

High School Department

COURSE REQUIREMENTS FOR GRADUATION

4 years of English

4 years of Mathematics (must complete and pass Algebra I and Geometry)

3 years of Science (one must be Biology with a lab)

3 years of Social Sciences

2 years of Foreign Language (University only)

1 year of Fine/Performing Arts or Technology

1 year of Physical Education (may select H.O.P.E course)

8-10 electives (students are encouraged to take one course online)

Honors courses may be made available per teacher recommendation. Honors courses are higher-level classes that proceed at a faster pace and cover more material than regular classes. Honors classes are usually reserved for talented high school students who excel in certain subjects.

High school credits are earned based on semester grades and the high school cumulative grade point average (GPA) is determined by semester grades. These grades are officially entered on the student's transcript. An interim progress report shall be sent to parents at the quarter mark between each semester if notification of missing assignments and/or grades lower than a C need to be reported. Parents and students can also obtain weekly updates of grades and assignments by accessing the online portal on Gradelink.

Grading Scale

A –90-100

B –80-89

C –70-79

D –60-69

F – Below 60

DIPLOMAS AND CERTIFICATES

Standard Diploma

This document is awarded to students certifying that they have satisfied attendance requirements, verified course requirements, and any assessment requirements referenced in the course as required by the Florida Department of Education.

General Studies Diploma

This document is awarded to students who have completed appropriate courses selected to prepare them for a career in a chosen field and courses that have been modified in content to meet the student's specific learning needs.

High School Curriculum Guide

ENGLISH/LANGUAGE ARTS COURSES

English I-IV

In grades 9-12, students will be exposed to texts of graduating levels of high complexity, integrated language arts study in reading, essay writing, speaking, listening, and critical thinking for college and career preparation and readiness.

Language Arts 9-12

The purpose of this course is to provide instruction in the knowledge and skills of English to enable the student to prepare to participate effectively in post-secondary life and a career. A progressive trajectory of skill development will enhance the student's reading, expression, comprehension, and vocabulary through the high school years.

Intensive Reading

The purpose of this course is to support students who require explicit instruction in the five essential components of reading: decoding, advanced spelling patterns, vocabulary, fluency, and

comprehension. This class will focus on strategies to improve automaticity in reading while teaching phonemic and morphologic awareness skills. Evidence-based approaches to literacy instruction are implemented including Orton-Gillingham, Wilson Reading, and LindaMood Bell. (workbook fee applies)

MATHEMATICS COURSES

Foundations in Algebra A	This course is designed to prepare students who have not mastered the algebra readiness topics. It is the first in a two-course progression designed to prepare students for success in advanced mathematics courses by providing a foundation in algebra and probability. This course will build on the conceptual knowledge and skills students mastered in their middle level mathematics courses in the areas of algebraic thinking, geometry, measurement, probability, data analysis, and proportional reasoning.
Foundations in Algebra B	This is the second of two courses and will follow the completion of Foundations in Algebra A and continue to analyze the student's preparedness for Algebra I. (End of course assessment will be administered)
Algebra I	This course is designed to give students a foundation for future mathematics courses. The fundamentals of algebraic problem-solving are explained. Students will explore: foundations of Algebra, solving equations, solving inequalities, an introduction to functions, linear functions, systems of equations and inequalities, exponents and exponential functions, polynomials and factoring, quadratic functions and equations, radical expressions and equations, and data analysis and probability.
Geometry	This course includes an in-depth analysis of plane, solid, and coordinate geometry as they relate to both abstract mathematical concepts as well as real-world problem situations. Topics include logic and proof, parallel lines and polygons, perimeter and area analysis, volume and surface area analysis, similarity and

congruence, trigonometry, and analytic geometry. Emphasis will be placed on developing critical thinking skills as they relate to logical reasoning and argument. A graphing calculator is required.

Algebra II

Fundamental skills of mathematics will be applied to such topics as functions, equations and inequalities, probability and statistics, logarithmic and exponential relationships, quadratic and polynomial equations, and matrices. Technology will be used to introduce and expand upon the areas of study listed above. A graphing calculator is required.

Business Math

This course is designed to help students develop mathematical skills through practical applications and activities that emphasize the application of mathematics in many types of real world endeavors. Topics may include: earnings and taxes, checking and savings accounts, loans, insurance, automobile expenses and housing expenses.

Fundamental Math A

This is one of two fundamental courses designed to formalize concepts learned in the middle grades. Students continue to master basic skills and extend knowledge to prepare for more advanced work. The course also covers fractions, operations with fractions, decimal, percent, ratio, problem solving, basic concepts in geometry, and measuring shapes. The content and pace may be individualized and modifications provided per the Individual Education Plan.

Fundamental Math B

This is the one of two courses and will complement the skills of Fundamental Math A. The content and pace may be individualized and modifications provided per the Individual Education Plan.

Consumer Math

Students will participate in math skills needed to participate as an intelligent consumer in today's society. Topics will include the mathematics of personal income, buying a car and related expenses, purchasing various types of insurance, housing, unit pricing, discounts and mark-ups, banking, budgeting, investments, taxes, travel and fitness.

Personal Finance Students will learn to apply decision-making skills to evaluate career choices and set personal goals. The course content is designed to help the learner make wise spending, saving, and credit decisions and to make effective use of income to achieve personal financial success through project-based learning.

SCIENCE COURSES

Physical Science This course is the study of matter and energy and introduces students to the branches of science including Chemistry, physics, and mathematical scientific integration. Laboratory investigations are conducted to include scientific inquiry, research, measurement, lab apparatus and safety procedures. (Lab course)

Biology Students will investigate biological systems at the molecular, cellular, and macrobiological level. Hands-on laboratory exercises incorporating cellular biology, genetics, DNA technology, evolution, and ecology will be provided to assist students in their understanding of biological themes. Projects and reading assignments may be required with each unit of instruction. (Lab course)

Environmental Science This is an introductory course for students who wish to study topics relating to the environment, its resources, quality and ethical issues. Topics will include consideration of people and how they have influenced various systems around us, human population dynamics, risks associated with human consumption and behavior, renewable and sustainable practices, and an appreciation for the Earth and its natural resources.

Animal Science This course is designed to provide an overview of the Animal Science industry. It provides information on the biological make-up of various species of agricultural livestock. It also provides students with information on animal behavior that would be beneficial before embarking on a career in Animal Science. It includes hands-on experiences with the principles and practices

essential in the management of farm animals and offers participation in personal and community leadership development activities; planning and implementing a relevant school-to-work transition experience; and participating in daily animal care.

Horticulture

This course provides instruction on the broad field of horticulture with emphasis on the scientific and technical knowledge for a career in horticulture. Topics in this course include plant growth and development, plant nutrition, soil selection, basic plant identification, pest management, chemical disposal, customer relations, career opportunities, and leadership development.

Anatomy & Physiology

This course focuses on the structure and function of the human body, as it pertains to how the body systems relate to one another in organization, adaptation, and homeostasis. This course will involve laboratory activities, projects, dissections, textbook material, models, diagrams, journal writings, and clinical studies. The material learned in this course can be applied to medical field careers, health and fitness careers, and biological research careers. (Lab course)

Health Nutrition

This course is designed to teach science skills as they apply to food preparation, food production, and human nutrition. Students will explore the science behind many food preparation principles, the food production industry, and the structure and function of all of the essential nutrients.

Health Wellness

This course provides instruction in methods to attain a healthy lifestyle. Plans to develop a lifetime fitness program include a wellness assessment and stresses strength, muscular endurance, flexibility, body composition and cardiovascular endurance. Includes fitness principles, nutrition, weight control, stress management, adherence strategies and consumer information; promotes self-awareness and goal setting.

Sociology

This course content is STEM-based and centered on the behavior of people in groups. Topics included are socialization, institutions,

social interaction, social change, collective behavior, and competition in society. Students will engage both qualitative and quantitative data collection and interpretation through project-based learning.

Consumer & Family Science This course prepares students for post -secondary education and careers. It provides opportunities to develop the knowledge, skills, attitudes, and behaviors that students need to become responsible citizens and leaders; and to manage the challenges of living and working in a diverse global society. Topics include leadership, decision making, consumer skills, interpersonal relationships, assertiveness, and independence.

SOCIAL STUDIES COURSES

US History This course is a basic survey of United States History from World War I at the beginning of the 20th century to the present. Students in this course will analyze and then draw conclusions as to why certain American historical events happened and how these events still influence our society today. A greater emphasis will be placed upon reading, writing and research skills as the course progresses.

World History This course will introduce students to the major themes throughout world history beginning with the modern times of Renaissance and Enlightenment in Europe. Students will use maps and other geographic tools to assist in the learning process to make connections with how the past directly affects their lives today.

Economics This course provides students with an understanding of economic principles, systems, and activities, in order to fully participate as a citizen in the United States. Topics include production,

consumption, and distribution in the US and a comparison with those in other countries around the world. The impact of a variety of factors including geography, the federal government, economic ideas, societal values, and technological innovations on the national economy and economic policy is an integral part of the course.

Government

Students will deal with the direct and indirect effects that government has on our everyday lives. Topics that will be covered include Roots of Democracy, The Constitution, The Bill of Rights, The Executive Branch, Legislative Branch, Juridical Branch, and State and Local Government.

World Geography

This course will study geography from the physical, political, and cultural prospective through the five basic geographical themes of location, place, human-environment interaction, movement, and region. Special emphasis will be placed on geographical skills, and geographic literacy (locating countries, capitals, & physical features of the world).

Humanities

This course helps students to gain an understanding of major historical eras of the Western world. They will also learn to interpret the arts as well as compare and contrast pieces from various eras through history, literature, fine arts, philosophy, and music from ancient times to the present with an emphasis on project-based learning.

Civics

This course provides students with a basic understanding of civic life, politics, and government, and a short history of government's foundation and development in this country. Students learn how power and responsibility are shared and limited by government. Students also examine how the world is organized politically and how civic participation in the American political system compares to that in other societies around the world today.

Psychology

This course introduces terminology, theories, and research that are critical to the understanding of psychology through tutorials and interactive exercises. Students learn how to define and use key terms of psychology, methods of study, biological basis for behavior, learning and memory, developmental stages through the lifespan, and psychological disorders.