

Course Description Guide

2026-2027



Bluford Unit School District 318

Home of the Trojans

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Graduation Requirements:

26 Credits are required for graduation for the class of 2026
25 Credits are required for graduation for the class of 2027
24 Credits are required for graduation for the class of 2028

English - 4 credits

Mathematics - 3 credits (Alg 1 and Geometry content required)

Science - 3 credits

Social Studies- 2 credits

(All students must pass the Constitution of the United States and the State of Illinois.)

Health - 1/2 credit

Driver Education - 1/4 credit

Consumer Economics (Resource Management) - 1/2 credit

Physical Education - 3 credits

HIGH SCHOOL COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

AGRICULTURE

Introduction to the Agricultural Industry (A/B)

Course: 18001A003 and 18001A001

Credit: 1.0 (elective)

Grade Level: 9-12

This course provides an opportunity for students to learn how the agricultural industry is organized; its major components; the economic influence of agriculture at state, national and international levels; and the scope and types of job opportunities in the agricultural field. Basic concepts in animal science, plant science, soil science, horticulture, natural resources, agribusiness management, and agricultural mechanics, will be presented. Improving computer and workplace skills will be a focus. Participation in FFA student organization activities and Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) projects is an integral course component for leadership development, career exploration and reinforcement of academic concepts.

Basic Horticultural Science (A/B)

Course: 18052A001

Credit: 1.0 (elective)

Grade Level: 10-12

This course is designed to introduce students to the horticulture industry and provide them with basic plant science knowledge that can be further developed in advanced horticulture courses. Major units of instruction include horticulture research, horticultural careers, plant anatomy, seed germination, plant propagation, growing media, pest management, hydroponics, identifying horticultural plants, growing greenhouse crops, and floral design. Improving computer and workplace skills will be a focus. Participation in FFA student organization activities and Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) projects is an integral course component for leadership development, career exploration and reinforcement of academic concepts.

Horticultural Production & Management (Greenhouse Production)

Course: 18051A001

Credit: 1.0

Grade Level: 9-12

This course offers instruction in both the greenhouse production and landscape areas of horticulture. Units of study include plant identification, greenhouse management, growing greenhouse crops, landscape design, installation, and maintenance, horticulture mechanics, nursery management, and turf production. Agribusiness units will cover operating a horticultural business, pricing work, advertising, and sales. Improving computer and workplace skills will be a focus. Participation in FFA student organization activities and Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) projects is an

integral course component for leadership development, career exploration and reinforcement of academic concepts. (Available SY 2011-.)

Agricultural Business Management

Course: 18201A001

Credit: 1.0 (elective)

Grade Level: 11-12

This course will provide students with the basic knowledge and skills necessary to manage personal finances and develop into a successful entrepreneur and/or businessperson. Instructional units include: business ownership types, starting an agribusiness, managing and operating an agribusiness, financing an agribusiness, managing personal finances, record keeping and financial management of an agribusiness, local, state, and federal taxes, agricultural law, and developing employability skills. Student skills will be enhanced in math, reading comprehension, and writing through agribusiness applications. Improving computer and workplace skills will be a focus. Participation in FFA student organization activities and Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) projects is an integral course component for leadership development, career exploration and reinforcement of academic concepts.

Agricultural Mechanics & Equipment

Course: 18402A000

Credit: 1.0 (elective)

Grade Level: 11-12

This course will concentrate on expanding student's knowledge and experiences with agricultural mechanics technologies utilized in the agricultural industry. Units of instruction included are design, construction, fabrication, maintenance, welding, electricity/electronics, internal combustion engines, hydraulics, and employability skills. Careers of agricultural construction engineer, electrician, plumber, welder, equipment designer, parts manager, safety inspector, welder, and other related occupations will be examined. Improving workplace and computer skills will be a focus. Participation in FFA student organization activities and Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) projects is an integral course component for leadership development, career exploration and reinforcement of academic concepts.

Agricultural Communications

Course 18203A002

Credit: 1.0 (elective)

Grade Level: 9-12

Agricultural Communication courses introduce the broad field of agricultural communications and provides for the development of knowledge and skill in specific areas related to communications theory and practice. Content includes the meaning and process of communication, the role and history of print and electronic media, legal aspects of agricultural communications, news and feature writing in agriculture, news photography, layout and design, and ethics in agricultural communications. Content will also include web design and broadcast journalism in agriculture. Participation in FFA student organization activities and Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) projects is

an integral course component for leadership development, career exploration and reinforcement of academic concepts.

Agricultural Construction

Course: 18403A001

Credit: 1.0 (elective)

Grade Level: 10-12

This advanced course focuses on the knowledge, hands-on skills, and workplace skills applicable to construction in the agricultural industry. Major units of instruction include personal safety, hand tools, power tools, blueprint reading, surveying, construction skills in carpentry, plumbing, electricity, concrete, block laying, drywall, and painting. Careers such as agricultural engineers, carpenter, plumber, electrician, concrete and block layers, finishers, safety specialists, and other related occupations will be examined. Improving workplace and computer skills will be a focus. Participation in FFA student organization activities and Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) projects is an integral course component for leadership development, career exploration and reinforcement of academic concepts.

Advanced Agricultural Construction

Course: 18403A002

Credit: 1.0 (elective)

Grade Level: 11-12

Advanced Agricultural Construction courses include an integrated way to learn geometry through the application in construction. The structural concepts within the course are organized to complement the skills and the knowledge learned in geometry lessons. Students will experience working days on a job site or technical project, as well as classroom experiences, focused on the development and review of geometry concepts. On working days, students will collaborate to build anything from sawhorses and modular furniture to manufactured housing and tiny homes. The course will provide students the opportunity to immediately apply what they are learning about geometry to their projects and buildings. Participation in FFA student organization activities and Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) projects is an integral course component for leadership development, career exploration, and reinforcement of academic concepts.

Agricultural Metal Fabrication (A/B)

Course: 18404A001 and 18401A002

Credit: 1.0 (elective)

Grade Level: 10-12

This course will concentrate on expanding student's knowledge and experiences with agricultural mechanics technologies utilized in the agricultural industry. Units of instruction included are design, construction, fabrication, maintenance, welding, electricity/electronics, internal combustion engines, hydraulics, and employability skills. Careers of agricultural construction engineer, electrician, plumber, welder, equipment designer, parts manager, safety inspector, welder, and other related occupations will be examined. Improving workplace and computer skills will be a focus. Participation in FFA student organization activities and Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) projects is

an integral course component for leadership development, career exploration and reinforcement of academic concepts.

Advanced Agricultural Welding

Course: 18404A002

Credit: 1.0 (elective)

Grade Level: 10-12

Advanced Agricultural Welding focuses on the development of advanced welding and metal fabrication techniques utilized within the agricultural industry. Topics of instruction may include welding safety, technical drawings & blueprint reading, welding symbols, welding discontinuities and failures, destructive testing, nondestructive examination, equipment setup, metal preparation, pipe welding, cutting processes, oxy-fuel cutting/welding, shielded metal arc welding, gas metal arc welding, flux cored arc welding, and gas tungsten arc welding processes. Suggested welding positions are flat, horizontal, vertical down, and vertical up. Electrodes taught and used may include E6010, E6011 and E7018. This course should be aligned with an industry-recognized credential. Upon successful completion, it is suggested students receive an industry certification or dual-credit through a local accredited institution. Improving workplace skills will be a focus in this course. Participation in FFA student organization activities and Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) projects is an integral course component for leadership development, career exploration and reinforcement of academic concepts.

Basic Agricultural Science (BSAA)

Course: 18101A001

Credit: 1.0 (core class)

Grade Level: 10-12

This orientation course builds on basic skills and knowledge gained in the Introduction to the Agricultural Industry course. Major units of instruction include agricultural research, soil science, advanced plant science, biotechnology, and advanced animal science. Applied science and math skills and concepts will be stressed throughout the course as they relate to each area. Improving computer and workplace skills will be a focus. Participation in FFA student organization activities and Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) projects is an integral course component for leadership development, career exploration, and reinforcement of academic concepts.

**This course also counts as a science credit*

Basic Physical Science Applications in Agriculture (PSAA)

Course: 18449A002

Credit: 1.0 (core class)

Grade Level: 10-12

Basic Physical Science Applications in Agriculture courses are designed to reinforce and extend students' understanding of physical science and the scientific process by associating scientific and math principles and concepts with relevant applications in agriculture. Topics of study are in the areas of scientific investigations, environmental/natural resource systems, agricultural production systems, agricultural

structural systems, energy and power systems, agricultural mechanics and machine systems, and food processing systems. The course will be valuable preparation for further education and will increase the relevance of science through the applied setting of agriculture by enhancing literacy in science and the scientific process. Improving computer and workplace skills will be a focus. Participation in FFA student organization activities and Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) projects is an integral course component for leadership development, career exploration and reinforcement of academic concepts. **This course also counts as a science credit.*

Applied Mathematics in Agriculture (AMA)

Course: 18999A002

Credit: 1.0 (core class)

Grade Level: 11-12

Applied Mathematics in Agriculture (AMA) courses apply knowledge and skills related to mathematics, including algebra, geometry, and data analysis in the context of Agribusiness Systems and Power, Structural, and Technical Systems. Topics covered may include whole numbers, fractions, decimals, ratios, measurements, basic algebra, plane geometry, solid figures, triangle geometry, intermediate algebra, and statistics. Course topics may be applied in a class business and/or structural project. Participation in FFA student organization activities and Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) projects is an integral course component for leadership development, career exploration and reinforcement of academic concepts.

Large Animal Care

Course: 18101A003

Credit: 1.0 (elective)

Grade Level: 9-12

Large Animal Care courses focus on the care and management of large animals. Animal nutrition, health, behavior, reproduction and breeding, anatomy and physiology, use of qualitative and quantitative analyses for decision making, facilities, handling and training, and grooming are typical areas of study. Course topics may include product processing and marketing. Participation in FFA student organization activities and Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) projects is an integral course component for leadership development, career exploration and reinforcement of academic concepts.

Veterinary Science

Course: 18105A000

Credit: 1.0 (elective)

Grade Level: 9-12

Veterinary Science courses impart information about the causes, diagnosis, and treatment of diseases and injuries of animals, typically emphasizing domestic companion and farm animals. Course topics focus on anatomy and physiology, nutrition, behavior and training, disease prevention, reproduction, ethics of animal care, grooming, feeding, maintaining equipment and facilities, and other areas of study as

appropriate.

Drone Operation and Maintenance

Credit: 0.5 (elective)

Grade Level: 11-12

Drone Operation and Maintenance courses introduce students to the fundamentals of flying drones. Topics covered typically include FAA rules and regulations; types and capabilities of unmanned aircraft; drone piloting; aerial photography and videography; maintenance and preflight procedures; and aeronautical decision-making. Topics should also include an exploration of the applications of drone operation and maintenance into the program(s) offered. Course should prepare students for attainment of the Remote Pilot Certificate from the FAA and the instructor should hold this certificate.

Natural Resources

Credit: 0.5 (elective)

Grade Level: 10-12

This course provides an in-depth exploration of natural resources, focusing on both conservation and management skills while addressing current issues in agriculture, food, and natural resources. Students will develop a comprehensive understanding of the importance of natural resources and their connection to agriculture. Key topics include fish, wildlife, prairies, forestry management and conservation, as well as outdoor recreational enterprises like hunting and fishing.

Students will explore the accessibility of food, impacts of trade, emerging technology, climate change, and agricultural production practices. They will gain skills in problem analysis, course of action development, and decision-making systems applicable to both public and private sector organizations.

Career exploration will include roles such as park ranger, game warden, campground manager, forester, conservation officer, wildlife manager, and related occupations. The course emphasizes improving computer and workplace skills, along with outdoor safety education. Participation in FFA student organization activities and Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) projects are integral components for leadership development, career exploration, and reinforcement of academic concepts.

Wildlife Management

Course: 18501A001

Credit: 0.5 (elective)

Grade Level: 10-12

Often with an emphasis on the conservation of natural resources and frequently including outdoor recreation topics, Wildlife Management courses provide students with the opportunity to understand and appreciate the importance of maintaining the land and ecological systems that enable non-domesticated animals to thrive. Wildlife Management courses emphasize how humans and animals may both take advantage of the same land or how to gain economic benefits from the land while not degrading its

natural resources or depleting plant or animal populations. Participation in FFA student organization activities and Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) projects is an integral course component for leadership development, career exploration and reinforcement of academic concepts.

BUSINESS AND TECHNOLOGY COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Banking and Finance

Credit: 0.5 (elective)

Grade Level: 10-12

Banking and Finance courses provide students with an overview of the American monetary and banking system as well as types of financial institutions and the services and products that they offer. Course content may include government regulations; checking, savings, and money market accounts; loans; investments; and negotiable instruments.

Beginning Photography

Credit: 0.5 (elective)

Grade Level: 9-12

Beginning Photography course provides instruction in the use of conventional and digital cameras and laboratory film processing techniques. Topics covered in the course include composition and color dynamics; contact printing; enlarging; developing film and use of camera meters.

Broadcasting Technology (A/B)

Credit: 1.0 (elective)

Grade Level: 10-12

Broadcasting Technology courses provide students with the knowledge and skills to produce television broadcast programs. Typically, students prepare and produce short programs, learning the technical aspects of the operation and how to evaluate programming and assess audience reaction and impact.

Business and Technology Concepts (A/B)

Credit: 1.0 (elective)

Grade Level: 9-12

This orientation-level course will provide an overview of all aspects of business marketing and management, including the concepts, functions, and skills required for meeting the challenges of operating a business in a global economy. Topics covered will include the various forms of business ownership, including entrepreneurship, as well as the basic functional areas of business (finance, management, marketing, administration and production). Students will be introduced to a wide range of careers in fields such as accounting, financial services, information technology, marketing, and management. Emphasis will be placed on using the computer while studying applications in these careers along with communication skills (thinking, listening, composing, revising, editing, and speaking), math and problem solving. Business ethics as well as other workplace skills will be taught and integrated within this course. This

course is not intended to meet the consumer education requirement, but rather to provide preparation for the skill level courses that make up the Business, Marketing and Management occupations programs.

Business Management

Credit: 0.5 (elective)

Grade Level: 9-12

Business Management courses acquaint students with management opportunities and effective human relations. These courses provide students with the skills to perform planning, staffing, financing, and controlling functions within a business. In addition, they usually provide a macro level study of the business world, including business structure and finance, and the interconnections among industry, government, and the global economy. The course may also emphasize problem-based, real-world applications of business concepts and use accounting concepts to formulate, analyze, and evaluate business decisions.

Business/Office Career Exploration (Career Orientation)

Credit: 0.5 (elective)

Grade Level: 9

Business/Office Career Exploration courses expose students to the occupational opportunities available in business including, but not limited to, general business, business information management, human resources management, operations management, administrative support, accounting, and marketing fields. Emphasis is placed on responsibilities, qualifications, work environments, and career paths. These courses may also include consumer education topics, keyboard exposure, and/or hands-on experience within the various occupational areas.

Computer Concepts and Software Applications

Credit: 0.5 (elective)

Grade Level: 10-12

Computer Concepts and Software Applications is an orientation-level course designed to develop awareness and understanding of application software and equipment used by employees to perform tasks in business, marketing and management. Students will apply problem-solving skills to hands-on, real-life situations using a variety of software applications, such as word processing, spreadsheets, database management, presentation software, and desktop publishing. Students will explore topics related to computer concepts, operating systems, telecommunications and emerging technologies. The development of employability skills, as well as transition skills, will be included in the course as well as an understanding of the ethical considerations that arise in using information processing equipment and gaining access to available databases.

Accounting (A/B)

Credit: 1.0 (elective)

Grade Level: 10-12

Accounting courses introduce students to and expand their knowledge of the

fundamental accounting principles and procedures used in businesses through integrating and using accounting-related software and information systems. Course content includes the recording and completion of the accounting cycle, payroll, taxes, debts, depreciation, and periodic adjustments through a computerized accounting program. Students may learn how to apply standard auditing principles and to prepare budgets and final reports. Calculators, electronic spreadsheets, or computer accounting software are usually used. Advanced topics may include principles of partnership and corporate accounting and the managerial uses of control systems and the accounting process.

Introductory Business

Course: 12051A001

Credit: 0.5 (elective)

Grade Level: 9-12

Introductory Business courses survey an array of topics and concepts related to the field of business. These courses introduce business concepts such as banking and finance, the role of government in business, consumerism, credit, investment, and management. They usually provide a brief overview of the U.S. economic system, small businesses, and corporate organizations. Introductory Business courses may also expose students to the varied opportunities in administration, accounting, management, and related fields.

Banking and Finance

Credit: 0.5 (elective)

Grade Level: 10-12

Banking and Finance courses provide students with an overview of the American monetary and banking system as well as types of financial institutions and the services and products that they offer. Course content may include government regulations; checking, savings, and money market accounts; loans; investments; and negotiable instruments.

Social Media

Credit: 0.5 (elective)

Grade Level: 10-12

Social Media courses expose students to various types of social media and how social media has influenced society. These courses emphasize the forms, functions, regulations, implications, and utilization of social media.

11149A001 Broadcast Writing and Production (ADD)

Course: 11149A001

Credit: 1.0 (elective)

Grade 9-12

Broadcast Writing and Production courses provide students with knowledge of writing for visual and audio presentations, including continuity, commercials, public service announcements, news, and special events. The course will focus on the skills

necessary to create content and produce a television or radio news rundown: choosing newsworthy stories; allotting time; and determining transitions with organization, variety, and structure. Students will produce a live television or radio newscast. Additional topics should include the history of American radio and television broadcasting, comparative broadcasting systems, organization and operation of stations and networks, social and legal responsibilities of radio and television, broadcasting codes and guidelines, and audience survey results and methods. (Available SY 2025-.)

Sports Marketing and Broadcasting (A/B)

Course: 11051A001 and 11051A002

Credit: 1.0 (elective)

Grade Level: 9-12

This year-long course combines the creative and technical skills of marketing, broadcasting, and production to showcase school athletics and activities. Students will learn to create and manage promotional content, including game schedules, team highlights, senior spotlights, video features, game day programs, and social media posts for platforms such as Facebook and school TVs. Emphasizing real-world application, students will gain hands-on experience in sports and school marketing while exploring advertising, digital media, and public relations.

Building on these skills, students will also delve into the technical aspects of audio and video production. Instruction includes camera operations, video and audio editing, lighting techniques, sound mixing, and the operation of professional-grade production equipment. Advanced topics include multi-camera operations, animation graphics, special effects, and production/post-production workflows. Students will work collaboratively to produce broadcasts, regulate sound and video quality, and adhere to FCC and industry standards.

This course provides a dynamic, team-based environment where students develop both creative and technical expertise, preparing them for careers in sports media, marketing, broadcasting, and digital production.

Digital Media Technology (Survey of Technology) (A/B)

Credit: 1.0 (elective)

Grade Level: 9-12

These courses are designed to give students the skills necessary to support and enhance their learning about digital media technology. Topics covered in the course may include internet research, copyright laws, web-publishing, use of digital imagery, electronic forums, newsgroups, mailing lists, presentation tools, and project planning.

Publication Production (Yearbook)---Grade Levels?

Credit: 0.5 (elective)

Grade Level: 10-12

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 (e.g., writing, editing, layout, production) or may focus on a single aspect while producing the publication.

General Education Workplace Experience (Co-op)

Credit: 0.5 (elective)

Grade Level: 12

General Education Workplace Experience courses provide students with work experience in fields related to general education. Goals must be set cooperatively by the student, teacher, and employer (although students are not necessarily paid). These courses must include classroom instruction at least once per week, involving further study of the field, discussion of relevant topics that are responsive to the workplace experience and employability skill development. Workplace Experience courses must be taught by an approved WBL educator-coordinator. These courses should be aligned to a Career Development Experience that could include: Student-led Enterprises; School-based Enterprises; Immersion Supervised Agricultural Experiences; Clinical Experiences in Health Science and Technology programs; Internships; and Apprenticeship programs including Youth Apprenticeships, Pre-apprenticeships, and Registered Apprenticeships.

DRIVER EDUCATION

Drivers' Education—Classroom and Laboratory

Credit: 0.25 (core class)

Grade Level: 9-12

Drivers' Education—Classroom and Laboratory courses provide students with the knowledge and experience to become safe drivers on America's roadways. Topics in these courses cover legal obligations and responsibility, rules of the road and traffic procedures, safe driving strategies and practices, and the physical and mental factors affecting the driver's capability (including alcohol and other drugs). Experience in driving a vehicle is an essential component of these courses.

ENGLISH

English/Language Arts I (9th grade)

Credit: 1.0 (core class)

Grade Level: 9

English/Language Arts I (9th grade) courses build upon students' prior knowledge of grammar, vocabulary, word usage, and the mechanics of writing and usually include the four aspects of language use: reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Typically, these

courses introduce and define various genres of literature, with writing exercises often linked to reading selections.

English/Language Arts II (10th grade)

Credit: 1.0 (core class)

Grade Level: 10

English/Language Arts II (10th grade) courses usually offer a balanced focus on composition and literature. Typically, students learn about the alternate aims and audiences of written compositions by writing persuasive, critical, and creative multi-paragraph essays and compositions. Through the study of various genres of literature, students can improve their reading rate and comprehension and develop the skills to determine the author's intent and theme and to recognize the techniques used by the author to deliver his or her message.

English/Language Arts III (11th grade)

Credit: 1.0 (core class)

Grade Level: 11

English/Language Arts III (11th grade) courses continue to develop students' writing skills, emphasizing clear, logical writing patterns, word choice, and usage, as students write essays and begin to learn the techniques of writing research papers. Students continue to read works of literature, which often form the backbone of the writing assignments. Literary conventions and stylistic devices may receive greater emphasis than in previous courses.

English/Language Arts IV (12th grade)

Credit: 1.0 (core class)

Grade Level: 12

English/Language Arts IV (12th grade) courses blend composition and literature into a cohesive whole as students write critical and comparative analyses of selected literature, continuing to develop their language arts skills. Typically, students primarily write multi-paragraph essays, but they may also write one or more major research papers.

American Literature (Novels)

Credit: 1.0 (elective or core)

Grade Level: 10-12

American Literature courses focus upon commonly known American authors and their work. Students improve their critical-thinking skills as they determine the underlying assumptions and values within the selected works and as they understand how the literature reflects the society of the time. Oral discussion is an integral part of literature courses, and written compositions are often required.

FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCE

Nutrition and Culinary Arts I

Course: 16054A001

Credit: 1.0 (elective or core)

Grade Level: 9-12

This course includes classroom and laboratory experiences needed to develop a knowledge and understanding of culinary principles and nutrition for people of all ages. Course content encompasses: food service and preparation management using the decision-making process; meeting basic needs by applying nutrition concepts; meeting health, safety, and sanitation requirements; maximizing resources when planning/preparing/preserving/serving food; applying hospitality skills; analyzing nutritional needs in relation to change; and careers in nutrition and culinary arts, including entrepreneurship investigation. (Available SY 2011-.)

Nutrition and Food Preparation (A/B)

Credit: 1.0 (elective)

Grade Level: 9-12

Nutrition and Food Preparation courses provide students with knowledge and skills related to commercial food preparation and/or production, with a strong emphasis on nutrition, balanced diets, and satisfying special dietary needs. Topics typically include assessing nutrient content, the science of food and nutrition, physiology and utilization of nutrients. Course content may also cover additives, contaminants, food-borne illnesses, and food technology.

Consumer Economics/Personal Finance (Resource Management)

Credit: 0.5 (core class)

Grade Level: 11-12

Consumer Economics/Personal Finance courses provide students with an understanding of the concepts and principles involved in managing one's personal finances. These courses emphasize lifespan goal-setting, individual and family decision making, and consumer rights as well as topics that are commonly associated with personal finance so that one can become a financially responsible consumer. Topics may include savings and investing, credit, insurance, taxes and social security, spending patterns and budget planning, contracts, and consumer protection. These courses may also investigate the effects of the global economy on consumers and the family.

Human Development and Family Wellness (Adult Living)

Credit: 0.5 (elective)

Grade Level: 11-12

This course focuses on the development and wellness of individuals and families throughout the life cycle. Topics include human development and wellness theories, principles, and practices; life cycle expectations and issues, including biological, physiological, social, and psychological needs and concerns of aging adults; community services, agencies, and resources; roles, responsibilities, and functions of families, family members and caregivers; family issues, including ethics, human worth and dignity, change, stress, neglect and abuse, and care of the care-giver; individual and family wellness planning; and fostering intergenerational relationships. Practical

experiences related to these topics are included through a variety of activities such as volunteer experiences, service learning, and intergenerational event planning opportunities. Information on a variety of human and family services careers is incorporated throughout the course. (Formerly Adult Living)

Child Development and Parenting (Growth and Development)

Credit: 0.5 (elective)

Grade Level: 11-12

Child Development courses provide students with knowledge about the physical, mental, emotional, social, and moral growth and development of children from conception to preschool age, emphasizing the application of this knowledge in child care settings and/or home environments. Brain development and current developmental research are addressed. These courses typically include related topics such as the appropriate care of infants, toddlers, and young children. (Formerly Growth and Development).

Culinary Occupations I (A/B)

Credit: 1.0 (elective)

Grade Level: 10-12

This course provides terminology, culinary math, and practical experiences needed for the development of culinary competencies and workplace skills. Safety and sanitation instruction and classroom application will prepare students for an industry recognized sanitation exam. Classroom experiences will develop skills to work in the front of the house, back of the house, and workstations. Additional content may include: event planning, customer service and relations, food service styles, baking and pastry arts, hors d'oeuvres, and breakfast cookery. Students will be provided opportunity training experiences on commercial equipment.

Family and Consumer Sciences (A/B)

Credit: 1.0 (elective)

Grade Level: 9-12

Family and Consumer Sciences courses help students to develop the knowledge and skills that are used to manage one's family and career efficiently and productively. Course topics typically include foods and nutrition; apparel; child care and development; housing, interior design, and maintenance; consumer decisions; personal financial management; interpersonal relationships; and careers available in family and consumer sciences.

Textiles and Design I

Course: 19201A001

Credit: 1.0 (elective)

Grade Level: 9-12

This course is designed to provide basic knowledge and understanding of the design, development, and production of textile products. Through hands-on and project based learning experiences students will discover fiber characteristics, fabric construction methods, elements of science and design in textiles and apparel, and basic construction

skills used in interior furnishings and apparel industries. This course emphasizes awareness and investigation of careers and industry trends in textiles.

FOREIGN LANGUAGE/FINE ARTS

Spanish I

Credit: 1.0 (core class)

Grade Level:

Designed to introduce students to Spanish language and culture, Spanish I courses prepare students to communicate authentically in Spanish by interpreting (reading, listening, viewing), exchanging (speaking and listening; reading and writing), and presenting (speaking, writing) information on a variety of topics. They introduce the relationships among the products, practices, and perspectives of Spanish-speaking cultures.

Spanish II

Credit: 1.0 (core class)

Grade Level:

Spanish II courses build upon skills developed in Spanish I, preparing students to communicate authentically in Spanish by interpreting (reading, listening, viewing), exchanging (speaking and listening; reading and writing), and presenting (speaking, writing) information on concrete topics. Spanish II courses introduce the relationships among the products, practices, and perspectives of Spanish-speaking cultures.

Spanish III

Credit: 1.0 (elective)

Grade Level:

Spanish III courses prepare students to communicate authentically in Spanish by interpreting (reading, listening, viewing), exchanging (speaking and listening; reading and writing), and presenting (speaking, writing) information, concepts, and ideas on a variety of topics, including connections to other subject areas. These courses expand students' knowledge of relationships among the products, practices, and perspectives of Spanish-speaking countries and cultures.

Spanish IV

Credit: 1.0 (elective)

Grade Level:

Spanish IV courses prepare students to communicate authentically in Spanish by interpreting (reading, listening, viewing), exchanging (speaking and listening; reading and writing), and presenting (speaking, writing) information, concepts, and ideas on a variety of topics, including connections to other subject areas. Spanish IV courses promote students' understanding of the relationships among the products, practices, and perspectives of Spanish-speaking countries and cultures.

Music - Other (High School Music) (A/B)

Credit: 1.0 (elective)

Grade Level: 9-12

This course provides the opportunity to sing a variety of choral literature styles for men's and/or women's voices and are designed to develop vocal techniques and the ability to sing parts. Formerly called Chorus. (may be repeated for credit)

Visual Arts—Comprehensive (Art) (A/B)

Credit: 1.0 (elective)

Grade Level: 9-12

Visual Arts—Comprehensive courses enable students to explore one or several art forms (e.g., drawing, painting, two- and three-dimensional design, and sculpture) and to create individual works of art. Initial courses emphasize observations, interpretation of the visual environment, visual communication, imagination, and symbolism. Courses cover the language, materials, media, and processes of a particular art form and the design elements used. Advanced courses encourage students to refine their skills while also developing their own artistic styles following and breaking from traditional conventions. Courses may also include the study of major artists, art movements, and styles. (may be repeated for credit)

Music Appreciation (Dual-Credit Course)

Credit: 0.5 (elective)

Grade Level: 9-12

Music Appreciation courses provide students with an understanding of music and its importance in their lives. Course content focuses on how various styles of music apply musical elements to create an expressive or aesthetic impact. Students also have the ability for informal music performance and creation within the classroom.

Music History/Intro to America Music (Dual-Credit Course)

Credit: 0R.5 (elective)

Grade Level: 9-12

Music History courses provide students with an understanding of music, its importance, and context in a selected range of historical periods and/or cultural styles. Students also have the ability for informal music performance and creation within the classroom.

MATH

Algebra I

Credit: 1.0 (core class)

Grade Level: 9

Algebra I courses include the study of properties and operations of the real number system; evaluating rational algebraic expressions; solving and graphing first-degree equations and inequalities; translating word problems into equations; operations with and factoring of polynomials; solving quadratic equations; and modeling linear data. Specific content depends upon state standards.

Algebra II

Credit: 1.0 (core class)

Grade Level: 10-12

Algebra II course topics typically include developing an understanding of the relationships between the symbolic, graphic, tabular and verbal representations of functions; utilizing the various representations to interpret function behavior and solve equations; operations with rational and irrational expressions; factoring of rational expressions; in-depth study of linear equations and inequalities; quadratic equations; solving systems of linear and quadratic equations; graphing of constant, linear, and quadratic equations; properties of higher-degree equations; exponential functions; inverse functions; statistical modeling; modeling linear and quadratic data; and operations with rational and irrational exponents.

Geometry

Credit: 1.0 (core class)

Grade Level: 9-12

Geometry courses, emphasizing an abstract, formal approach to the study of geometry, typically include topics such as properties of plane and solid figures; deductive methods of reasoning and use of logic; geometry as an axiomatic system including the study of postulates, theorems, and formal proofs; concepts of congruence, similarity, parallelism, perpendicularity, and proportion; and rules of angle measurement in triangles, quadrilaterals, vertical angles, lines intersected by a transversal, etc.

General Applied Math

Credit: 1.0 (core class)

Grade Level: 9-12

General Applied Mathematics courses reinforce general mathematics skills; extend these skills to include some pre-algebra and algebra topics; and use these skills in a variety of practical, consumer, business, and occupational applications. While these courses prepare students for a variety of practical applications, they are not intended to serve as remedial mathematics courses. Course topics typically include rational numbers, measurement, basic statistics, ratio and proportion, basic geometry, formulas, and simple equations.

College Algebra (Dual Credit Course)

Credit: 0.5 (core class)

Grade Level: 11-12

Students who wish to enroll in this course must pass the ASSET Test given by Rend Lake College. This course covers complex numbers, quadratic equations, polynomial and rational inequalities, the algebra of functions, graphing functions, inverse functions, rational functions, polynomial functions, systems of equations, determinants, Cramer's Rule, the binomial theorem and other selected topics. Must make a C average to be eligible to take College Trigonometry.

Trigonometry/College Trigonometry (Dual Credit Course)

Credit: 0.5 (core class)

Grade Level: 11-12

Trigonometry courses prepare students for eventual work in calculus and typically include the following topics: trigonometric and circular functions; their inverses and graphs; relations among the parts of a triangle; trigonometric identities and equations; solutions of right and oblique triangles; the use of the unit circle; modeling trigonometric data; and complex numbers.

CONTEMPORARY COLLEGE MATHEMATICS (Dual Credit Course)

Credit: 0.5 (core class)

Grade Level: 11-12

This course is designed to fulfill the general education math requirements for the Associate of Arts degree. Topics covered include set/logic, graph theory, probability and statistics, geometry, logic and other selected topics. Three or four of these topics are studied in depth.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND HEALTH

Physical Education (3 credits required)

Credit: 0.5 (core class)

Grade Level: 9-12

Physical Education courses provide students with knowledge, experience, and an opportunity to develop skills in more than one of the following sports or activities: team sports, individual/dual sports, recreational sports, and fitness/conditioning activities.

Health Education (required)

Credit: 0.5 (core class)

Grade Level: 9

Topics covered within Health Education courses may vary widely, but typically include personal health (nutrition, mental health and stress management, drug/alcohol abuse prevention, disease prevention, and first aid) and consumer health issues. The courses may also include brief studies of environmental health, personal development, and/or community resources.

SCIENCE

Anatomy & Physiology

Course: 03053A000

Credit: 1.0 (core class)

Grade Level: 11-12

Anatomy courses present an in-depth study of the human body and biological system. Students study such topics as anatomical terminology, cells, and tissues and typically explore functional systems such as skeletal, muscular, circulatory, respiratory, digestive, reproductive, and nervous systems.

Biology

Credit: 1.0 (core class)

Grade Level: 10-12

Biology courses are designed to provide information regarding the fundamental concepts of life and life processes. These courses include (but are not restricted to) such topics as cell structure and function, general plant and animal physiology, genetics, and taxonomy.

Chemistry

Credit: 1.0 (core class)

Grade Level: 10-12

Chemistry courses involve studying the composition, properties, and reactions of substances. These courses typically explore such concepts as the behaviors of solids, liquids, and gasses; acid/base and oxidation/reduction reactions; and atomic structure. Chemical formulas and equations and nuclear reactions are also studied.

Earth Science

Credit: 1.0 (core class)

Grade Level: 9-12

Earth Science courses offer insight into the environment on earth and the earth's environment in space. While presenting the concepts and principles essential to students' understanding of the dynamics and history of the earth, these courses usually explore oceanography, geology, astronomy, meteorology, and geography.

Environmental Science

Credit: 1.0 (core class)

Grade Level: 10-12

Environmental Science courses examine the mutual relationships between organisms and their environment. In studying the interrelationships among plants, animals, and humans, these courses usually cover the following subjects: photosynthesis, recycling and regeneration, ecosystems, population and growth studies, pollution, and conservation of natural resources.

Physical Science

Credit: 1.0 (core class)

Grade Level: 9-12

Physical Science courses involve study of the structures and states of matter. Typically (but not always) offered as introductory survey courses, they may include such topics as forms of energy, wave phenomenon, electromagnetism, and physical and chemical interactions.

Principles of Technology (STEM)

Course: 03153A000

Credit 1.0

Grade Level: 10-12

Principles of Technology courses focus on the study of the forces and laws of nature and their application to modern technology. Equilibrium, motion, momentum, energy conversion, electromagnetism, and optical phenomena are presented in the context of current, real-world applications. Demonstrations, math labs, and applied laboratory experiments are an integral part of the Principles of Technology curriculum. These courses enable students to gain a solid foundation for careers in electronics, robotics, telecommunications, and other technological fields. (Available SY 2011-.)

Technical Science

Credit: 1.0 (core class)

Grade Level: 10-12

Technical Science courses introduce students to scientific tools and methods and provide an introduction to chemistry and physics. Topics covered typically include measurement conversion, model creation, use of scientific methods, interpretation of atoms, identification of the properties of common compounds, analysis of chemical equations, the impact of force on linear motion, and the study of various physical phenomena and forms of energy.

Zoology

Credit: 1.0 (core class)

Grade Level: 11-12

Zoology courses provide students with an understanding of animals, the niche they occupy in their environment or habitat, their life cycles, and their evolutionary relationships to other organisms. These courses should also help students develop an awareness and understanding of biotic communities.

SOCIAL STUDIES/HISTORY**Contemporary U.S. Issues (Current Events)**

Course: 04106A000

Credit: 0.5 (core class)

Grade Level: 10-12

Contemporary U.S. Issues courses study the political, economic, and social issues facing the United States, with or without an emphasis on state and local issues. These courses may focus on current issues or may examine selected issues that span throughout the 20th century to the present. (AKA Current Events)

U.S. Government (Civics)

Course: 04161A000

Credit: 0.5 (core class)

Grade Level: 10

Comprehensive courses provide an overview of the structure and functions of the U.S. government and political institutions and examine constitutional principles, the concepts of rights and responsibilities, the role of political parties and interest groups, and the importance of civic participation in the democratic process. These courses may examine the structure and function of state and local governments and may cover certain economic and legal topics.

Particular Topics in U.S. History (History in Film)

Credit: 0.5 (core class)

Grade Level: 11-12

These courses examine a particular topic in U.S. History, such as particular time periods in the history of the United States, or they may focus on the history of particular U.S. regions rather than provide an overview of the subject. (AKA History in Film)

Early U.S. History

Credit: 1.0 (core class)

Grade Level: 11-12

Early U.S. History courses examine the history of the United States from the colonial period to the Civil War or Reconstruction era (some courses end after this period). Some courses include North American history before European settlement, while others may begin at the formation of the new nation. These courses typically include a historical overview of political, military, scientific, and social developments.

Modern U.S. History

Credit: 1.0 (core class)

Grade Level: 11-12

Modern U.S. History courses examine the history of the United States from the Civil War or Reconstruction era (some courses begin at a later period) through the present time. These courses typically include a historical review of political, military, scientific, and social developments.

World Geography

Credit: 1.0 (core class)

Grade Level: 9-12

Geography courses provide students with an overview of world geography, but may vary widely in the topics they cover. Topics typically include the physical environment; the political landscape; the relationship between people and the land; economic production and development; and the movement of people, goods, and ideas.

World History – Overview

Credit: 1.0 (core class)

Grade Level: 9-12

World History--Overview courses provide an overview of the history of human society from early civilization to the contemporary period, examining political, economic, social, religious, military, scientific, and cultural developments. World History--Overview courses may include geographical studies, but often these components are not as explicitly taught as geography.

MISCELLANEOUS

Education & Training Workplace Experience

Credit: 1.0 (elective)

Grade Level: 11-12

Education & Training Workplace Experience courses provide work experience in fields related to the Education & Training cluster. Goals must be set cooperatively by the student, teacher, and employer (although students are not necessarily paid). These courses must include classroom instruction at least once per week, involving further study of the field, discussion of relevant topics that are responsive to the workplace experience and employability skill development. Workplace Experience courses must be taught by an approved WBL educator-coordinator. These courses should be aligned to a Career Development Experience that could include: Student-led Enterprises; School-based Enterprises; Immersion Supervised Agricultural Experiences; Clinical Experiences in Health Science and Technology programs; Internships; and Apprenticeship programs including Youth Apprenticeships, Pre-apprenticeships, and Registered Apprenticeships.

Entrepreneurship (CEO)

Course: 12053A001

Credit: 1.0 (elective)

Grade Level: 12

Entrepreneurship courses acquaint students with the knowledge and skills necessary to own and operate their own businesses. Topics from several fields typically form the course content: economics, marketing principles, human relations and psychology, business and labor law, legal rights and responsibilities of ownership, business and financial planning, finance and accounting, and communication. Several topics surveyed in Business Management courses may also be included.

COURSES NOT OFFERED IN THE 2025/2026 SCHOOL YEAR

Desktop Publishing I

Intro to Graphic Design (Dual Credit with Rend Lake College)

Credit: 1.0 (elective)

Grade Level: 11-12

This introductory course offers training in the use of two-dimensional processes of design, elements and principles, concepts, materials, styles and terminology. Design projects produced with emphasis on content application, concept, and composition utilizing creative problem solving through the design process for visual problems. Current design software such as Adobe Illustrator and Adobe PhotoShop will be incorporated. (Lecture 1 hour. Lab 4 hours.)

11152A001 Desktop Publishing

Credit: 0.5 (elective)

Grade Level: 11-12

Desktop Publishing courses integrate the knowledge and skills learning in word processing with the concepts, procedures and application of desktop publishing. Students learn to format, create and proofread brochures, programs, newsletters, web pages, presentations and manuscripts.

Computer Operations and Programming I

Credit: 1.0 (elective)

Grade Level: 11-12

Computer Operations and Programming I is the first of two skill-level courses designed to develop computer programming and program design skills through the use of various programming languages such as Visual Basic, C#, Java, and other object-oriented languages. Students will be exposed to the fundamentals of system analysis and design (e.g. flowcharting, diagramming, system design and planning), and the systems development life cycle. Instruction will include basic programming tools that are common to many programming languages. These may include items such as input/output statements, constants, assignment statements, string and numeric variable types, conditional processing, and branching and looping control structures. Students will learn programming techniques such as counting, averaging, rounding, and generation of random numbers to develop a good programming technique. Students will apply what they learn to create programs and applications that solve real world business related problems. Students will create programs to store, locate and retrieve data.

Commercial Graphic Design

Credit: 0.5 (elective)

Grade Level: 10-12

Commercial Graphic Design courses teach students to use artistic techniques to effectively communicate ideas and information to business and customer audiences via

illustration and other forms of digital or printed media. Topics covered may include concept design, layout, paste-up and techniques such as engraving, etching, silkscreen, lithography, offset, drawing and cartooning, painting, collage and computer graphics.

Public Speaking

Credit: 1.0 (elective)

Grade Level: 10-12

Public Speaking courses enable students, through practice, to develop communication skills that can be used in a variety of speaking situations (such as small and large group discussions, delivery of lectures or speeches in front of audiences, and so on). Course topics may include (but are not limited to) research and organization, writing for verbal delivery, stylistic choices, visual and presentation skills, analysis and critique, and development of self-confidence.

Human Relations

Credit: 1.0 (elective)

Grade Level: 11-12

This course addresses the behaviors of the workplace. The topics of getting along with bosses, coworkers, and clients/customers are discussed as well as situations encountered throughout the workplace. A focus on workplace readiness skills and maintaining relationships within the business to continue the success of the business.

COLLEGE CALCULUS I (Dual Credit Course)

Credit: 0.5 (elective)

Grade Level: 11-12

A first course in calculus and analytic geometry. This course includes limit techniques of differentiation, applications of the derivative, curve sketching, an introduction to techniques of integration and applications of the definite integral.

CALCULUS II (Dual Credit Course)

Credit: 0.5 (elective)

Grade Level: 11-12

As a second course in calculus and analytic geometry, this course includes applications of the definite integral, integration techniques, sequences and infinite series, polar coordinates and conic sections. Topics include, but are not limited to, area, volume, other applications of the integral; integration by parts, trigonometric substitution, and partial fractions; indeterminate forms and L'Hopital's rule; improper integrals; sequences and series, convergence tests, Taylor series; parametric equations; and polar coordinates and equations.

High School Transitional Math 4 – Quantitative Literacy and Statistics

Credit: 1.0 (elective)

Grade Level: 11-12

Math course framework designed to prepare and transition students directly into college

and career pathways requiring general education college level math competencies in quantitative literacy and statistics. The competencies within each domain should include, but are not limited to: numeracy (operation sense, estimation, measurement, quantitative reasoning, basic statistics, and mathematical summaries), application based algebraic topics, and functions and modeling. Upon completion students should be able to: demonstrate proficiency and understanding in basic numeracy competencies in whole numbers, integers, fractions, and decimals, use estimation and explain/justify estimates, apply quantitative reasoning to solve problems involving quantities or rates, use mathematical summaries of data such as mean, median, and mode, use and apply algebraic reasoning as one of multiple problem-solving tools, and use functions and modeling processes. Course to be delivered through authentic application, problem based instruction designed to build mathematical conceptual understanding and critical thinking skills.

Botany

Credit: 1.0 (core class)

Grade Level: 11-12

Botany courses provide students with an understanding of plants, their life cycles, and their evolutionary relationships.

Clothing/Sewing (A/B)

Credit: 1.0 (elective)

Grade Level: 9-12

Clothing/Sewing courses introduce students to and expand their knowledge of various aspects of wearing apparel, sewing, and fashion. These courses typically include wardrobe planning; selection, care, and repair of various materials; and construction of one or more garments. They may also include related topics, such as fashion design and history, the social and psychological aspects of clothing, careers in the clothing industry, and craft sewing.