

Booker T. Washington High School

and the

High School for the Engineering Professions



2009-2010

Course Catalog

BOOKER T. WASHINGTON
SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

1893 A CENTURY OF PROGRESS IN EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE 1993

Mr. Mark Bedell, Principal

119 East 39th Street Houston, Texas. 77018 713.696.6600

Washington High School Course Catalog 2009-2010

We at Washington High School have made every effort to ensure that the information in this catalog is correct as of its date of publication. Courses offered at Washington must conform to the curricular requirements of the Texas Education Agency's Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) and other state and district guidelines. Any questions you have concerning a course offered at Washington are best answered by one of the Washington High School **Counselor's**.

Please feel free to contact the **Counselor's** as needed.

Students whose last name begins with A-L please contact:
Entisha Allen-Cooper at 696-6631 or eallenco@houstonisd.org

Students whose last name begins with M-Z please contact:
Brenda Walker at 713-696-6630 or bwalker1@houstonisd.org

Mention of an elective in this catalog does not guarantee that Washington High School will offer that course every semester. Various considerations including staffing, number of enrollees, and the need to offer required courses – may affect the ability of the school to offer an elective.

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General Information

Department of English Language Arts

Department of Mathematics

Department of Science

Department of Social Studies

Department of World Languages

Department of Performing and Visual Arts

Department of Physical Education and Athletics

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Department of Communications

General Information

GRADE LEVEL

Promotion is based solely on academic achievement, with a passing grade of 70 and 90% attendance required to earn credit. Any required course failed during the school year should be retaken in summer school, night school, virtual school, correspondence or credit-by-exam. Prior approval from your counselor or principal designee is required. Grade classifications as determined by credits are as follows:

Freshman:	0 to 5.5 credits
Sophomore:	6 to 11.5 credits
Junior:	12 to 17.5 credits
Senior:	18 credits

CREDIT DEFICIENT STUDENTS

There are several disadvantages and challenges a student must overcome when he/she becomes deficient in credits earned:

- Any student who does not meet the requirements for promotion will be classified according to the number of credits he/she has earned.
- A fourth year high school student who has been reclassified to junior status can be moved to senior status by January of that school year if they achieve all deficient credits and are passing all courses required for graduation. **This does not apply to underclassmen.**
- Students take standardized tests according to their current, not pending, grade classification. For example, a student who has deficient credits will take the 10th grade TAKS test, even though this is the student's third year in high school.
- Contrary to middle school, a high school student must retake only the courses failed as opposed to repeating the entire year of courses. See a dean if you have questions.

Remember—ALL graduation requirements, including passing all parts of TAKS, must be Met before you can take part in the graduation ceremony.

DAILY SCHEDULE

Student schedules will include 7 classes per day. Students will attend periods 1 thru 7 daily. See attached bell schedule.

RANK IN CLASS

Class standing is calculated after the 6th and 7th semesters (end of 11th grade year).

Senior students are ranked by their cumulative grade point averages. All students within the top 10% of their class are eligible for consideration for automatic admission to Texas public universities provided application procedures are followed.

For further information pertaining to ranking, please see HISD Board Policy (section 10).

Note: HISD policy provides for the ranking of senior students eligible for graduation, and does not provide class rankings for under classmen; however, an underclassmen's cumulative GPA will suffice for scholarship, internships, and/or other specialized programs in which a rank might be requested.

GRADUATION CEREMONY

To participate in commencement ceremonies, students must meet **ALL** graduation requirements, including passing all state exit level exams and required course credits.

HONOR GRADUATES

Graduates are recognized by their cumulative grade point averages as follows:

Summa Cum Laude -Top 5%

Magna Cum Laude -Next 10%

EARLY GRADUATES

A Texas resident who completes all graduation requirements within 36 months (3 years) of entry into ninth grade is eligible to receive an Early Graduation Scholarship to attend a Texas public college or university, provided all high school years were taken in Texas. Students wishing to apply for early graduation must contact their dean and the registrar by the beginning of the early graduation school year

NCAA

Student athletes will be required to file with the NCAA Clearinghouse to determine initial eligibility to participate in college athletics. Some Washington courses which count towards graduation are not accepted by the NCAA as core courses for college. For more information see the Play It Smart Coach.

GRADING SYSTEM

90-100	=	A
80-89	=	B
75-79	=	C
70-74	=	D
69 and below	=	F

REPORT CARDS/PROGRESS REPORTS

At the end of the first three weeks of a grading period, students will be given a progress report. Report cards will be issued at the end of each six-week grading period. Parents should refer to the school calendar for dates. The calendar can be accessed at <http://hs.houstonisd.org/WashingtonHS/>.

GRADEPOINT AVERAGE

Grade point averages (**GPA**) are calculated by averaging the number of points awarded at the completion of a course.

Grade	Preparatory Courses	Pre-AP/AP Courses	Modified Courses
A	4 points	5 points	3 points
B	3 points	4 points	2 points
C	2 points	3 points	1.5 points
D	1 point	2 points	1 points
F	0 points	0 points	0 points

ADVANCED PLACEMENT


The College Board offers a series of Advanced Placement (AP) exams which allow students to earn college credit with certain scores. Washington High School offers the following courses to help prepare students for these exams:

PRE-AP

English 1, English 2, World Geography, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Algebra 1, Geometry, Algebra 2, Pre-Calculus, Computer Science

AP

English Language III, IV, English Literature, World History, U.S. History, Government, Economics, Chemistry, Biology, Physics "B" and "C", Environmental Science, Calculus AB, Calculus BC, Spanish Language.



Be sure to check Advanced Placement information for the colleges to which you are applying. Each school awards credit differently.

REMEMBER...Pre-AP and AP Courses award extra points towards your grade point average and class rank!

TESTING INFORMATION

TAKS – REQUIRED FOR GRADUATION – CLASS OF 2005 AND THEREAFTER

This test was given for the first time to students in the spring of 2004. Ninth graders will test in Reading and Math. Sophomores and Juniors will test in English Language Arts, Math, Science, and Social Studies. State of Texas graduation requirements will include passing all parts of the junior level test for students who entered the ninth grade in 2001 or after.

Retests will be available in the fall and spring of each year.

Price: No charge

Registration: Handled through the school. No special registration is needed.

Type: One section given on each of four separate days

PSAT- PRELIMINARY SAT

The PSAT is given one time only, in October. This practice test for the SAT is also the qualifying exam for the National Merit Scholarship. Only juniors are eligible for scholarship consideration, but sophomores should take the test for practice. Many scholarship or college applications will ask for junior year PSAT scores. This test covers verbal and math reasoning skills and writing skills. It is a valuable predictor for success in higher level courses, such as AP, future SAT scores, and college success.

Price: About \$15. Subject to change

**Registration: See College Access Coordinator
September and early October.**

Type: Five 30 minute sections

ACT – COLLEGE ENTRANCE EXAM

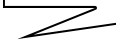
The ACT is one of the two college entrance exams required by most colleges and universities. ACT test skills in English, Math, Science Reasoning, and Reading. Scores range from 1 to 36 on each section. Those scores are combined into a composite score, which also ranges from 1 to 36. A score above 20 is generally in the top 50%. ACT exams are given on Saturdays about 6 times a year. Pre-registration is required, about six weeks in advance.

Price: About \$30- \$45. Subject to change

Registration: By mail or on-line at www.actstudent.org

Type: Four sections of varying lengths.

**Washington School Code:
443340**



SAT REASONING – COLLEGE ENTRANCE EXAM

SAT Reasoning is one of two college entrance exams required by most colleges and universities. SAT Reasoning measures verbal and math reasoning ability needed to succeed in college-level work. Scores range from 200–800 on each section. A score of 500 on each section, or a total score of 1000, is generally in the top 50%. The SAT Reasoning is given on Saturdays, about 7 times a year. Pre-registration is required about six weeks in advance.

Price: About \$43. Subject to change
Registration: By mail, or on-line at
www.collegeboard.com
Type: 10 tests, varying times

SAT SUBJECT TESTS – COLLEGE ACHIEVEMENT EXAMS

SAT Subject tests consist of a series of one hour achievement tests in various subjects. Some universities will require certain exams for admission and placement. Colleges or universities may award college credit for high scores above 560. You should register for these tests after you complete the highest level course in that subject that you plan to take. Up to three exams may be taken on any given Saturday, but SAT Reasoning may not be taken on the same date. The SAT Subject tests are given on Saturdays, about 6 times a year. Pre-registration is required about six weeks in advance.

Price: Basic registration about \$20, with each test ranging from \$8 - \$20. Subject to change.
Registration: By mail, or on-line at
www.collegeboard.com
Type: One hour each subject.

AP – ADVANCED PLACEMENT EXAMS

The College Board AP Exams are given once a year in May. Each four-hour exam covers college level content in a specific course. The tests consist of both multiple choice and free-response (essay) questions. Foreign language exams include speaking and listening sections. Scores range from 1 to 5, with most colleges awarding credit for scores of three or better. Registration takes place in February.

Price: About \$54 each. Subject to change
Registration: See Magnet Coordinator
Type: Four hours each subject.

****All Engineering students are required to take at least (4) Advanced Placement Exams over a four year period.**

THEA – COLLEGE READINESS TEST

The State of Texas requires all students attending a public college/university to demonstrate college level readiness in reading, math, and writing, before taking any courses that count towards a college degree. Students may be exempt from THEA with specified scores on TAKS, SAT, or ACT, or if they have maintained a 3.5 overall grade point average on a 4.0 scale, while completing the Recommended or Distinguished High School Program. This test is given mainly on college campuses. Pre-registration is required. More information may be obtained at www.thea.nesinc.com/.

Price: About \$29. Subject to change
Registration: By mail.
Type: Three separate tests

Fee Waivers are available for all tests for those who qualify. Check with your College Access Coordinator.

Subject: House Bill (HB) 3 and Graduation Requirements for 2009-2010

With the passage of House Bill (HB) 3, new graduation requirements will take effect on September 1, 2009. These new requirements supersede the graduation requirements in 19 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) Chapter 74.

Recommended High School Program (RHSP) and Distinguished Achievement Program (DAP)

For the recommended (RHSP) and advanced (DAP) high school programs, the total number of credits required for graduation and the requirement of 4 credits in the 4 foundation areas of mathematics, English language arts, science, and social studies/economics did not change. HB 3 changes include:

- providing more flexibility in the enrichment areas of the RHSP by increasing the number of elective credits to 6, requiring 1 credit of physical education, 2 credits of a language other than English (LOTE), and 1 credit of fine arts; and
- providing more flexibility in the enrichment areas in the DAP by increasing the number of elective credits to 5, requiring 1 credit of physical education, 3 credits of LOTE, and 1 credit of fine arts.

Minimum High School Program

Permission to graduate under the minimum high school program must be agreed to in writing and signed by the student, student's parent (or other person standing in parental relation to the student), and a school counselor or school administrator.

Under HB 3, to graduate under the minimum high school program, students must:

- be at least 16 years of age;
- have completed 2 credits required for graduation in each subject of the foundation curriculum; or have failed to be promoted to the 10th grade one or more times as determined by the school district.

Students already in the minimum high school program do not have to meet the HB 3 requirements to enter the program, but must be given the choice of opting back into the recommended high school program.

Local districts may continue to adopt additional graduation requirements that go beyond the state requirements for graduation.

Typically, new graduation requirements take effect with the incoming freshman class. However, the flexibility in the new HB 3 graduation requirements impacts all high school students beginning with the 2009-2010 school year. All students are able to graduate under the HB 3 high school graduation requirements beginning in the 2009-10 school year, unless the district has adopted additional local requirements.

Attached is a side-by-side comparison of the current RHSP and the newly required HB 3 graduation plan. The State Board of Education will address changes to graduation requirements in 19 TAC Chapter 74 in the upcoming months.

For further assistance curriculum@tea.state.tx.us.

Recommended High School Program

	Graduation Requirements Current – 26 credits	Graduation Requirements HB 3 - 26 credits
English Language Arts (4)	English I	English I
	English II	English II
	English III	English III
	English IV	English IV
Social Studies (4)	World History	World History
	World Geography	World Geography
	US History	US History
	US Government / Economics	US Government / Economics
Mathematics (4)	Algebra I	Algebra I
	Geometry	Geometry
	Algebra II	Algebra II
	4 th mathematics; can be an advanced CTE course approved by SBOE – after completion of Algebra II	4 th mathematics - can be an advanced CTE course approved by SBOE – after completion of Algebra II
Science (4)	Biology	Biology
	Chemistry / IPC	Chemistry / IPC
	Physics or Principles of Technology	Physics or Principles of Technology
	4 th science; can be an advanced CTE course approved by SBOE – after completion of Physics	4 th science - can be an advanced CTE course approved by SBOE – after completion of Physics
Enrichment / Electives	(6 ½ required + 3 ½ open)	(4 required + 6 open)
	LOTE – 2 required in same language	LOTE – 2 required in same language
	Fine Arts – 1 required	Fine Arts – 1 required
	PE - 1½ required	PE – 1 required
	Technology Applications – 1 required	Technology Applications
	Health - ½ required	Health
	Speech – ½ required	Speech
	Career and Technical Education	Career and Technical Education
	ELA, Math, Science, or Social Studies electives	ELA, Math, Science, or Social Studies electives

OTHER GRADUATION PLANS

Distinguished Achievement Plan

The State of Texas seeks to recognize those students with exceptional achievement in high school. The Distinguished Achievement Program is for those students whose accomplishments are of such caliber as to be acknowledged on a national level. This program requires completing the Recommended 24 Credit Plan (26 Credits for the Class of 2011 and beyond), taking one additional credit in foreign language, and completing four Advanced Measures in any combination.

Core Graduation Plan

All students will be enrolled with anticipation of completion of the Recommended High School Program. Occasionally a situation occurs where a student is unable to meet those requirements. For those students, the minimum graduation plan is available. The chart below shows the Core Graduation Plan with a total of 24 credits.

English	4 credits
Mathematics	3 credits
Science	3 credits
Social Studies	4 credits
Foreign Language	1 credit
Physical Education	1.5 credits
Health	0.5 credit
Speech	0.5 credit
Technology Applications	1 credit
Electives	5.5 credits

Remember---ALL graduation requirements, including passing all parts of TAKS, must be met before you can take part in the graduation ceremony

It is critical that each student, and his or her parent, review very carefully the requirements for graduation to ensure the proper classes are selected to meet graduation requirements. The counselors will work diligently with you to select the proper classes, but remember – your graduation is ultimately your responsibility. Opportunities to retake classes failed typically do not exist or pose a financial and logistical challenge to complete in time for graduation. Failed classes must be made up outside of school hours, sometimes at considerable expense. By senior year, you should have plans for after graduation, so be sure your course selections adequately prepare you for your future plans.

- **College/University** – Choose 3 to 5 schools: one dream school that may seem like a stretch, one sure thing, and several choices in between. Make sure you meet the admission requirements and are registered for the proper entrance exams. **APPLY EARLY!!** Do not wait until just before the deadline or you may be too late.
- **Community College**- Some students choose to complete college credits locally prior to attending the college from which they will graduate.
- **Technical school** – Check with several to make sure they have the kind of training you are looking for. Compare their job placement rates and financial aid opportunities to determine which is your best choice.
- **Military** – Talk to recruiters from several branches of the service. See which one offers you the best opportunities. Make an appointment to take the ASVAB, keep in touch with the recruiter of the branch you select

GENERAL GRADE LEVEL INFORMATION

NINTH GRADE –Students in the ninth grade will take English 1, Algebra 1 or Geometry (for those students who earned Algebra 1 credit in middle school), IPC or Biology (for those students who earned IPC credit in middle school), and World Geography. Other options include P.E., Health, Communication Applications, a fine arts course, a technology graduation credit course, and/or a world language. If a student begins the study of a world language in middle school, it is strongly recommended that study be continued in the ninth grade, as credit is awarded for continuous instruction in one language, not a variety of languages.

CREDITS: 0 – 5.5

TESTING: Required - TAKS, Stanford

TENTH GRADE –Tenth grade requirements include English 2, World History, and the next sequential math and science courses. Other requirements that need to be taken over the next two years include P.E., Health, Communication Applications, a fine arts course, and a technology graduation credit course if these are not yet completed. Consider beginning or continuing the study of a world language. Select electives with an eye toward an ultimate career goal or college major. Make note of the prerequisites of courses that you may want to take as an eleventh grader to ensure that these are being met.

CREDITS: 6.0 – 11.5

TESTING: Required – TAKS, PSAT, Stanford

ELEVENTH GRADE – Eleventh grade students should carefully check required courses for the Recommended High School Program and make sure the proper courses have been selected. New classes to be added include English 3, U.S. History, and third math and science courses. All selections should be made with an ultimate college major or career in mind. TAKS is the exit level examination requirement for this class.

CREDITS: 12 – 17.5

TESTING: Required – TAKS, PSAT, Stanford

Recommended –SAT/ACT in spring of this year; check university requirements regarding SAT Subject tests

SENIORS!

TWELFTH GRADE

CREDITS: 18 +

TESTING: Required – TAKS if not yet mastered

Recommended – SAT Reasoning, ACT, THEA if needed, AP, SAT subject tests if appropriate

COURSES: English 4, Government, Economics, math, science

SENIOR PRIVILEGE

If all of your graduation requirements and needs for your future plans can be met, you may request to take only 6 classes per day instead of 7. In order to apply for off campus privileges the following requirements must be met:

- No credit appeals during the previous school year, even if credits were reinstated
- No failed courses during the previous school year, including PreAP and AP courses
- No P's or U's in conduct for any six weeks
- Pass all sections of the TAKS test
- Meet all requirements outlined on off campus privilege contract

Note: Administration reserves discretion to change requirements during school year.

SAT vs. ACT

The road to college can be a confusing and hectic experience. Choosing the right admissions test to take, (SAT or ACT) doesn't have to be. While most colleges across the country accept scores from either test, the SAT and ACT are significantly different, and in many ways, they measure different skills. Use the information below to decide which test is best for you.

DIFFERENCES AT A GLANCE

SAT

No science section
No trigonometry questions
Vocabulary emphasized
Non multiple-choice questions included
Guessing penalty
No English grammar
Math accounts for 50% of score
Questions go from easy to hard in most sections

SAT Critical Reading is like analyzing a debate

If you are good at interpretation, you'll do well on the SAT

ACT

Science reasoning section
Math includes trigonometry
Vocabulary less important
Entirely multiple choice
No guessing penalty
English grammar tested
Math accounts for 25% of score
Easy and hard questions mixed within sections
Reading is more like researching a term paper
If you are more of a quantitative thinker, you might be more comfortable on the ACT

Helpful Web Sites-Booker T. Washington High School Code 443340

College Information/Profiles

www.collegenews.com
www.collegequest.com
www.collegeboard.com
www.collegeview.com
www.collegeexpress.com
www.fastweb.com
www.gocollege.com
www.nces.ed.gov/ipeds/cool
www.newslink.org
www.petersons.com
www.princetonreview.com
www.supercollege.com

Prepare for the SAT/ACT

www.act.org
www.collegeboard.com
www.ets.org
www.number2.com
www.princetonreview.com
www.testprep.com

Essay Tips

www.supercollege.com

Scholarship Search

www.collegenet.com
www.college-scholarships.com
www.fastweb.com
www.finaid.org
www.ncaaclearinghouse.net
www.salliemae.com
www.supercollege.com
www.tgslc.org

Request, download, or bookmark applications for colleges, complete your application on-line

www.applytexas.org
www.commonapp.org
www.collegequest.com
www.collegelink.com

Financial Aid Information, submit your FAFSA or register for the profile

www.ed.gov/prog/SFA/FAFSA
www.fafsa.ed.gov
www.collegeboard.com

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

ENGLISH 1

Grade: 9

Prerequisites: none

Credit: 1 credit; ½ per semester

This two-semester course builds upon each student's mastery of core academic skills in reading, writing, listening, and speaking to meet and exceed the performance requirements of the Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS). Vocabulary development, journal writing, grammar and usage, essay development and research skills are central to the course that covers a range of literature through a variety of activities in the language arts.

ENGLISH 1 - PRE AP

Grade: 9

Prerequisites: None

Credit: 1 credit; ½ per semester

Pre AP English 1 is a course that covers a wide variety of language art skills with special attention given to developing critical thinking skills and rhetorical style. Students produce analytical and creative writing through personal journals, reading response journal, essays, and a research paper. Reading instruction focuses on analysis of novels, short stories, poetry, and essays. Vocabulary emphasis is PSAT preparation.

ENGLISH 2

Grade: 10

Prerequisites: English 1

Credit: 1 credit; ½ per semester

This two-semester course continues to develop each student's mastery of core academic skills in reading, writing, listening, and speaking to meet and exceed the performance requirements of Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills. Test preparation, vocabulary development, journal writing, grammar and usage, essay development and research skills are fundamental to this literature-based course. Course content and student performance link academic skills and knowledge to grade level.

ENGLISH 2 - PRE AP

Grade: 10

Prerequisite: English 1

Credit: 1 credit; ½ per semester

Pre AP English 2 is a course that prepares students in a variety of advanced language arts skills and focuses on major contemporary and classical works of literature. Students will read extensively. Students will write a variety of essays, analytical journal responses on literature, covering major issues, themes, conflicts, and symbols, and a research paper. Vocabulary study will continue to prepare students to be successful in taking the PSAT/SAT.

ENGLISH 3

Grade: 11

Prerequisites: English 1 and 2

Credit: 1 credit; ½ per semester

This two-semester course continues to develop each student's mastery of core academic skills in reading, writing, listening, and speaking to meet and exceed the performance requirements of Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills. Students must pass all parts of the TAKS test to graduate. Students study all genres of literature with the focus upon American literature from colonial to modern times. Vocabulary building, essay writing and reading comprehension are all activities basic to the course. Course content and student performance link academic skills and knowledge to grade level.

AP ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND COMPOSITION (ENGLISH 3)

Grade: 11

Prerequisites: Application to the AP program; teacher recommendation;

Pre AP English 1 and 2

Credit: 1 credit; ½ per semester

AP English Language and Composition is a rigorous academic course designed to engage students in becoming skilled readers of prose written in a variety of literary periods, disciplines, and rhetorical contexts and in becoming skilled writers who compose for a variety of purposes. Students should develop an awareness of the interactions among a writer's purposes, audience expectations, and subjects as well as the way conventions and resources of the language contribute to effectiveness in writing. Students will be required to write extensive analytical compositions showing understanding of the use of rhetorical devices by authors for meaning and pleasure, and demonstrating the student's understanding of literary style and ability for critical thinking. Students enrolled in this course are expected to demonstrate a willingness and ability to meet academic challenges, to read extensively and independently a variety of college level texts as preparation for the AP exam, to complete summer reading assignments, and to take the AP exam in May.

ENGLISH 4

Grade: 12

Prerequisites: English 1, 2, and 3

Credit: 1 credit; ½ per semester

This two-semester course reinforces and refines each student's mastery of core academic skills in reading, writing, listening, and speaking to meet and exceed the performance standards. Students study all genres of literature with the focus on British literature. Course content and student performance link academic skills and knowledge to real life experiences.

AP ENGLISH LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION (ENGLISH 4)

Grade: 12

Prerequisites: Application to the AP program; teacher recommendation;

Pre AP English 1 & 2; AP Eng.3 Credit: 1 credit; ½ per semester

AP English Literature and Composition is a rigorous academic course designed to develop a body of knowledge, skills, and strategies for careful reading of texts that produces sensitive responses, for independent analysis that reflects critical thinking and concern for the literary dimensions of imaginative texts. Through the close reading of selected texts, students should deepen their understanding of the ways writers use language to provide both meaning and pleasure for the reader. Students will analyze a work's structure, style, and themes as well as the use of figurative language, imagery, symbolism, and tone, and use the analysis to write well developed essays and to participate in discussions/seminars. Students enrolled in this course are expected to demonstrate a willingness and ability to meet academic challenges, to read extensively and independently a variety of college level texts as preparation for AP exam, to complete summer reading assignments, and to take the AP exam in May.

DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS

ALGEBRA 1

Grade: 9

Prerequisites: none

Credit: 1 credit; ½ credit per semester

Taught from a function approach, this two-semester course is the foundation of all mathematics courses. Students will analyze data as it relates to the real world. Concepts and skills involve operations and properties of real numbers, linear functions, linear inequalities, quadratic functions, factoring polynomials, exponential functions, variation and system of linear equations and inequalities.

ALGEBRA 1 - PRE AP

Grade: 9

Prerequisites: none

Credit: 1 credit; ½ credit per semester

Curriculum is essentially the same as Algebra 1, but with an accelerated pace, more extensions, and depth and complexity.

GEOMETRY

Grade: 9-11

Prerequisites: successful completion of Algebra I

Credit: 1 credit; ½ credit per semester

Major areas of concentration in this two-semester course include: elements of geometry, definitions, theorems, the nature of inductive and deductive reasoning; the study of properties of lines, angles, and triangles, perpendicular lines, parallel lines; congruence; area; similarity; circles; surface area; volume; and transformations.

GEOMETRY - PRE AP

Grade: 9-10

Prerequisites: Algebra 1 Pre-AP or Algebra 1 Prep with teacher/dean recommendation

Credit: 1 credit; ½ credit per semester

This two-semester course is an enhancement of geometric topics included in the geometry curriculum. In addition to those topics other areas of concentration will include: logic, angles, properties of lines, congruent and right triangles, polygons, trigonometric functions and identities, circles, transformations, coordinate geometry, surface area and volume, and inductive and deductive reasoning.

ALGEBRA 2

Grade: 10-12

Prerequisites: successful completion of geometry credit

Credit: 1 credit; ½ credit per semester

This two-semester course is devoted to continue the student preparation for upper level classes as Pre-Calculus and Statistics. It includes matrices, polynomials, radicals, rational expressions, exponential and logarithmic functions, and conic sections.

ALGEBRA 2 - PRE AP

Grade: 10-11

Prerequisites:

Pre-AP Geometry or Geometry Prep with teacher/counselor recommendation

Credit: 1 credit; ½ credit per semester

Major areas of concentration in this two semester honors course include: number systems (real and complex) equalities, inequalities, permutations, combinations, probability, the factor, remainder, and binomial theorems, systems of linear equations in two and three variables, descriptive statistics, oblique triangles, properties of trigonometric and circular functions. Throughout the course there is a thorough and exhaustive study of functions.

PRE-CALCULUS

Grade: 12

Prerequisites: successful completion of Algebra 2 and Geometry

Credit: 1 credit; ½ credit per semester

Major areas of concentration in this two-semester course include: linear functions, inequalities and systems; polynomial and rational functions and inequalities; transformations of functions and relations; conics; real and complex number systems; exponential and logarithmic functions; sequences and series; combinatorics and probability; trigonometric and circular functions and identities; polar coordinates.

PRE-CALCULUS - PRE AP

Grade: 10 – 12

Prerequisites: successful completion of Algebra 2 PreAP and Geometry PreAP or counselor/teacher recommendation

Credit: 1 credit; ½ credit per semester

Major areas of concentration in this two-semester honors course include all of the topics of the Pre-Calculus Preparatory course in greater depth and: statistics; vector and parametric equations; limits.

AP CALCULUS AB

Grade: 11 – 12

Prerequisites: Pre-Calculus PreAP or teacher/dean recommendation

Credit: 1 credit; ½ per semester

This two-semester honors course is the equivalent of one college semester course of Calculus (Calculus I), culminating with the AP Calculus AB Exam in May. Major areas of concentration are: I. Functions, Graphs and Limits, including: analysis of graphs; limits of functions: II. Derivatives, including: concept of the derivative; derivative at a point; derivative as a function; second derivatives; applications of derivatives; Mean Value Theorem; optimization; computation of derivatives; related rates. III. Integrals, including: interpretations and properties of definite integrals; applications of integrals; distance, velocity and acceleration; Fundamental Theorem of Calculus; Mean Value Theorem for Integrals; techniques of anti-differentiation; applications of anti-differentiation; exponential growth and decay; numerical approximations to definite integrals.

AP CALCULUS BC

Grade: 11 – 12

Prerequisites: Algebra I PreAP, Geometry PreAP, Pre-Calculus Pre AP or teacher/dean recommendation

Credit: 1 credit; ½ per semester

This two-semester honors course is the equivalent of two college semesters of Calculus (Calculus I and Calculus II), culminating with the AP Calculus BC Exam in May. Major areas of concentration include all of topics I (including parametric, polar and vector functions), II and III of the AP Calculus AB course and: IV. Polynomial Approximations and Series, including: concept of series; series of constants, Taylor series.

MATH MODELS

Grade: 11 – 12

Prerequisites: Algebra 1, Geometry, Algebra II, or dean recommendation

Credit: 1 credit, ½ per semester

Students use algebraic, graphical, and geometric reasoning to recognize patterns and structure, to model information, and to solve problems from various disciplines. Students use mathematical methods to model and solve real-life applied problems involving money, data, chance, patterns, music, design, and science. Students use mathematical models from algebra, geometry, probability, and statistics and connections among these to solve problems from a wide variety of advanced applications in both mathematical and nonmathematical situations. Students use a variety of representations (concrete, pictorial, numerical, symbolic, graphical, and verbal), tools, and technology (including, but not limited to, calculators with graphing capabilities, data collection devices, and computers) to link modeling techniques and purely mathematical concepts and to solve applied problems.

DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE

BIOLOGY-PREPARATORY

Grade: 9-10

Prerequisites: Integrated Physics and Chemistry

Credit: 1 credit; ½ per semester

Preparatory Biology is an introductory lab based course. This two-semester course offers an introduction to cell structure and chemistry, classification of living organisms, photosynthesis and cellular respiration, genetics, and the systems of organisms such as digestion, circulatory, muscular, skeletal, respiratory, endocrine, nervous, excretory and reproductive. Instruction will include current findings in biology, particularly genetics, diseases and ecology.

BIOLOGY 1 - PRE AP

Grade: 9 – 10

Prerequisites: Integrated Physics and Chemistry

Credit: 1 credit; ½ per semester

The Pre AP Biology course is designed to be the precursor to the AP Biology course. Topics covered in this two-semester course include those covered in the Preparatory Biology course; however, the topics are covered in more depth and there is an emphasis on the biochemical nature of systems. Outside projects will be required of all students. Independent conceptualization is required.

AP BIOLOGY

Grade: 11 – 12

Prerequisites: Integrated Physics and Chemistry, Biology I and Chemistry

Credit: 1 credit; ½ per semester

The AP Biology course is designed to be the equivalent of a college introductory biology course. This two-semester course will prepare students for the College Board AP Biology Examination and the SAT II Biology achievement test. AP Biology includes those topics covered in a college biology course. This course differs significantly from the first biology course with respect to the kind of textbook used, the range and depth of topics covered, the kind of laboratory work done by students, and the time and effort required of all students. Students electing this course should plan on taking the AP exam in May.

CHEMISTRY I

Grade: 10 – 12

Prerequisites: Algebra 2 or concurrent enrollment in Algebra 2

Credit: 1 credit; ½ per semester

This two-semester course is essential for all college-bound students. Many of the topics covered in the preparatory course are also included in the Pre-AP course but they are not covered in as much depth. Descriptive chemistry is emphasized. The scope and sequence of the course allows the development of basic chemistry concepts and principles. Students learn to apply their mathematical and analytical reasoning to problem solving in chemistry. Topics covered include scientific measurement, classification of matter, atomic structure, periodicity, formulas, chemical reactions, gas behavior, solutions, types of compounds, nuclear reactions, acid-base theories and enthalpy changes in reactions.

CHEMISTRY 1 – PRE-AP

Grade: 10 – 12

Prerequisites: Algebra 2 or concurrent enrollment in Algebra 2

Credit: 1 credit; ½ per semester

The Pre AP Chemistry is a precursor to the AP Chemistry class. This class is directed towards preparing students for the AP class and the College Placement exams. The scope, sequence and strategies used in this class trains students in critical and analytical thinking, necessary skills to be successful in a college level class. The concepts are taught in an inquiry mode to facilitate problem solving and higher level thinking skills. All of the topics covered in the preparatory class are covered in greater depth with an emphasis on mathematical and multi-level problem solving. Student centered laboratory work is an integral part of the course. Some of the topics included are mole concept, atomic theory including Quantum theory, analysis of compounds, stoichiometry, reactions, periodicity, bonding, kinetic molecular theory and gas behavior, thermochemistry and spontaneity of reactions, solutions, equilibrium, kinetics, acid-base reactions, redox reactions and nuclear chemistry.

AP CHEMISTRY

Grade: 11 – 12

Prerequisites: Pre-Calculus or concurrent enrollment in Pre -Calculus; Chemistry 1

Credit: 1 credit; ½ per semester

AP Chemistry is a continuation of Pre-AP Chemistry 1 and is designed to prepare students for the A exam. Students completing this two-semester course should be able to place out of their first year of chemistry in college or should be well prepared for college chemistry. This is a general chemistry course. Topics include stoichiometry, gases, thermochemistry, atomic structure and periodicity, bonding and molecular geometry, states of matter, complex ions, solution chemistry, kinetics, equilibrium, acids and bases, electrochemistry, and nuclear chemistry. College level laboratory work is an essential part of this program. Students completing this course will be well prepared to take the SAT II chemistry achievement test. Students electing this course should plan on taking the AP exam in May.

PHYSICS 1 - PREPARATORY

Grade: 11 – 12

Prerequisites: Chemistry 1; completion or concurrent enrollment in Pre-calculus

Credit: 1 credit; ½ per semester

This two-semester course surveys elementary topics in physics including classical mechanics, waves, electrostatics, conservation laws for energy and momentum, electricity, and magnetism. Topics in modern physics, relativity and quantum phenomena, are introduced. Mathematical descriptions are primarily algebraic in nature.

PHYSICS 1 - PRE AP

Grade: 11 – 12

Prerequisites: Chemistry 1; completion or concurrent enrollment in Pre-calculus; concurrent enrollment in Calculus recommended

Credit: 1 credit; ½ per semester

This two-semester course surveys elementary topics in physics including classical mechanics, waves, electrostatics, conservation laws for energy and momentum, electricity, magnetism. Topics in modern physics, relativity and quantum phenomena, are introduced. Mathematical descriptions are primarily algebraic in nature, but include some calculus-based equations.

AP PHYSICS

Grade: 11 – 12

Prerequisites: Chemistry 1; completion or concurrent enrollment in Pre-calculus; concurrent enrollment in Calculus recommended

Credit: 1 credit; ½ per semester

This two-semester course surveys elementary topics in physics including classical mechanics, waves, electrostatics, conservation laws for energy and momentum, electricity, magnetism. Topics in modern physics, relativity and quantum phenomena, are introduced. Mathematical descriptions are primarily calculus-based. Students completing this course will be well prepared to take the SAT II Physics achievement test. Students electing this course should plan on taking the AP exam in May.

AP ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

Grade: 11 – 12

Prerequisites: Integrated Physics and Chemistry; Biology

Credit: 1 science elective credit; ½ per semester

The goal of the AP Environmental Science course is to provide students with the scientific principles, concepts and methodologies required to understand the interrelationships of the natural world. Also to identify and analyze environmental problems both natural and human made; to evaluate the relative risks associated with these problems, and to examine alternative solutions for resolving and/or preventing them. Topics will include air and water pollution, endangered species, human population, recycling, ecology and energy. In addition to an in-depth study of the course topics, students will gain exposure to professional literature in the field. This two-semester laboratory course is designed to be the equivalent of an introductory college course in environmental science. Students electing this course should plan on taking the AP exam in May. This course involves some outdoor fieldwork and required service hours.

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL STUDIES

WORLD GEOGRAPHY STUDIES

Grade: 9

Prerequisites: none

Credit: 1 required for graduation; ½ credit per semester

Note: (World Geography Prep/PreAP or AP Human Geography will complete 9th grade social studies credit)

World Geography is a two-semester course. Students examine physical geography, political geography, cultural geography, and economic geography. A significant portion of the course explores the influence of physical geography on events past and present. It explores how physical geography has shaped political, cultural, and economic geography. The course also emphasizes basic geography skills and interpreting data. The eight strands of the essential knowledge and skills for social studies are integrated into this course. To support the teaching of these strands, a variety of primary and secondary source materials such as contemporary and historic maps, satellite-produced images, photographs, graphs, and diagrams will be used. Students will also use problem-solving and decision-making skills to answer geographic questions. Upon completion of the course students should have an understanding of how cultures and countries interact with each other and their environment. Students are encouraged to participate in competitive events, such as the History Fair, essay contests, and academic tournaments. The TAKS exam uses material from this course.

WORLD GEOGRAPHY STUDIES - PRE AP

Grade: 9

Prerequisites: teacher recommendation and grades

Credit: 1 required for graduation; ½ credit per semester

Note: (World Geography Prep/PreAP or AP Human Geography will complete 9th grade social studies credit) World Geography is a two-semester course. Students examine physical geography, political geography, cultural geography, and economic geography. A significant portion of the course explores the influence of physical geography on events past and present. It explores how physical geography has shaped political, cultural, and economic geography. The course emphasizes basic geographic skills and their application, data interpretation, demographic information, ecology and the natural environment. The eight strands of the essential knowledge and skills for social studies are integrated into this course. To support the teaching of these strands, a variety of primary and secondary source materials will be utilized. These include historic and contemporary maps, satellite-produced images, photographs, graphs, sketches, political documents, and editorial cartoons. Students analyze, compare and contrast, use problem-solving and decision-making skills in order to understand complex content material and supplementary material. Upon completion of the course students should have a spatial perspective of the world and understanding of how countries and cultures interact with each other and their environment. Students are required to read one novel with a geographic theme and to participate in various competitive events, such as the History Fair, essay contests, and academic events. The TAKS exam uses material from this course.

WORLD HISTORY - PREPARATORY

Grade: 10

Prerequisites: none

Credit: 1 required for graduation; ½ credit per semester

World History is a two-semester survey class. The curriculum presents world history from the development of early civilization, the historical development of Western Civilization, and the historical development of Russia, Middle East, Asia, Africa, and Latin America through the 20th century. Emphasis is on the study of significant people, events, and issues from the earliest times to the present. Students analyze important events and issues in world civilizations, evaluate their causes and effects, trace the history and impact of major events, and use the process of historical inquiry to research, interpret, and use multiple sources of evidence, both primary and secondary. The course requires outside readings, projects, and research. The TAKS Exit Level Exam includes information from this course.

AP WORLD HISTORY

Grade: 10

Prerequisites: teacher recommendation and grades

Credit: 1 required for graduation; ½ credit per semester

World History is a two-semester survey class. The curriculum presents world history from the development of early civilization, the historical development of Western Civilization, and the historical development of Russia, Middle East, Asia, Africa, and Latin America through the 20th century. Emphasis is on the study of significant people, events and issues from the earliest times to the present. Students analyze important events and issues in world civilizations, evaluate their causes and effects, trace the history and impact of major events, and use the process of historical inquiry to research, interpret, and use multiple sources of evidence, both primary and secondary. The course uses biographies and autobiographies, speeches and letters, poetry, songs, and artworks, some of which may be controversial. The course requires outside readings, projects, and research. The TAKS Level Exam includes information from this course. Students are urged to participate in competitive events, such as the Chronicle Editorial Cartoon Contest, essay contests, and academic events.

UNITED STATES HISTORY SINCE RECONSTRUCTION - PREP

Grade: 11

Prerequisites: none

Credit: 1 required for graduation; ½ credit per semester

United States History is a two-semester course. It covers all major historical events that played a significant role in shaping the economic, social, and cultural development of America from 1865 to the present. It includes study of the following areas relative to the United States including Reconstruction of Post-Civil War America, emergence as a world power, geographic influences on its historical development, economic development and growth, social and cultural development and political development. Students use primary and secondary source material such as biographies, autobiographies, landmark cases of the Supreme Court, speeches, letters, diaries, poetry, songs, and artworks to understand the past, and critical-thinking skills to explain and apply different methods that historians use to interpret events from the past. Students are encouraged to participate in various competitive events, such as History Fair, essay contests, or academic events.

AP U S HISTORY SINCE RECONSTRUCTION

Grade: 11

Prerequisites: A or B average in previous Social Studies class; teacher recommendation

Credit: 1 credit required for graduation; ½ credit per semester

AP United States History is a one-credit survey course for students who meet the criteria for the Advanced Placement Program. This course examines significant people, places, events, concepts, movements, and philosophies in American history from pre-Columbian times through the 20th century. Students will use college level texts and supplementary materials. Emphasis is placed upon knowledge acquisition, analysis of primary and secondary documents (some of which may be controversial), historical interpretations, critical thinking and independent study and research. Students will take the AP exam in United States History at the end of the class.

This class counts as the state required United States history credit. Students are encouraged to participate in competitive events, such as History Fair, essay contests, or academic events.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT - PREPARATORY

Grade: 12

Prerequisites: none

Credit: ½ credit required for graduation

United States Government is a one-semester course. Students will be exposed to the origins of political thought and the development of the American constitutional system. Topics covered in the course include: the Articles of Confederation, the U. S. Constitution, Federalism, the three branches of government, voting rights and suffrage, political parties, interest groups, and the federal bureaucracy. Students analyze primary source documents, the relationship between governmental policies and the culture of the United States, evaluate the importance of voluntary individual participation in a democratic society, and use critical-thinking skills in a variety of activities. Students are encouraged to participate in competitive events such as essay contests and academic events.

AP UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Grade: 12

Prerequisites: A or B average in previous social studies class; teacher recommendation

Credit: ½ credit required for graduation

This one semester AP course satisfies the government required for graduation. This course covers the foundations of the U.S. political system and development, structures, and functions of the U.S. governmental system. Students begin with an awareness of the ideological and philosophical traditions upon which the Constitution is based. Students evaluate how the Constitution limits the government through federalism, checks and balances, separation of powers, popular sovereignty, civil rights and liberties and through political participation. Students study each of the branches and their importance to our governing system. Students will be using a state approved college level textbook and supplementary reader. All students will be required to analyze and evaluate primary and secondary sources and also complete research assignments and essays. Students will take the AP exam at the end of the course. Students are encouraged to participate in competitive events, such as essay contests and academic events.

ECONOMICS - FREE ENTERPRISE SYSTEM

Grade: 12

Prerequisites: none

Credit: ½ credit required for graduation

Economics is a one-semester course. Students are involved in analysis of fundamental economics concepts such as supply and demand, scarcity, consumption, the business cycle, exchange, income accounting, employment theory, cyclical fluctuation, money, credit, banking, and consumer economic issues.

AP MACRO ECONOMICS

Grade: 12

Prerequisites: A or B in previous social studies class; teacher recommendation

Credit: ½ credit; this class will meet graduation requirements for economics This one semester course satisfies the ½ credit for graduation

Macroeconomics is designed to help students with a thorough understanding of principles of economics in the United States and the relations between and among national economies. This course covers economic concepts, which deal with scarcity, production exchange, distribution and consumption, national income, employment theory, money, credit and banking. Students will be using a state approved college textbook and workbook published by the National Council on Economics. All students will be required to analyze and evaluate primary and secondary sources and also complete research assignments and essays. Students will take the AP exam at the end of the course.

DEPARTMENT OF WORLD LANGUAGES

The descriptions provided below will serve as a general guide. The curriculum content for each level will progress in depth and complexity each year. Instructional techniques and methods may vary depending on the language being taught. Middle School Credits: We encourage students to continue instruction in the language course taken in middle school. Graduation requirements for world language must be with one continuous language. In other words, combining a variety of different language instruction is not allowed. Most students complete at least two or more years of world language instruction.

FIRST YEAR COURSES:

French 1, Spanish 1

Grade: 9 – 12

Prerequisites: none; native speakers of a romance language or speakers of a language other than English who have attended school in a country other than the United States for a period of six years may be placed in level two of the language after diagnostic evaluation by teacher or curriculum director.

Credit: 1 credit; ½ per semester

First-year languages represent the novice progress checkpoint at the high school level. The novice language learner will deal with the following familiar topics: school and classroom routine; family, home, health, and age; weather, time and measurements; leisure time, sports and vacation; and clothing and colors. The student will develop knowledge and skills in communication, cultures, connections, comparisons, and communities. Communication will be acquired using the skills of listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Cultures will be appreciated by gathering knowledge and understanding of other cultures. Connections will be constructed by developing relationships with other subject areas, and by participating in cultural events.

SECOND YEAR COURSES:

French 2, Spanish 2

Grade: 9 – 12

Prerequisites: Completion of the first year language or placement by examination and/or teacher approval. Native speakers of a romance language or speakers of a language other than English who has attended school in a country other than the United States for a period of six years may be placed in level two of the language after diagnostic evaluation by teacher or curriculum director.

Credit: 1 credit; ½ per semester

Students in level 2 continue to develop at the novice level. The novice language learner, while continuing to address familiar topics such as the weather, time, family, age, school, home, travel, health, sports, clothes and food, will also augment his or her knowledge and skills. Objectives at this level include: enhancing the students' communication skills of listening, speaking, reading, and writing; fostering the students' deeper appreciation of cultures by gaining deeper knowledge and understanding of other cultures; strengthening the connections with other subject matters; emphasizing comparisons by comparing students' own language to the language studied; and fostering a sense of community through a variety of activities designed to bring about personal enrichment and career development

THIRD YEAR COURSES:

Spanish 3

Grade: 10 – 12

Prerequisites: Completion of the second year language or placement by examination and/or teacher approval

Credit: 1 credit; ½ per semester

Students in level 3 will expand their ability to perform novice tasks and develop their ability to perform the tasks of the intermediate language learner. When dealing with everyday topics, the students will intensify their knowledge and skills in communication, cultures, connections, and communities. Students will be presented information and convey short messages on everyday topics. Students will study of the practices, products and perspective of the people(s) who speak the language studied. Comparisons will be created so that insights into the nature of language and culture can be enriched. Communities will be integrated through activities, cultural events, and technology to promote life long learning.

DEPARTMENT OF PERFORMING AND VISUAL ARTS

MUSIC DEPARTMENT

Students may fulfill Fine Arts and elective requirements for graduation by successfully completing one or more of the following courses: Band 1, Choir 1, Jazz Band 1, Instrumental Ensemble 1.

BAND 1 - 4

Grade: (1) 9 – 12; (2) 10 – 12; (3) 11 – 12; (4) 12

Prerequisites: Previous band experience, audition, and instructor approval

Credit: 1 credit per year; ½ per semester; (.5 fine arts credit and .5 PE credit per year)

Band is divided into marching band first semester and concert band the second semester. Schedule permitting, first semester students are required to take two classes, one for PE credit and one for fine arts credit. Second semester, students take only one band class for Fine Art credit. A student enrolled in the band program for four years will satisfy their entire PE credits for graduation. The marching band performs for football games, contests, and other events. The concert band performs for concerts and contests.

THEATRE DEPARTMENT

Students may fulfill Fine Arts and elective requirements for graduation by successfully completing one or more of the following theatre courses: Theatre Arts 1 (one credit), Technical Theatre 1 (one credit), Theatre Production (one credit). The prerequisite for each second Level theatre course is one credit of Theatre 1 in the corresponding discipline.

THEATRE 1 - INTRODUCTION TO THEATRE

Grade: (1) 9 – 12; (2) 10 – 12; (3) 11 – 12; (4) 12

Prerequisites: none

Credit: 1 credit for per year; ½ per semester

Theatre 1 is an introductory survey course designed for the beginning theatre student and students interested in fulfilling their Fine Arts graduation requirement. In this class, we will examine theatre history, basic theatre terminology, and introductory technical theatre concepts. Within this class, students will perform theatrical scenes, monologues, and improvisations.

THEATRE 2 - 4 (intermediate level)

Grade: (2) 10 – 12; (3) 11 – 12; (4) 12

Prerequisites: Theatre 1

Credit: 1 credit per year; ½ per semester

This course is designed for the serious theatre student. These students will perform numerous monologues and scenes. Students will examine styles and movements of theatre from a literacy and historical perspective.

ART 1

Grade: 9 - 12

Prerequisites: none

Credit: 1 credit; ½ per semester

This course is designed as a beginning art class for students wishing to pursue upper level art courses as well as for those who wish to satisfy their Fine Arts requirement for graduation. Students will explore drawing, color, two-dimensional design, painting, printmaking and three dimensional design. Students will study both historical and contemporary artists and art movements.

DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION

In Physical Education, students acquire the knowledge and skills for movement that provide the foundation for enjoyment, continued social development through physical activity, and access to a physically-active lifestyle. The student exhibits a physically active lifestyle and understands the relationship between physical activity and health throughout life.

FOUNDATIONS OF PERSONAL FITNESS

Grade: 9

Prerequisites: none

Credit: ½ credit (required for graduation)

Foundations of Personal Fitness represents a new approach in physical education and the concept of personal fitness. The basic purpose of this course is to motivate students to strive for lifetime personal fitness with an emphasis on the health-related components of physical fitness. The knowledge and skills taught in this course include teaching students about the process of becoming fit as well as achieving some degree of fitness within the class. The concept of wellness, or striving to reach optimal levels of health, is the corner stone of this course and is exemplified

HEALTH

Grade: 9

Prerequisites: none

Credit: ½ credit (required for graduation)

Note: Health Science Technology students receive health credit for HST I or HST II Students will develop skills that will make them health-literate adults. Students gain a deeper understanding of the knowledge and behaviors they use to safeguard their health – particularly pertaining to health risks. Students are taught how to access accurate information that they can use to promote health for themselves and others. Students use problem-solving, research, goal setting and communication skills to protect their health and that of the community.

PE TEAM SPORTS

Grade: 10 - 12

Prerequisites: Foundations of Personal Fitness and Health

Credit: ½ credit

Students enrolled in Team Sports are expected to develop health-related fitness and an appreciation for team- work and fair play. Like other high school physical education courses, Team Sports is less concerned with the acquisition of physical fitness during the course than reinforcing the concept of incorporating physical activity into a lifestyle beyond high school. reinforcing the concept of incorporating physical activity into a lifestyle beyond high school.

ADVENTURE/OUTDOOR EDUCATION

Grade: 10 - 12

Prerequisites: Foundations of Personal Fitness; Health

Credit: ½ credit

Students enrolled in adventure and outdoor education are expected to develop competency in out-door educational activities that provide opportunities for enjoyment and challenge. Emphasis is placed on activities that promote respect for the environment and that can be enjoyed for a lifetime. Students will be able to demonstrate competency in two or more of the following outdoor educational activities: backpacking, boating, camping, hiking, water sports or water safety.

INDIVIDUAL SPORTS

Grade: 10 - 12

Prerequisites: Foundations of Personal Fitness and Health

Credit: ½ credit

Texas (recognized by the City of Houston) Department of Health Certification Exam. All students are urged to take this exam as it instantly sets them apart from all others who will be seeking employment... whether in the food industry or not. It is also required for return to the course for the 2nd and 3rd years.

DEPARTMENT OF ATHLETICS

The Washington Athletic Program is designed to enable student athletes the opportunity to participate in organized, competitive sports. All sports are designed to enhance the students' athletic ability while stressing high academic standards. All athletes must have a willingness to spend time during and after school to attend practice both in season and off-season. Each athlete will be assigned a class period designed to enhance skills and allow for practice during the school day. All athletics will receive PE credit for each athletic period. All Washington coaches are trained and dedicated professionals who want the best for each Washington athletic.

Grade: 9 - 12

Prerequisites: Many freshmen are able to enroll in an athletic period prior to try outs; however, we recommend that students contact the coaching representative for the specific sport for approval.

Required paperwork must be completed prior to participation, such as parent approval form, physical exam by a licensed physician, insurance payment or waiver.

Credit: ½ credit per semester up to 2 full credits; see counselor for limitations and restrictions.

Boys:

Basketball
Baseball
Football
Soccer
Track/Field

Girls:

Basketball
Cheerleading
Soccer
Softball
Track/Field

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS

DEBATE I - III

Grade: 9 - 12

Prerequisites: Students must be willing to participate in speech contests held on the weekends.

Credit: 1 elective credit each year; ½ per semester

This challenging, year long, elective course focuses on current issues, research, analysis, argumentation, and public speaking. Students will prepare debate cases for policy and value based topics. Students are expected to prepare for and compete in local debate tournaments. No public speaking classes or experience in debate are necessary. Interested students are encouraged to take Debate I as freshmen.

ACCOUNTING (HCC DUAL CREDIT)

Grade: 11 – 12

Prerequisites: HCC requirements

Credit: ½ per semester; this course DOES NOT count as technology graduation credit

HCC requirements apply. Students implement personal and interpersonal skills to strengthen individual performance in the workplace and in society and to make a successful transition to the workforce and/or postsecondary education. Students apply technical skills to address business applications of emerging technologies. Students develop a foundation in the economical, financial, technological, international, social, and ethical aspects of business to become competent consumers, employees, and entrepreneurs.

BUSINESS COMPUTER INFORMATION SYSTEMS (BCIS)

Grade: 10 - 12

Prerequisites: Keyboarding

Credit: 1 credit; ½ per semester; counts as technology graduation credit

Develops technology skills with applications to personal to business situations focusing on word processing, spreadsheets, databases, telecommunications, desktop publishing, presentation management, networking, operating systems, and emerging technologies; and develops intermediate-level skill.

BUSINESS IMAGE MANAGEMENT & MULTIMEDIA (BIMM)

Grade: 11 - 12

Prerequisites: Keyboarding

Credit: 1 technology credit; ½ per semester; counts as technology graduation credit

This course is designed to develop proficiencies in designing, importing, and manipulating advanced text, graphics, audio, and video used in presentation management, multimedia productions, publishing systems, and emerging technologies.

COMMUNICATION GRAPHICS

Grade: 11 - 12

Prerequisites: BIMM; teacher approval; computer literacy skills

Credit: 1 credit; ½ per semester counts as technology graduation credit

This advanced course involving the application of communication graphics is designed to further develop proficiencies in designing, importing, and manipulating advanced text, graphics, audio, and video used in presentation management, multimedia productions, publishing systems, and emerging technologies.