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2020-2021

Course Description Guide

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**ENGLISH I**

Grade Level: 9 Credit: 1 unit

 Prerequisite: None

This course follows the NCSCOS for grade 9 and requires students to demonstrate proficiency for standards of reading literature, reading informational text, writing, speaking and listening and language. For students to be college and career ready, they must read from a wide range of high-quality, increasingly challenging texts, reflecting global perspectives, and comprehend texts of steadily increasing complexity. Students learn how to offer and support opinions / arguments, demonstrate understanding of topics of study and convey experiences in writing, clearly and coherently. Teachers provide students ample opportunities to communicate their thinking orally, including effective use of data and evidence. Students use effective and correct language skills in all contexts.

**ENGLISH I HONORS**

 Grade Level: 9 Credit: 1 unit

 Prerequisite: None

This course provides challenging reading, writing and speaking opportunities designed to develop the students’ abilities in language arts as preparation for education beyond high school. This course follows the NCSCOS for grade 9 and requires students to demonstrate proficiency for standards of reading literature, reading informational text, writing, speaking and listening and language. For students to be college and career ready, they must read from a wide range of high-quality, increasingly challenging texts, reflecting global perspectives, and comprehend texts of steadily increasing complexity. Students learn how to offer and support opinions / arguments, demonstrate understanding of topics of study and convey experiences in writing, clearly and coherently. Teachers provide students ample opportunities to communicate their thinking orally, including effective use of data and evidence. Students use effective and correct language skills in all contexts.

**ENGLISH II**

Grade Level: 10 Credit: 1 unit

Prerequisite: English I

This course follows the NCSCOS for grade 10 and requires students to demonstrate proficiency for standards of reading literature, reading informational text, writing, speaking and listening and language. For students to be college and career ready, they must read from a wide range of high-quality, increasingly challenging texts, reflecting global perspectives, and comprehend texts of steadily increasing complexity. Students learn how to offer and support opinions / arguments, demonstrate understanding of topics of study and convey experiences in writing, clearly and coherently. Teachers provide students ample opportunities to communicate their thinking orally, including effective use of data and evidence. Students use effective and correct language skills in all contexts.

**ENGLISH II HONORS**

 Grade Level: 10 Credit: 1 unit

 Prerequisite: English I

This course provides challenging writing and speaking opportunities designed to develop the students’ abilities in language arts as preparation for education beyond high school. This course follows the NCSCOS for grade 10 and requires students to demonstrate proficiency for standards of reading literature, reading informational text, writing, speaking and listening and language. For students to be college and career ready, they must read from a wide range of high quality, increasingly challenging texts, reflecting global perspectives, and comprehend texts of steadily increasing complexity. Students learn how to offer and support opinions / arguments, demonstrate understanding of topics of study and convey experiences in writing, clearly and coherently. Teachers provide students ample opportunities to communicate their thinking orally, including effective use of data and evidence. Students use effective and correct language skills in all contexts.

**ENGLISH III**

 Grade Level: 11 Credit: 1 unit

 Prerequisite: English II

This course follows the NCSCOS for grade 11 and requires students to demonstrate proficiency for standards of reading literature, reading informational text, writing, speaking and listening and language. For students to be college and career ready, they must read from a wide range of high-quality, increasingly challenging texts and comprehend texts of steadily increasing complexity. Students learn how to offer and support opinions / arguments, demonstrate understanding of topics of study and convey experiences in writing, clearly and coherently. Teachers provide students ample opportunities to communicate their thinking orally, including effective use of data and evidence. Students use effective and correct language skills in all contexts.

**ENGLISH III HONORS**

 Grade Level: 11 Credit: 1 unit

 Prerequisite: English II

This course provides challenging reading, writing and speaking opportunities designed to develop the students’ abilities in language arts as preparation for education beyond high school. This course follows the NCSCOS for grade 11 and requires students to demonstrate proficiency for standards of reading literature, reading informational text, writing, speaking and listening and language. For students to be college and career ready, they must read from a wide range of high-quality, increasingly challenging texts and comprehend texts of steadily increasing complexity. Students learn how to offer and support opinions / arguments, demonstrate understanding of topics of study and convey experiences in writing, clearly and coherently. Teachers provide students ample

 **(English III Honors continued)**

opportunities to communicate their thinking orally, including effective use of data and evidence. Students use effective and correct language skills in all contexts.

**ENGLISH IV**

Grade Level: 12 Credit: 1 unit

 Prerequisite: English III

This course follows the NCSCOS for grade 12 and requires students to demonstrate proficiency for standards of reading literature, reading informational text, writing, speaking and listening and language. For students to be college and career ready, they must read from a wide range of high-quality, increasingly challenging texts and comprehend texts of steadily increasing complexity. Students learn how to offer and support opinions / arguments, demonstrate understanding of topics of study and convey experiences in writing, clearly and coherently. Teachers provide students ample opportunities to communicate their thinking orally, including effective use of data and evidence. Students use effective and correct language skills in all contexts. This course provides application of all communication skills and completes the global perspective initiated in English I.

**ENGLISH IV HONORS**

 Grade Level: 12 Credit: 1 unit

 Prerequisite: English III

 This course provides challenging reading, writing and speaking opportunities designed to develop students’ abilities in language arts as preparation for education beyond high school. This course follows the NCSCOS for grade 12 and requires students to demonstrate proficiency for standards of reading literature, reading informational text, writing, speaking and listening and language. For students to be college and career ready, they must read from a wide range of high quality, increasingly challenging texts and comprehend texts of steadily increasing complexity. Students learn how to offer and support opinions / arguments, demonstrate understanding of topics of study and convey experiences in writing, clearly and coherently. Teachers provide students ample opportunities to communicate their thinking orally, including effective use of data and evidence. Students use effective and correct language skills in all contexts. This course provides in-depth application of all communication skills and completes the global perspective initiated in English I

**World Languages**

**SPANISH I**

 Grade Level: 10, 11,12 Credit: 1 unit

 Prerequisite: None

This course is intended for the beginning Spanish language student. Spanish I is designed to give students a balanced exposure to all four language skills. The course objectives emphasize accurate pronunciation, structure knowledge with primary focus on the present tense and language acquisition of basic vocabulary. The course provides students with opportunities to: respond to and give oral directions and commands and to make routine requests in the classroom and in public places; understand and use appropriate forms of address in courtesy expressions and be able to tell about daily routines and events; ask and answer simple questions and participate in brief guided conversations related to their needs and interests. Students will begin to speak and write in the target language. Cultural similarities as well as differences between Spanish-speaking countries and the United States are studied.

**SPANISH II**

 Grade Level: 10, 11,12 Credit: 1 unit

 Prerequisite: Spanish I

Spanish II is a continuation of Spanish I with substantial amount of new grammatical structures. The course increases emphasis on listening, with different aspects of the culture, including the visual arts, architecture, reading and writing. Students will begin to understand spoken Spanish and converse on a more sophisticated level. The students will become familiar, literature and music. Culture and history of Hispanic countries are also studied. The course enables students to participate in classroom and extracurricular activities related to the language studied as well as to participate in conversations dealing with daily activities and personal interests.

 **Mathematics**

**FOUNDATIONS OF NC MATH 1**

 Grade Level: 9 Credit: 1 unit

 Prerequisite: None

Foundations of NC Math 1 is a continuation of the mathematical skills and concepts studied in middle school. This course is intended for students who need a stronger, lower mathematical foundation before enrolling in NC

Math 1. There will be an emphasis on developing concepts in algebra, functions and numbers and operations.

**NC MATH 1**

Grade Level: 9 Credit: 1 unit

Prerequisite: None

NC Math 1 provides students the opportunity to study concepts of algebra, geometry, functions, number and operations, statistics and modeling throughout the course. The focus in NC Math 1 is on linear, exponential and quadratic functions. These concepts include expressions in the real number system, creating and reasoning with equations and inequalities, interpreting and building simple functions, expressing geometric properties, interpreting categorical and quantitative data.

**NC MATH 2**

 Grade Level: 9, 10 Credit: 1 unit

 Prerequisite: NC Math 1

NC Math 2 continues a progression of the standards established in NC Math 1. In addition, there is a focus on quadratic, square root, and inverse variation functions. NC Math 2 includes; congruence and similarity of figures, right triangle trigonometry, modeling with geometry, probability, and justifying conclusions.

**NC MATH 2 HONORS**

 Grade Level: 9, 10 Credit: 1 unit

 Prerequisite: NC Math 1

 NC Math 2 Honors addresses the topics of NC Math 2 at a more comprehensive and rigorous level. Additional topics and requirements with real-world applications are included.

 **NC MATH 3**

Grade Level: 10, 11 Credit: 1 unit

 Prerequisite: NC Math 2

NC Math 3 progresses from the standards learned in NC Math 1 and NC Math 2. In addition to these standards, NC Math 3 focuses on Exponential, Logarithmic, Rational, Polynomial, Absolute Value, and Trigonometric Functions. This extends to include algebraic concepts such as the complex number system, trigonometric functions and the unit circle. NC Math 3 also includes the geometric concepts of radians, angles, segments, and random sampling.

**NC MATH 3 HONORS**

 Grade Level: 10, 11 Credit: 1 unit

 Prerequisite: NC Math 2

NC Math 3 Honors addresses the topics of NC Math 3 at a more comprehensive and rigorous level. Additional topics and requirements with real-world applications are included.

**Advanced Functions and Modeling**

Grade Level: 11, 12 Credit: 1 unit

 Prerequisite: NC Math 3

 AFM focuses on functions and statistical thinking, continuing the study of algebra, functions, trigonometry and statistical concepts previously experienced in NC Math 1-3. The course is designed to be a capstone to introductory statistical concepts. Additionally, the course intentionally integrates concepts from algebra and functions to demonstrate the close relationship between algebraic reasoning as applied to the characteristics and behaviors of more complex functions. In many cases, undergraduate students majoring in nonSTEM fields will take an entry-level Algebra or Introductory Statistics course. Students will be prepared for college level algebra and statistics or as a bridge to prepare students for Precalculus or other advanced math courses

**PRE-CALCULUS HONORS**

 Grade Level: 12 Credit: 1 unit

Prerequisite: NC Math 3

 Precalculus will build upon the study of algebra, functions, and trigonometry experienced in previous high school mathematics courses. This course will build on students’ algebraic skills and understanding of functions to delve into real world phenomena and to deepen understanding of the functions in the course. This course is designed for students pursuing careers in STEM-related fields. Students will be prepared for Calculus, AP Calculus and any entry level college course.

**SCIENCE**

**EARTH/ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE**

Grade Level: 9 Credit: 1 unit

Prerequisite: None

 The Earth/Environmental Science curriculum focuses on the functions of Earth’s systems. Emphasis is placed on matter, energy, plate tectonics, origin and evolution of the earth, solar system, and universe, environmental awareness, weather and climate, human population dynamics and sustainable living, and the cycles that circulate matter and energy through the earth system.**EARTH/ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE HONORS**

 Grade Level: 9 Credit: 1 unit

 Prerequisite: None

Honors Earth/Environmental Science is designed to allow highly motivated students to conduct an in-depth study of the Earth and Environmental Sciences. Students are expected to work independently on a variety of assignments and accept greater responsibility for their learning. In order to develop a greater understanding of the processes that shape our everyday lives, the curriculum will integrate inquiry investigations and a variety of technologies with the study of earth as a system

**BIOLOGY**

 Grade Level: 10 Credit: 1 unit

 Prerequisite: None

Through laboratory and literary investigations, the Biology course provides in-depth study of the following concepts: the cell, the molecular basis of heredity, biological evolution theory, the interdependence of organisms, matter, energy and organization in living systems, and the adaptive responses of organisms.

**BIOLOGY HONORS**

Grade Level: 10 Credit: 1 unit

 Prerequisite: None

Honors Biology is designed to give the student a more challenging and in-depth experience. Students are expected to work independently on a variety of assignments and accept greater responsibility for their learning. In addition to the North Carolina Standard Course of Study for Biology standards and objectives, students are expected to: design and carry out several independent investigations of biological questions, read and report on recent research in biology and demonstrate a more in-depth understanding of all biology objectives.

**PHYSICAL SCIENCE**

 Grade Level: 11 Credit: 1 unit

 Prerequisite: Math I

The Physical Science course will provide a foundation for the continued study of science. The curriculum will integrate the following topics in chemistry and physics: structure of atoms, structure and properties of matter, motion and forces, conservation of energy, matter and charge.

 **CHEMISTRY**

Grade Level: 11,12 Credit: 1 unit

 Co-requisite: NC Math 3

The Chemistry course encourages students to continue their investigation of the structure of matter along with chemical reactions and the conservation of energy in these reactions. Inquiry is applied to the study of the transformation, composition, structure, and properties of substances.

**CHEMISTRY I HONORS**

Grade Level: 11,12 Credit: 1 unit

 Co-requisite: NC Math 3 Chemistry Honors is an accelerated comprehensive laboratory course designed to give the students a more conceptual and in-depth understanding of concepts in the North Carolina Standard Course of Study in Chemistry. Students are expected to work independently on a variety of assignments and accept greater responsibility for their learning. The course will include additional Honors objectives and an in-depth study of at least two enrichment topics. Students will design and complete at least one in-depth independent study of chemistry directed questions

**ANATOMY & PHYSIOLOGY**

 Grade Level: 11,12 Credit: 1 unit

 Prerequisite: Biology I; Chemistry I

Anatomy & Physiology is designed for students interested in pursuing a career in the health services. Emphasis will be placed on study of the function and structure of the human body. Laboratory investigations will be used to study important concepts.

**Social Studies**

**WORLD HISTORY**

Grade: 9 Credit: 1 unit

 Prerequisite: None

 World History at the ninth grade level is a survey course that gives students the opportunity to explore recurring themes of human experience common to civilizations around the globe from ancient to contemporary times. An historical approach will be at the center of the course. The application of the themes of geography and an analysis of the cultural traits of civilizations will help students understand how people shape their world and how their world shapes them. Students broaden their historical perspectives as they explore ways societies have dealt with continuity and change, exemplified by issues such as war and peace, internal stability and strife, and the development of institutions. This course or its equivalent is a graduation requirement.

 **WORLD HISTORY HONORS**

Grade: 9 Credit: 1 unit

 Prerequisite: None

World History Honors provides challenging opportunities for students to explore the origins of world civilizations and to examine the impact of non-western cultures on the global society. The effects of events on individuals, social, political interaction, and technological development are stressed throughout the course. Specialized projects provide the student with a more extensive examination of the events which have influenced the development of the world. This course or its equivalent is a graduation requirement

**AMERICAN HISTORY: THE FOUNDING PRINCIPLES, CIVICS, AND ECONOMICS**

 Prerequisite: None Credit: 1 unit

Through the study of the Founding Principles, students will acquire the skills and knowledge necessary to become responsible and effective citizens in an interdependent world. This is a survey course that gives students the needed practical understanding of civic participation and government as well as a study of the basic economics that affect their lives as consumers and citizens. All students who entered high school prior to the 2020-2021 academic year are required to take American History: The Founding Principles, Civics, and Economics or American History: The Founding Principles, Civics, and Economics Honors for graduation.

**AMERICAN HISTORY: THE FOUNDING PRINCIPLES, CIVICS, AND ECONOMICS HONORS**

Grade: 10 Credit: 1 unit

 Prerequisite: None

Honors Founding Principles provides a more rigorous examination of American government and economic systems. Instructional pacing accelerated beyond the standard Civics and Economics course. The course builds and extends on the government and economic topics and concepts taught in the standard Civics and Economics course. Students will be expected to read and/or interact with a wide spectrum of more challenging, relevant instructional material. All students who entered high school prior to the 2020-2021 academic year are required to take American History: The Founding Principles, Civics, and Economics or American History: The Founding Principles, Civics, and Economics Honors for graduation.

**AMERICAN HISTORY I**

Grade: 11 Credit: 1 unit

 Prerequisite: None

This course explores early American History, beginning with the European exploration of the new world through Reconstruction. Students will examine the historical and intellectual origins of the United States from European exploration and colonial settlement to the Revolutionary and Constitutional eras. Students will learn about the important political and economic factors that contributed to the development of colonial America and the outbreak of the American Revolution as well as the consequences of the Revolution, including the writing and key ideas of the U.S. Constitution. Students will study the establishment of political parties, America’s westward expansion, the growth of sectional conflict, how that sectional conflict led to the Civil War, and the consequences of the Civil War, including Reconstruction. American History I expands upon earlier studies of American history by developing higher level thinking skills and encouraging students to make historical assessments and evaluations. American History I and II is a graduation requirement for students who entered high school prior to the 2020-2021 academic year.

**AMERICAN HISTORY I HONORS**

Grade: 11 Credit: 1 unit

Prerequisite: None

Honors American History I provides students with opportunities to gain a deeper understanding of historical events which shaped the United States from European Exploration to the early nineteenth century. Instructional pacing is accelerated beyond the standard American History I course. The course builds on the historical and intellectual origins of the United States. Students are expected to read and /or interact with a wide spectrum of more challenging, relevant instructional material. Students entering 9th grade in 2012- 2013 and beyond are required to take American History I and II or American History I Honors and II Honors. This is a graduation requirement for students who entered high school prior to the 2020- 2021 academic year.

**AMERICAN HISTORY II**

Grade: 11 Credit: 1 unit

 Prerequisite: American History I

This course guides students from the late nineteenth century through the early 21st century. Students examine the political, economic, social and cultural development of the United States from the end of the Reconstruction era to present times. The essential standards of American History II trace the change in the ethnic composition of

American society; the movement toward equal rights for racial minorities and women; and the role of the United States as a major world power. An emphasis is placed on the expanding role of the federal government and federal courts as well as the continuing tension between the individual and the state. The desired outcome of this course is for students to develop an understanding of the cause-and-effect relationship between past and present events, recognize patterns of interactions, and understand the impact of events on the United States in an interconnected world. Students entering 9th grade in 2012-2013 and beyond are required to take American History I and II or American History I Honors and II Honors. This is a graduation requirement for students who entered high school prior to the 2020-2021 academic year.

**AMERICAN HISTORY II HONORS**

Grade: 11 Credit: 1 unit

 Prerequisite: American History I

 American History II provides students with opportunities to gain a deeper understanding of historical events which shaped the United States from late nineteenth century to early 21st century. Instructional pacing is accelerated beyond the standard American History I course. The course builds and extends on understanding the role the federal government has had on the development of the United States. Students are expected to read and/or interact to a wide spectrum of more challenging, relevant instructional material.

 Students entering 9th grade in 2012-2013 and beyond are required to take American History I and II or American History I Honors and II Honors. This is a graduation requirement for students who entered high school prior to the 2020-2021 academic year

**FOUNDING PRINCIPLES OF THE UNITED STATES AND NORTH CAROLINA: CIVIC LITERACY**

Grade: 11 Credit: 1 unit

Prerequisite: None

Civic Literacy is the study and understanding of citizenship and government. Through the Inquiry-based C3 Framework, this one semester course provides students with a sound understanding of civic life, politics, and government, including a short history of government’s foundation and development in the United States of America. Students learn how power and responsibility are shared and limited by the government, the impact American politics has on world affairs, law in the American constitutional system, and the rights that the American government guarantees its citizens. Students also examine how the world is organized politically and how to be an active participant in the American and global political systems. Students will study the foundations of American democracy and the origins of American government. The roles of political parties, campaigns & elections, public opinion, and the media will be analyzed to determine their effects on the individual and all who call the United States home**. This course is a graduation requirement for students who begin their freshman year in the 2020-2021 academic year or beyond**.

 **ECONOMICS AND PERSONAL FINANCE**

 Grade: 12 Credit: 1 unit

Prerequisite: None

 Economics and Personal Finance provides students with the agency, tools, and knowledge necessary to live in and contribute to a financially sound society. The course was developed in accordance with Session Law 2019-82 to “provide instruction on economic principles and … provide personal financial literacy instruction.” Ultimately, students taking this course will understand economic decisions, use money wisely, understand education and career choices, and understand how to be financially responsible citizens. Students will be introduced to key concepts from both micro and macroeconomics, as well as financial literacy concepts such as the cost of credit, planning and budgeting for large purchases, home mortgages, and college expenses, and other relevant financial literacy issues. **This course is a graduation requirement for students who begin their freshman year in the 2020-2021 academic year or beyond.**

**AMERICAN HISTORY**

Prerequisite: None Credit: 1 unit

Providing a foundation to understand our nation’s past and present, the American History course begins with the end of the French and Indian War in 1763 and continues through the most recent presidential election. This course will explore the overarching themes, trends, and concepts of our nation’s history, including the development and evolution of the American system of government, the patterns and impact of migration and immigration, cultural development through the arts and technological innovations, relationships with foreign nations, and the role of both the individual and diverse groups in building the American story. Rooted in Inquiry based skills, students will trace American development while learning to craft compelling questions, synthesize and evaluate evidence, develop claims, communicate ideas, and take informed action. As well-rounded, productive citizens, the students will leave the American History course with both the knowledge and the skills to engage with the modern world by recognizing contemporary patterns and connections. **This course replaces American History I & II for students who begin their freshman year in the 2020-2021 academic year or beyond.**

**Arts Education**

**Music Specialization**

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11,12 Credit: 1 unit

Prerequisite: None Students develop knowledge and skills in musical literacy, response and relevancy. Course content is aligned to the Essential Standards curriculum for music at the beginning level. Students gain musical literacy through singing and playing simple instruments, reading and notating music, improvising, composing, and arranging music. For musical response, students focus on listening to, describing, analyzing, critiquing, and evaluating music. Students understand musical relevancy by applying musical knowledge in relation to history, culture, heritage, other content areas, concepts, 21st century skills and lifelong learning.

**VOCAL MUSIC I**

 Grade Level: 9, 10, 11,12 Credit: 1 unit

Prerequisite: None

Vocal Music-Beginning is an introductory choral music course for students interested in singing and musical performance but have limited choral music experience. Students develop and demonstrate appropriate vocal practices, refine the use of the voice as an instrument.

Course components include the fundamentals of music sight-singing, vocal techniques, ensemble and performance techniques as well as improvising, composing and arranging music and listening to, analyzing, and evaluating musical experiences. Course content is aligned to the Essential Standards curriculum for music at the beginning level. Activities may include required evening and weekend rehearsals and performances. All concert rules apply

**VOCAL MUSIC II**

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11,12 Credit: 1 unit

 Prerequisite: Vocal I

 Vocal Music- Music of various styles, cultures, and historical periods are included in the repertoire of choral literature studied and performed. Course content is aligned to the Essential Standards curriculum for music at the intermediate level. Performance is an important component of this course and may include required evening and weekend concerts. All concert rules apply

**BAND I**

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11,12 Credit: 1 unit

 Prerequisite: None

 Band I is an introductory level band class for students with limited or no instrumental experience. Students develop and demonstrate fundamental instrumental practices and play literature that may include changes in tempi, keys, and meters. Students develop basic skills in improvising, composing and arranging music and apply reading, music notation as well as skills in listening to, analyzing, and evaluating musical experiences. Music of varied styles, cultures, and historical periods is studied and played. All scheduled activities are required and may include evening and weekend concerts, assemblies, parades, festivals/concert contests, school-sponsored events, and community activities. Band students are expected to be members of the marching band. The principal or band director may permit exceptions.

**Band 2**

 Grade Level: 9, 10, 11,12 Credit: 1 unit

 Prerequisite: Successful participation in a middle school band program, Band 1

Band-Intermediates a performance oriented class with emphasis on music literature. Students develop and demonstrate appropriate instrumental practices and play literature that may include changes in tempi, keys, and meters. Students develop skills in improvising, composing and arranging music and apply reading,

music notation as well as skills in listening to, analyzing, and evaluating musical experiences. Music of varied styles, cultures, and historical periods is studied and played. This course is aligned to the Essential Standards music curriculum at the intermediate level. All scheduled activities are required and may include evening and weekend concerts, assemblies, parades, festivals/concert contests, school-sponsored events, and community activities. Band students are expected to be members of the marching band. The principal or band director may permit exceptions.

 **BAND 3**

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11,12 Credit: 1 unit

 Prerequisite: Band I and II

Band 3 -Proficient is an honors level performance-oriented course that develops technical accuracy and expression needed for rigorous ensemble and solo performance. This course is aligned to the Essential Standards music curriculum at the proficient level. Band 3 focuses on music literature at levels IV-V that requires well developed technical skills, attention to phrasing and interpretation, and the ability to perform various meters and rhythms in a variety of keys. This course provides a foundation for proficiencies in performance, conducting, listening, appreciation, history, analyzing, composing, the use of current technology, and research culminating in written reports. Students broaden and refine their skills in improvising, composing and arranging music and their knowledge of music in the context of historical periods, cultures, and contemporary styles and genres. Students formulate and apply aesthetic criteria to analyze, evaluate, and describe musical compositions and performances.

All scheduled activities are required and may include evening and weekend concerts, assemblies, parades, festivals/concert contests, school-sponsored events, and community activities. Band members are expected to be members of the marching band. The principal or band director may make exceptions

**BAND 4-ADVANCED**

 Grade Level: 9, 10, 11,12 Credit: 1 unit

 Prerequisite: Successful completion Band I, II, III

Band 4 -Advanced is an advanced honors level performing ensemble for highly skilled and motivated high school band students. This course is aligned to the Essential Standards music curriculum at the advanced level. Students gain advanced proficiencies in performance, conducting, listening, appreciation, history, analyzing, composing, the use of current technology, and research. This course promotes advanced technical and interpretive skills, the ability to perform in various meters, keys, unusual meters, complex rhythms, and subtle dynamic requirements. All scheduled activities are required and may include evening and weekend concerts, assemblies, parades, festivals/concert contests, school-sponsored events, and community activities. Band students are expected to be members of the marching band. The principal or band director may make exceptions.

**VISUAL ARTS I –BEGINNING**

 Grade Level: 9, 10, 11,12 Credit: 1 unit

 Prerequisite: None

 Visual Arts-Beginning is an introductory studio art course for students with limited art experiences. This course is aligned to the Essential Standards visual arts curriculum at the beginning level and features the foundational study of the elements of art and principles of design, color theory, art vocabulary, use and care of art tools and equipment, art criticism, art history and safety in the art room. Visual Arts I explores various art media, processes, procedures, aesthetic theories and historical developments.

**VISUAL ARTS 2**

 Grade Level: 9, 10, 11,12 Credit: 1 unit

 Prerequisite: Art I

Art 2 Arts is aligned to the Essential Standards visual arts curriculum at the intermediate level. Various art processes, techniques, procedures, and theories are presented in a problem-solving context allowing for independent choices and personal solutions. Students use a larger variety of tools, media, and processes and learn to select the most appropriate for finding innovative artistic solutions. Students begin developing their personal artistic style while adhering to basic design principles. Students use art vocabulary to analyze and evaluate the composition of works of art. Students gain knowledge and understanding of past and present art forms, through the study of a variety of artists, artworks, cultures and historical periods.

**VISUAL ARTS 3**

 Grade Level: 10, 11,12 Credit: 1 unit

 Prerequisite: Visual Art I and II

Arts 3 - Proficient is an honors level studio course that provides a more in-depth approach to the study of art processes and techniques, aesthetic issues, art criticism, art appreciation and art history. Students create art by analyzing the relationship between media, processes, and results. Students use art vocabulary to analyze and evaluate compositions, understand the relationship between personal expression and design and recognize historical and contemporary art styles, themes and genres. Students form artistic goals, develop appropriate work habits, and consider art careers. Knowledge of the arts in relation to culture, history, other disciplines, and careers is promoted through visual, verbal, and written means. Art history, criticism, and aesthetics are studied in conjunction with selected artworks leading to the development of a personal philosophy of art.

**VISUAL ARTS 4 -ADVANCED**

Grade Level: 11,12 Credit: 1 unit

Prerequisite: Art I, II, III

Visual Arts 4 -Advanced is an advanced level honors course promoting an in-depth knowledge of art processes, media, styles, history and aesthetics. Student efforts are based on further developing personal expression and styles, applied design, analysis of compositional components and contemporary themes. Students use specialized art tools, processes and media appropriately, safely and effectively. Assignments may focus on artistic analysis and critique through reading and writing assignments, independent research, and art appreciation activities. Students create and maintain portfolios to document personal choices and growth as artists for evaluation. Students take part in planning and installing an exhibition of their work.

**Drama**

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11,12 Credit: 1 unit

 Prerequisite: None

Drama/Theatre Arts-Beginning is an introductory level course for students with little to no theatre arts experiences. This course is aligned to the Essential Standards theatre arts curriculum at the beginning level. This course focuses on essential theatre arts vocabulary and creative processes, writing simple plays and scenes, reading and researching theatre literature, acting and basic technical theatre. The fundamentals of speaking, acting, improvisation, stage movement, directing, technical theatre, make-up, scenery, lighting, and costumes are covered with a highlight on practical application through the presentation of informal productions such as scenes and simple plays. Students develop an understanding of theatre literature reflecting on aspects of the theatre through history and different cultures. Activities and performances may include required daytime, evening and weekend participation.

**Career and Technical Education**

**AGRISCIENCE APPLICATIONS**

Grade: 9,10,11,12 Credit: 1 unit

 Prerequisite: None

This course focuses on integrating biological/physical sciences with technology as related to the environment, natural resources, food production, science, and agribusiness. Topics of instruction include agricultural awareness and literacy, employability skills and introduction to all aspects of the total agricultural industry. English language arts, mathematics, and science are reinforced. Workbased learning strategies appropriate for this course are apprenticeship, cooperative education, mentorship, school-based enterprise, service learning, job shadowing, and supervised agricultural experience. FFA competitive events, community service, and leadership activities provide the opportunity to apply essential standards and workplace readiness skills through authentic experiences.

**HORTICULTURE I**

Grade: 10, 11, 12 Credit: 1 unit

 Prerequisite: Agriscience Applications

 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, media selection, basic plant identification, pest management, chemical disposal, customer relations, and career opportunities. English language arts, mathematics, and science are reinforced. Work-based learning strategies appropriate for this course are apprenticeship, cooperative education, internship, mentorship, school-based enterprise, job shadowing, and supervised agricultural experience. FFA competitive events, community service, and leadership activities provide the opportunity to apply essential standards and workplace readiness skills through authentic experiences.

**HORTICULTURE II**

Grades: 11, 12 Credit: 1 unit

Prerequisite: Agriscience Applications and Horticulture I This course covers instruction that expands scientific knowledge and skills to include more advanced scientific

computations and communication skills needed in the horticulture industry. Topics include greenhouse plant production and management, bedding plant production, watering systems, light effects, basic landscape design, installation and maintenance, lawn and turf grass management, and personal development English language arts, mathematics, and science are reinforced. Work-based learning strategies appropriate for this course are apprenticeship, cooperative education, entrepreneurship, internship, mentorship, school-based enterprise, service learning, job shadowing, and supervised agricultural experience. FFA competitive events, community service, and leadership activities provide the opportunity to apply essential standards and workplace readiness skills through authentic experiences.

**BUSINESS LAW**

Grades: 11, 12 Credit: 1 unit

 Prerequisite: Principles of Business

 This course is designed to acquaint students with the basic legal principles common to all aspects of business and personal law. Business topics include contract law, business ownership including intellectual property, financial law, and national and international laws. Personal topics include marriage and divorce law, purchasing appropriate insurance, renting and owning real estate, employment law, and consumer protection laws. Social studies and English language arts are reinforced. Work-based learning strategies appropriate for this course include apprenticeship, internship, and job shadowing. Future Business Leaders of America, (FBLA) competitive events, community service, and leadership activities provide the opportunity to apply essential standards and workplace readiness skills through authentic experiences.

**PRINCIPLES OF BUSINESS AND FINANCE**

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12 Credit: 1 unit

 Prerequisite: None

This course introduces students to topics related to business, finance, management, and marketing to cover business in the global economy, functions of business organization and management, marketing basics, and significance of business financial and risk management. English language arts, social studies, and mathematics are reinforced. Work-based learning strategies appropriate for this course include mentorship, school-based enterprise, service learning, and job shadowing.

**CAREER MANAGEMENT**

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12 Credit: 1 unit

Prerequisite: None

This course prepares students to locate, secure, keep, and change careers. Emphasis is placed on self-assessment of characteristics, interests, and values; education and career exploration; evaluation of career information and creation of a career plan. Based on the National Career Development Guidelines, skills learned in this course include, but are not limited to communications, interpersonal skills, problem solving, personal management and teamwork. English language arts are reinforced. Work-based learning strategies appropriate for this course include business/industry field trips, internships, job shadowing, and service learning. Student participation in Career and Technical Student Organization (CTSO) competitive events, community service, and leadership activities provide the opportunity to apply essential standards and workplace readiness skills through authentic experiences.

**MICROSOFT WORD AND POWERPOINT**

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12 Credit: 1 unit

Prerequisite: None

 Students in Microsoft IT Academies benefit from world-class experience. Microsoft curriculum and software tools to tackle real-world challenges in the classroom environment. In the first part, students will learn to use the newest version of Microsoft Word interface, commands, and features to create, enhance, customize, share and create complex documents, and publish them. In the second part, students will learn to use the newest version of Microsoft PowerPoint interface, commands, and features to create, enhance, customize, and deliver presentations. English language arts are reinforced. Work-based learning strategies appropriate for this course include cooperative education, internship, service learning, and job shadowing.

Students who successfully complete the course will be prepared and eligible to take an examination to earn the Microsoft Office Certification as a Microsoft Office Specialist.

**CHILD DEVELOPMENT**

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12 Credit: 1 unit

 Prerequisite: None

 This course introduces students to responsible nurturing and basic applications of child development theory with children from infancy through age six. Areas of study include parenthood decisions, child care issues, prenatal development and care, and development and care of infants, toddlers, and children three through six. Emphasis is on responsibilities of parents, readiness for parenting, and the influence parents have on children while providing care and guidance. Art, English language arts, and science are reinforced.

**EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION I**

Grades: 11, 12 Credit: 2 units

Prerequisite: Child Development and students must be 16 by October 1st

 This two-credit course prepares students to work with children in early education and child care settings. Areas of study include personal and professional preparation, child development from birth to age l2, techniques and procedures for working with young children, and history, trends and opportunities in this field.

**EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION II – HONORS**

 Credit: 2 units

 Prerequisite: Early Childhood Education I and student must be 16 by October 1st

This two-credit course provides advanced experiences in working with children from infancy to age 12 in early education and child care settings. Areas of study include program planning and management, developmentally appropriate practice, procedures and strategies for working with special groups of children, and career development and professionalism. Students enrolled in the honors section will be required to complete one honor’s project within each unit. Each project will allow students to demonstrate a deeper analysis and an application of the concepts being taught. An internship makes up 50 percent of instructional time. Work-based learning strategies appropriate for this course include internship, mentorship, service learning, and job shadowing.

**SALES I**

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12 Credit: 1 Unit Prerequisite: None

This course will teach students the basic knowledge around the sales profession. Students will explore careers in selling, personal branding, communication skills, customer service, buying behavior, technology, types of selling, product knowledge, and the selling process. Project-based learning, English language arts, mathematics, and social studies are reinforced. DECA (an association for Marketing Education students) and Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) competitive events, community service, and leadership activities provide the opportunity to apply essential standards and workplace readiness skills through authentic experiences.

**SALES II**

Grades: 9, 10, 11.12 Credit: 1 Unit

 Prerequisite: Sales I

This course will teach students the art of selling and will build on the content from the Sales I course. Students will further develop their personal brand and will continue to work on communication and customer service skills in addition to learning about pre and postsales activities. Students will use role plays to engage in the selling process and will learn to think on their feet. Project-based learning, English language arts, mathematics, and social studies are reinforced. DECA (an association for Marketing Education students) and Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) competitive events, community service, and leadership activities provide the opportunity to apply essential standards and workplace readiness skills through authentic experiences.

HEALTH EDUCATION I/PHYSICAL EDUCATION I

Grade Level: 9 Credit: 1 unit

Prerequisite: None

 The course will enable students to gain knowledge and skills about healthful living topics important to their age levels. The following strands are the focus of instruction: health-related fitness, motor skills, movement concepts, personal and social responsibility, nutrition and physical activity, alcohol, tobacco and other drugs, mental and emotional health, interpersonal communications and relationships, personal, and consumer health.

**PHYSICAL FITNESS**

Grade Level: 10,11,12 Credit: 1 unit

 Prerequisite: Health Education/Physical Education I

This course is designed to develop attitudes and techniques, which will enable the student to take part in lifetime sports with an increased degree of knowledge, skill and satisfaction. Emphasis is placed on the development of specific skills, acquiring knowledge of activity and its history, participation, physical development, and student leadership. Students are provided with opportunities in the following areas: warm-up and conditioning activities; individual and dual activities.

**PSYCHOLOGY** (online- NCVPS)

Grade: 10, 11, 12 Credit: 1

Prerequisite: None

The elective course, Psychology, engages students in the understanding, articulation, and dissemination of psychology as a science. Students are introduced to psychology, with a focus on the scientific study of human development, learning, motivation, and personality. It emphasizes the empirical examination of behavior and mental process and it infuses perspectives fostering students' growth, development, and understanding of cultural diversity. Students of psychology acquire information from a variety of sources, use information as they make decisions and evaluations, and solve problems. The study of psychology enables students to recognize and cope with uncertainty and ambiguity in human behavior.

**Office Intern**

Grade Level: 12 Credit: 1 unit

Prerequisite: 3.0 or higher GPA

Office Intern is a class for those students interested in providing assistance to school staff members. Students may be asked to answer phone calls, run errands within the school, file miscellaneous materials, or assist in other areas pertinent to the job of the person to whom the student is providing assistance.

**SAT/ACT PREPARATION** (online – NCVPS)

 Grade Level: 10,11,12 Credit: 1 unit

 Prerequisite: NC Math II

SAT/ACT Preparation is a semester long course designed to improve student performance on the SAT or ACT exams. The course is divided into four nine week segments covering: 1) verbal skills and strategies, 2) math skills and strategies, 3) technology applications including computer research skills, and 4) general test taking skills and skills required for transition from high school to college

**JAG**

Grade level: 11, 12 Credit: 1 unit

Prerequisite: none

This course works to provide juniors and seniors with skills to make a smooth transition from high school to postsecondary education or employment. Using work based learning experiences, students will explore careers, educational institutions and themselves to develop goals and aspirations for the future.

**Occupational Couse of Study**

**PREPARATION I**

Grade: 9 Credit: 1 unit

This course is designed to introduce students to the fundamental attitudes, behaviors, and habits needed to obtain and maintain employment in their career choice and make career advancements. Students will participate in school-based learning activities including work ethic development, job-seeking skills, decision-making skills, and self-management. Students will be involved in on-campus vocational training activities such as school factories, work-based enterprises, hands-on-vocational training in Career and Technical Education courses, and the operation of small businesses. Formal career planning and development of knowledge regarding transition planning begins in this course and continues throughout the strand of Occupational Preparation courses.

**PREPARATION II**

 Credit: 2 units (Year-Long)

This course emphasizes the development of skills generic to all career majors. This course content is focused on providing students with a repertoire of basic skills that will serve as a foundation for future career application. Students will expand their school-based learning activities to include on-campus jobs and begin some workbased learning activities. Job seeking skills will also continue to be refined.

**PREPARATION III**

Credit: 2 units (Year-Long)

This course is designed to allow students to continue the development and begin the application of skills learned in Occupational Preparation I and II. Work-based learning activities are provided including community-based training, job shadowing, job sampling, internships, situational assessment, cooperative education, and apprenticeships. These work-based activities allow students to apply employability skills to competitive employment settings and demonstrate the effectiveness of their work personality.

**PREPARATION IV**

 Credit: 1 unit

This course is designed to introduce students to the fundamental attitudes, behaviors, and habits needed to obtain and maintain employment in their career choice and make career advancements. Students will participate in school-based learning activities including work ethic development, job-seeking skills, decision-making skills, and self-management. Students will be involved in on-campus vocational training activities such as school factories, work-based enterprises, hands-on-vocational training in Career and Technical Education courses, and the operation of small businesses. Formal career planning and development of knowledge regarding transition planning begins in this course and continues throughout the strand of Occupational Preparation courses.

**ENGLISH I**

 Credit: 1 unit

This course is designed to provide students with an introduction to a variety of communication modes and develop an understanding of the importance that each plays. Students apply a writing process to develop a product and develop an understanding of appropriate presentation skills. They apply reading and writing skills to comprehend various texts. There is an emphasis on the understanding of basic conventions of standard English and the recognition of appropriate examples of basic convention based on audience, purpose, and context. Students apply reading and writing skills to understand relationships in literature, societies, and cultures. They apply research tools and techniques to selected topics.

**ENGLISH II**

Credit: 1 unit

 Occupational English II focuses on the exploration and examination of a variety of communication modes and the importance each plays. Students create increasingly complex written responses for various audiences, purpose, and contexts. They apply reading and writing skills to analyze and evaluate relationships in real life situations, current events, and from global perspectives. They design and create oral, written, and visual products using 21st century technologies.

**ENGLISH III**

Credit: 1 unit

Occupational English III focuses on the exploration and examination of a variety of communication modes and the importance each plays in real life situations and employment settings. Students apply reading and comprehension strategies to informational text found in employment, post-secondary education/training, and independent living domains. They apply knowledge of cause and effect relationships to problem-solve personal life situations and critique informational products for use in employment and at home.

**ENGLISH IV**

 Credit: 1 unit

Occupational English IV continues the focus on the exploration and examination of a variety of communication modes and the importance each plays in real life situations and employment settings. Students apply information from literary and informational texts to carry out adult living tasks. They produce plans to solve problems that occur in various domains of adult life and form opinions based on the analysis of current events, written texts, and/or personal life experiences. Students complete, present, and critique their Career Portfolio.

**INTRODUCTORY MATHEMATICS**

Credit 1 unit

 Occupational Introduction to Mathematics is the study of: a) Rational Numbers: comparing, identifying, ordering, and the mathematical skills using integers, decimals, fractions, percentages, ratios, proportions and probability; b) Geometry: calculating perimeter, area, and volume of two and three dimensional figures; c) Time and Measurement; d) Algebraic Structures; e) Patterns; and f) Data analysis. Students will acquire these skills through hands-on approaches and cooperative learning within the classroom and community. Application of these skills is necessary for independent living and successful employment.

**NC MATH I**

Credit: 1 unit

 Occupational NC Math I continues from Occupational Introductory Mathematics, the study of rational numbers and the application of these skills for independent living and successful employment. More emphasis is placed on algebraic and geometric reasoning, statistics, probability, and applying formulas. Application of these math skills is rooted in the understanding of functions based on mathematical and real-world phenomena.

**FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT**

 Credit: 1 unit

Occupational Financial Management is the study of math skills to gain independent living and successful employment. Emphasis is placed on financial planning, financial services, taxes, and wages. Students will apply appropriate methods to establish and maintain checking and savings accounts, loans, credit cards, and debit cards for personal financial management and independent living. They will compare methods of paying bills, debt versus credit, consumer spending, and insurance types. Application of these skills is necessary for independent living and successful employment.

**APPLIED SCIENCE**

 Credit: 1 unit

 Occupational Applied Science is designed to provide students with the knowledge necessary to understand and identify the basic principles of physics, physical science, and life science. Students will receive instruction on the concepts of energy, force, motion, electricity, matter and the body systems. Students will have opportunities to apply skills in the area of healthy living and safety to various situations within the home, community and workplace.

**BIOLOGY**

Credit: 1 unit

 Occupational Biology emphasizes basic, functional knowledge of science concepts in the areas of living organisms, molecular biology, evolution, genetics, and ecology. Students will have the opportunity to apply science based concepts to daily living situations at home, in the community, and the workplace.