

### **Vocational Education Classes**

Students in grades 10-12 may choose to enroll in vocational educational classes offered both on the campus of ECS and at neighboring schools in conjunction with CharEm ISD and the office of Career and Technical Education. Students choosing to attend classes at neighboring districts must provide their own transportation and sign in/out of the main office upon leaving or entering the building. Students are to promptly return to ECS upon completion of their class. Students are responsible for any work missed due to either leaving a class early or returning to class late in conjunction with taking a CTE class in another district.

### **Work Experience Program**

The school district will permit seniors to be released from school to participate in Work Experience activities subject to the following conditions:

1. The student must have twenty credits or more toward graduation at the beginning of the 1st semester of their senior year and twenty-two credits or more at the beginning of the 2nd semester of the senior year.
2. Students who have met the above requirements may participate in the work experience program subject to the following conditions:
  - a) The employment must be approved by the administration and be of such a nature as to provide an educationally sound work experience to develop skills useful for future employment. The employer must agree to participate in an evaluation of the student’s progress on a semester basis, and must agree to a mutually acceptable wage scale for the student.
  - b) Students shall be given 0.5 credit per semester toward graduation for each class period in which they are enrolled in work experience. The school district is not to assume liability or other responsibility for transportation of students to and from the work site.
  - c) If the student quits their job or changes jobs without notifying the administration, the student will be dropped from the work experience program and will not receive any credit toward graduation.
  - d) Students who participate in the work experience program must be passing all other classes they are enrolled in. This will be reviewed on a semester basis.

## **Dual Enrollment**

Under certain conditions, a high school student may enroll in a class in a Michigan public or private college and receive partial, or full, tuition and fees from the school district. Contact the School Counselor for more information.

## **Standardized Testing**

Students and parents are notified of testing dates and information each school year. Check with the School Counselor for more information.

- **AP** (Advanced Placement Examinations) follow a national schedule by exam subject
- **MME** (Michigan Merit Exam)
- **PSAT9/PSAT10** - offered in the spring to 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grade students respectively
- **PSAT/NMSQT** – offered in the fall to juniors to prepare for the SAT
- **SAT** – <http://www.collegeboard.com>

## **Middle/High School Course Definitions**

### **CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION (CTE)**

#### **AGRISCIENCE I, II & III**

Grade(s) 10,11,12

Agriscience prepares students for a wide variety of careers in agriculture and animal science. Specific areas of study include plant/soil science, veterinary science, agriculture business management, farm mechanics, leadership in agriculture and greenhouse/landscape management. Class work is supplemented by hands-on experience in on-site activities as well as field trips to local farms and businesses. Course content includes scientific and social implications of agriscience; leadership; organization of living systems; animal industries; animal genetics; animal health and nutrition; plant physiology; pests and pest management; soils; environmental systems; and natural resources fundamentals.

*This is a State-Approved CTE course. Students are eligible, upon successful completion, to substitute this course for one (1) credit of World Language.*

#### **GRAPHIC DESIGN**

Grade(s) 10,11,12

Graphic Design prepares students for a wide range of careers in the visual arts and creative industries. Areas of study include the principles of design, typography, branding, digital illustration, photography, and layout techniques using industry-standard software such as Adobe Illustrator and Photoshop. Students will gain hands-on experience through real-world projects that may include designing logos, posters, packaging, apparel, and digital media. Course content also explores the history of design, visual communication strategies, client collaboration, and portfolio development. This class emphasizes creativity, problem-solving, and technical skills essential for success in today's design-driven world.

*This is a State-Approved CTE course. Students are eligible, upon successful completion, to substitute this course for one (1) credit of World Language.*

### **VISUAL & PERFORMING ARTS**

#### **MIDDLE SCHOOL ART (GENERAL)**

Grade(s) 6,7,8

This course is taken as part of a semester elective cycle, along with Middle School PE. Students will work on the elements of art, technique and art history. A broad selection of art mediums in both 2D and 3D will be used.

#### **GENERAL ART**

Grade(s) 9,10,11,12

This course is an introduction to many different art mediums that students will use to create and express themselves. Students will review the elements of art, basic skills and some additional art history.

#### **STUDIO ART I & II**

Grade(s) 10,11,12

Prerequisites: General Art

Students will participate in an immersive, hands-on course that is designed to develop advanced technical skills in drawing, painting, sculpture, and digital media. A continuation of art history lessons and exploration of different styles will occur.

### ADVANCED ART

Grade(s) 11,12

Prerequisites: Studio Art

This course is a mastery of many different art mediums that students will use to create and express themselves. Students will develop a personal style through guided exercises and independent projects. They will create a series of works that demonstrate a clear thematic focus and technical proficiency.

### BEGINNING BAND

Grade(s) 6,7

In this music course, students will study woodwind, brass, or percussion instruments and learn standard performance practices for an ensemble. The daily objective of the course is to foster and promote musical growth through the playing of an instrument by the student. Instruction areas include rehearsal and performance techniques, musicianship, tone production, music literacy, and preparation for festival performance and sight reading. Individual practice outside of class is required as part of the student evaluation process, as well as submitted video practice tests. There are required performances outside the regularly scheduled school day. The Ellsworth Community School District is able to provide a limited number of school band instruments. Maintenance of the instrument is the requirement of the student to whom the instrument is loaned.

### BAND

Grade(s) 8, 9, 10,11,12

In this music course, students will continue their study of woodwind, brass, or percussion instruments at a proficient level through an enriching and diverse instrumental music selection. The daily objective of the course is to foster and promote musical growth through the playing of an instrument by the student. Instruction areas include rehearsal and performance techniques, musicianship, tone production, music literacy, as well as marching band skills. Students will be required to perform in band festivals outside the normal school day, as well as the Ellsworth Memorial Day yearly event. Students will have the opportunity to participate in MSBOA Solo and Ensemble. Individual practice outside of class is required as part of the student evaluation process, as well as submitted video practice tests. There are required performances outside the regularly scheduled school day. The Ellsworth Community School District is able to provide a limited number of school band instruments. Maintenance of the instrument is the requirement of the student to whom the instrument is loaned.

## **ENGLISH**

*English courses are aligned to the Michigan Standards for English Language Arts (ELA). Students experience texts and ideas as a community of learners to hone small- and large-group*

*interpersonal communication skills in reading, writing, speaking, listening and language. All high school courses require completion of sixth, seventh, and eighth grade middle school ELA courses.*

ELA 6

Grade(s) 6

English courses are aligned to the Michigan Standards for English Language Arts (ELA). Students experience texts and ideas as a community of learners to hone small- and large-group interpersonal communication skills in reading, writing, speaking, listening and language.

ELA 7

Grade(s) 7

English courses are aligned to the Michigan Standards for English Language Arts (ELA). Students experience texts and ideas as a community of learners to hone small- and large-group interpersonal communication skills in reading, writing, speaking, listening and language.

ELA 8

Grade(s) 8

English courses are aligned to the Michigan Standards for English Language Arts (ELA). Students experience texts and ideas as a community of learners to hone small- and large-group interpersonal communication skills in reading, writing, speaking, listening and language.

MIDDLE SCHOOL SPEECH & LITERATURE

Grade(s) 7, 8

Students will learn how to ask questions, look for details, and find the story in a variety of situations. They will learn how to gather information, organize ideas, format stories for production, and edit articles.

ENGLISH 9

Grade(s) 9

Prerequisites: see above

This course will help students improve their written and oral communication skills by focusing on grammar skills and daily writing activities. Narrative and expository writing will be the focus in English 9. Students will be asked to understand and analyze a variety of literary genres and conduct close reading of nonfiction texts including an “Article of the Week.” Quarterly literary selections will include *Night* by Elie Wiesel and *The Tragedy of Romeo and Juliet* by William Shakespeare.

ENGLISH 10

Grade(s) 10

Prerequisites: English 9

This course will help students improve their written and oral communication skills by focusing on grammar skills and daily writing activities. Narrative and expository writing will be the focus of English 10. Students will be asked to understand and analyze a variety of literary genres and conduct close reading of nonfiction texts including an “Article of the Week.” Quarterly literary selections will include *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee and *Lord of the Flies* by William Golding.

ENGLISH 11

Grade(s) 11

Prerequisites: English 10

This course will help students improve their written and oral communication skills by focusing on grammar skills and daily writing activities. Persuasive and expository writing will be the focus of English 11 and will include a study on debate. SAT vocabulary will be a weekly activity. Students will be asked to understand and analyze a variety of literary genres and conduct close reading of nonfiction texts including an “Article of the Week.” Quarterly literary selections will include *1984* by George Orwell and *Macbeth* by William Shakespeare.

## ENGLISH 12

Grade(s) 12

Prerequisites: English 11

This course will help students improve their written and oral communication skills by focusing on grammar skills and daily writing activities. Descriptive, persuasive, and expository writing will be the focus of English 12 and students will create and publish the annual yearbook. Students will be asked to understand and analyze a variety of literary genres and conduct close reading of nonfiction texts including an “Article of the Week.” Literary selections will include *A Long Way Gone* by Ishmael Beah.

## **MATHEMATICS**

### MATH 6

Grade(s) 6

6th Grade Math is designed to strengthen mathematical thinking and build conceptual understanding through real-world problem solving. Students will actively engage in their learning as they make connections within and across grade levels, preparing them for success in 7th Grade Math.

### MATH 7

Grade(s) 7

7th Grade Math continues the development of strong mathematical thinking skills with a focus on conceptual understanding and real-world problem solving. Students will build on prior knowledge and make meaningful connections across mathematical concepts, preparing them for success in 8th Grade Math.

### MATH 8

Grade(s) 8

8th Grade Math focuses on developing mathematical thinking through conceptual understanding and real-world problem solving. Students will build on prior knowledge and connect ideas across math topics, preparing them for success in 9th Grade Algebra.

### ALGEBRA I

Grade(s): 9

Prerequisites: MS Math

Algebra I introduces students to algebra as both a theoretical tool for analyzing and describing mathematical relationships and a practical tool for solving real-world problems. Students will

explore mathematical modeling while developing a rigorous understanding of solving, graphing, and writing linear, quadratic, rational, and exponential functions.

### ALGEBRA II

Grade(s): 11  
Prerequisites: Algebra I &  
Geometry

Algebra II builds on prior algebraic knowledge while emphasizing the application of algebraic thinking to real-world situations. Students will study a variety of function families, including polynomial, exponential, logarithmic, rational, and trigonometric functions. Additional topics include conic sections, statistics, and probability.

### GEOMETRY

Grade(s) 10  
Prerequisites: Algebra I

Geometry develops students' understanding of geometric concepts from an algebraic perspective. Topics include the study of two- and three-dimensional shapes, congruence, similarity, transformations, and the relationships between geometric figures. Students will apply problem-solving skills to explore geometric properties and relationships.

### PRE CALCULUS

Grade(s): 11,12  
Prerequisites: Algebra 2 &  
Teacher Recommendation

Pre-Calculus prepares students for college-level mathematics by studying advanced function types such as polynomial, rational, logarithmic, and exponential functions. Additional topics include sequences and series, conic sections, limits, systems of equations, and vectors.

### TECHNICAL MATH

Grade(s) 12  
Prerequisites:

Technical Math is a one-year course designed to provide practical mathematical skills for life and career applications. First-semester topics include the application of linear algebra to real-life problems, an introduction to computer coding, GPS systems within spherical geometry, and interpreting graphs and statistical data. The second semester focuses on personal finance concepts, including budgeting, saving, investing, credit, insurance, payroll, and other financial skills for life.

### PERSONAL FINANCE

Grade(s) 10  
Prerequisites:

Personal Finance is a one-semester course designed to equip students with essential money management skills using the Dave Ramsey Foundations in Personal Finance curriculum. Topics include budgeting, saving, banking, credit, investing, insurance, taxes, and avoiding debt.

Students will engage in practical, real-world applications to prepare them for making informed financial decisions throughout life.

## **PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

### MIDDLE SCHOOL PE

Grade(s): 6, 7, 8

This course is taken as part of a quarter by quarter elective cycle, along with Middle School Science Elective and Middle School Art. Course content changes each year.

### PHYSICAL EDUCATION & HEALTH

Grade(s): 9

This course will focus on students achieving and maintaining a level of physical fitness for health and performance while demonstrating knowledge of fitness concepts, and strategies.

### ADVANCED PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Grade(s): 11,12

Prerequisites: PE & Health

This class is designed to elevate student physical fitness and understanding of wellness. This course provides an in-depth exploration of advanced exercise techniques, sports science, and holistic wellness practices. Students will enhance their physical performance, develop leadership skills, and learn to create comprehensive fitness and wellness programs.

## **SCIENCE**

### SCIENCE 6

Grade(s): 6

This class will emphasize critical thinking skills and the process of science. We will use a variety of tasks including journaling, projects, tests, and quizzes to explore different concepts and the world around us.

### SCIENCE 7

Grade(s): 7

This class will emphasize critical thinking skills and the process of science at the 7<sup>th</sup> grade level. We will use a variety of tasks including journaling, projects, tests, and quizzes to explore different concepts and the world around us.

### SCIENCE 8

Grade(s): 8

This class will emphasize critical thinking skills and the process of science at the 8<sup>th</sup> grade level. We will use a variety of tasks including journaling, projects, tests, and quizzes to explore different concepts and the world around us.

### MIDDLE SCHOOL ENRICHMENT

Grade(s): 6,7,8

Non-subject area specific elective courses designed to expose middle school students to a variety of STEAM (SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, ART, AND MATHEMATICS) content.

### INTEGRATED SCIENCE

Grade(s): 9

Prerequisites: Science 8

Integrated Science is a required course that seeks to cover a broad range of science areas. The students will be exploring the areas of physical science and chemistry. The students' grades will be figured from a variety of ways including lab exercises, projects, homework assignments, notebook checks, and assessments. The standards for this course follow the Michigan Science Standards as adopted in 2016. The standards are geared around these disciplinary core ideas:

- 1.) Matter and its Interactions
- 2.) Motion and Stability: Forces and Interactions
- 3.) Energy
- 4.) Waves and Their Applications in Technologies and Information Transfer
- 5.) Engineering Design

### CHEMISTRY

Grade(s) 11, 12

Prerequisites:

Chemistry is a course that seeks to cover a broad range of topics in the natural world. The students' grades will be figured from a variety of ways including lab exercises, projects, homework assignments, notebook checks, and assessments. The standards for this course follow the Michigan Science Standards as adopted in 2016. The standards are geared around these disciplinary core ideas:

- 1.) Matter and its Interactions
- 2.) Energy
- 3.) Earth's Place in the Universe
- 4.) Earth's Systems
- 5.) Engineering Design

### HONORS CHEMISTRY

Grade(s) 11, 12

Prerequisites:

This course provides students with a challenging honors-level curriculum. Students will dive deeper into the disciplinary core ideas as listed above in the regular Chemistry course.

### BIOLOGY

Grade(s) 10

Prerequisites:

Biology is a required course that covers a broad range of topics in the natural world. The students' grades will be figured from a variety of ways including lab exercises, projects, homework assignments, notebook checks, and assessments. The standards for this course follow the Michigan Science Standards as adopted in 2016. The standards are geared around these disciplinary core ideas:

- 1.) From Molecules to Organisms: Structures and Processes

- 2.) Ecosystems: Interactions, Energy, and Dynamics
- 3.) Heredity: Inheritance and Variation of Traits
- 4.) Biological Evolution: Unity and Diversity
- 5.) Earth's Place in the Universe
- 6.) Earth's Systems
- 7.) Earth and Human Activity
- 8.) Engineering Design

## HONORS BIOLOGY

Grade(s) 10

Prerequisites:

This course provides students with a challenging honors-level curriculum. This course involves lecture-discussion, presentations and laboratory activities. The course includes interrelationships of living organisms, levels of biological organization, human biology, social implications, biochemistry, evolution, ecology, and genetics. Extensive laboratory work and problem solving are essential components.

## PHYSICS

Grade(s) 11, 12

Prerequisites:

Physics is a course that seeks to cover a broad range of topics in the natural world. The students' grades will be figured from a variety of ways including lab exercises, projects, homework assignments, notebook checks, and assessments. The standards for this course follow the Michigan Science Standards as adopted in 2016. The standards are geared around these disciplinary core ideas:

- 1.) Motion and Stability: Force and Interactions
- 2.) Energy
- 3.) Waves and Their Applications in Technologies for Information Transfer
- 4.) Earth's Place in the Universe
- 5.) Earth's Systems
- 6.) Engineering Design

## **SOCIAL STUDIES**

### HISTORY 6

Grade(s): 6

This class focuses on deepening the understanding of the past and its influence on our lives today. Students will learn about why and how we study human societies as well as geography.

### HISTORY 7

Grade(s): 7

This class focuses on deepening the understanding of the past and its influence on our lives today. Students will learn about why and how we study human societies as well as geography.

### US HISTORY 8

Grade(s): 8

This class examines the importance of cultural and reform movements on US government and society, assesses the political development of the United States, the changing role of government, and the development of the two-party system over the course of time.

US HISTORY

Grade(s) 9, 10

Prerequisites:

This two semester U.S. History course will provide an understanding of the people, places and events that lead to the development of the United States since the Civil War. To accomplish this task the class will be utilizing a variety of interactive learning activities. Students will be responsible for taking notes, viewing media materials, participating in class discussions and other interactive tasks. Focus will be on the benchmarks and standards established by the Michigan Department of Education. Areas of study will be: Growth of Industrial and Urban America, Progressivism & Reform, Becoming a World Power, Crisis of Capitalism & Responses, World War II, The Cold War, Civil Rights & Other Domestic Policies, Growing Turmoil at Home & Abroad, and America in the New Global Age.

WORLD HISTORY

Grade(s) 11, 12

Prerequisites:

This course examines the world chronologically and thematically. The purpose of this course is to enable students to understand their connections to the development of civilizations. They will examine the past to prepare for their futures as participating members of a global community. Students will use knowledge pertaining to history, geography, economics, political processes, religion, ethics, diverse cultures, and humanities to address contemporary problems in academic, civic, social, and employment settings.

GOVERNMENT

Grade(s) 11, 12

Prerequisites:

The purpose of this one semester course is to give students the opportunity to learn about the three branches of government as well as their role and responsibility as citizens. The goals of this class are that students recognize the strengths and weaknesses of democratic form of government and develop a realization of the necessity of individual participation to ensure a successfully functioning government.

ECONOMICS

Grade(s) 11, 12

Prerequisites:

The purpose of this one semester course is to aid students in understanding the basic principles of our economic system and that of other countries. Further aim is to enable students to gain knowledge of economic principles for use in everyday lives. Specific units are production, supply and demand, stock market money, credit, banking, personal income, the government and its economy, and major economic problems in the United States.

**WORLD LANGUAGES**

SPANISH I

Grade(s): 9

Prerequisites: none

Spanish I offers the opportunity to study both the language and the culture of the Spanish-speaking community. The course focuses on building a basic proficiency that allows students to communicate in the target language in realistic and common situations. Class activities and assessments will emphasize interpretive reading and listening skills as well as interpersonal and presentational speaking and writing skills. Students will utilize authentic resources from the target culture to concentrate on culture, comparisons and connections. Upon successful completion of this course students should select Spanish II with teacher recommendation.

## SPANISH II

Grade(s): 10,11,12  
Prerequisites: Spanish I

In Spanish II, students will continue to develop proficiency to communicate with native speakers in realistic situations. Teachers will offer activities that allow them to work on developing their interpretive reading and listening skills, as well as interpersonal and presentational speaking and writing skills. Students will have opportunities to use authentic resources from the target language that will focus on culture, comparisons and connections with the target culture.

## **OTHER**

### COMPUTER PROGRAMMING

Grade(s): 9,10,11,12

Computer Programming is an engaging elective designed for high school students eager to explore the world of coding and software development. This course provides a comprehensive introduction to computer programming concepts, languages, and problem-solving techniques. Students will gain hands-on experience through coding projects, collaborative exercises, and real-world applications, preparing them for further studies or careers in technology.

### CREATIVE WRITING

Grade(s): 9-12

Creative Writing will allow students to develop their skills in a variety of genres, including short stories, poetry, drama, and creative nonfiction. Students will explore techniques for generating ideas, crafting engaging narratives, and refining their style and voice. Emphasis will be placed on the writing process—from brainstorming and drafting to revising and publishing—while encouraging personal expression, originality, and constructive peer feedback.

### BROADCASTING

Grade(s): 9-12

Broadcasting will introduce students to the skills and techniques used in modern media production, including video, audio, and live-stream formats. Students will learn how to plan, script, record, edit, and publish broadcasts using industry-standard tools. Projects may include news segments, interviews, school event coverage, and feature stories for both live and recorded formats. Emphasis will be placed on teamwork, creativity, technical proficiency, and effective communication to produce engaging, high-quality content for the school and community.

## **ONLINE COURSES THROUGH MICHIGAN VIRTUAL**

Additional High School courses may be available through Michigan Virtual. A complete list of courses offered can be found at [michiganvirtual.org](http://michiganvirtual.org)

## **ELEMENTARY COURSES**

\*All local classes listed below are offered at Ellsworth Elementary School

### **LOCAL**

#### **LANGUAGE ARTS**

Language Arts K-5

#### **MATHEMATICS**

Math K-5

#### **SCIENCE**

Science K-5

#### **SOCIAL STUDIES**

Social Studies K-5

#### **ART**

Art Level K-5

#### **MUSIC**

Music Level K-5