



Career Exploration  
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'Promoting Excellence in Academics, Arts, and Athletics'

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# INTRODUCTION

The staff at Mount Vernon Community High School has developed this Course of Studies booklet. Its purpose is to provide information about the courses offered at Mount Vernon High School next school year. This guide will help students and their parents become better acquainted with the content of specific courses and will aid students in the course selection process that will be taking place in February.

## HOW TO USE THIS COURSE GUIDE

In this booklet, you will find a brief description of each course offered at Mount Vernon High School.

The length of each course, recommended grade level, credit allotted, and any prerequisite for each course are listed. Prerequisites are conditions that must be met before enrollment. These prerequisites are established to provide the maximum assurance that the courses will be completed satisfactorily. A student who passes a course may not repeat that course for credit, unless indicated or approved by administration, but may repeat the course to earn a higher grade.

Students and parents are encouraged to read the descriptions, consider the recommendations made by your current instructors, discuss possible selection options, and be prepared to determine your final course selections in time for course registration, usually held in February.

Keep in mind that the counselor, registrar, and teachers are available to assist students and their parents in the selection of subjects and extra-curricular activities. It is recommended that parents contact the High School counselor regarding aptitude and achievement test scores when making college or vocational plans. Appointments with the counselor or administrative staff may be made by calling 895-8843.

Some courses are required at each grade level. Be sure to include them on your form for next year. It is recommended that every student, grades 9-11, take a minimum of thirteen (13) classes each academic year. It is recommended that seniors take a minimum of twelve (12) classes. Students must be enrolled in four (4) courses each semester to be considered a full-time student. A class is defined as any academic course in any of the core and/or vocational areas as well as band, choir, orchestra, and physical education. (Students should check the graduation requirements on page 6).

Before completing your course request form, read this course guide very carefully. Included in it are the requirements for graduation as well as the courses that will be offered for next year. After carefully reading the entire guide, you are to list the courses you wish to take on your grade level's course request form.

High School students all too often forget that the record they make during their high school career is part of their permanent record for life. Employers, colleges, and military personnel often contact the school for information about students. They are not only interested in grade point averages and class rankings, but they also want to know about attendance, behavior, extra-curricular involvement, etc. Your administrators, teachers, and counselor constantly remind you of the value of developing an appealing body of classes and activities during your four years at MVHS. Your parents should also help in stressing the importance of doing your best. Not all students can be top scholars, athletes, actors, musicians, cheerleaders, etc., but everyone should be attempting to do their best.

The records you establish in high school are important, as they are the start of life-time careers. It is essential that students plan for the future and contribute to their own growth as they progress through their high school years.

# NCAA Eligibility

If you wish to participate in NCAA Division I or II athletics, you need to be certified by the NCAA Eligibility Center. You need to qualify academically and you will also need to be cleared as an amateur student-athlete. You are responsible for achieving and protecting your eligibility status!

For more detailed information and to obtain a downloadable copy of the NCAA's official "Guide for College Student-Athletes", be sure to go to the NCAA Eligibility Center web site at: [www.eligibilitycenter.org](http://www.eligibilitycenter.org). You can also get a complete list of Mount Vernon High School's approved NCAA core courses by visiting the NCAA's web page. You can enter the site as an NCAA College-Bound Student-Athlete. Navigate to the "Resources" tab, click "U.S. Students", and then "List of NCAA Courses". You will find a complete list of Mount Vernon High School's approved NCAA core courses by typing in our school's 6-digit CEEB/ACT code: 163065.

Also available on the NCAA site are lists of the number of core courses in English, mathematics, science, social studies, and foreign language that any potential Division I or Division II student-athlete must complete in high school in order to be eligible for athletic competition as a first-year college student.

## Checklist for College-Bound Student-Athletes

If you think there may be a chance that you will be recruited as an NCAA Division I or Division II athlete, you should do the following:

- Beginning in your freshman year of high school, take rigorous and challenging course work.
- Register at the beginning of your junior year at [www.eligibilitycenter.org](http://www.eligibilitycenter.org).
- Ask your high school counselor to send your transcript to the NCAA Eligibility Center at the end of your junior year.
- Take the ACT or SAT and use the code "9999" to have your official scores sent directly to the NCAA Eligibility Center.
- Check with your high school counselor to make sure you are on track to graduate on time with your class and have the required number of core courses.
- Request final amateurism certification during your senior year (beginning April 1).
- Ask your high school counselor to submit your final transcript with proof of graduation.

## Mount Vernon High School's "Denied / Not Recognized" NCAA Core Courses

The NCAA Eligibility Center regularly evaluates high school course content and makes a judgment as to whether a core course (a course in only the areas of English, mathematics, social studies, science, or foreign language) is "approved" or "recognized" in determining initial eligibility to compete upon entering college. Only high school core courses that have been approved by the NCAA Eligibility Center may be used by a potential Division I or Division II student-athlete to meet the number of core courses required to be considered eligible for college athletic competition. The Mount Vernon High School core courses listed below have NOT been approved for eligibility consideration by the NCAA Eligibility Center.

\*\*It should be noted that all of these courses continue to meet the Mount Vernon School Board's standards as rigorous and comprehensive courses with credit applying toward graduation. Additionally, these are recognized core courses in all calculations related to the Regents Admission Index (RAI) as used by Iowa's three state universities for admission consideration.

DRAMATIC INTERP. & EXPRESSION  
GRAMMAR & USAGE IN COMPOSITION  
PUBLICATION & DESIGN  
CONSUMER MATH  
FOUNDATIONS OF SCIENCE

FILM AS LITERATURE  
INTERPERSONAL COMMUNICATION  
SPORTS IN AMERICAN SOCIETY  
CONTEMPORARY SCIENCE

# COURSES – STUDENT DROP / ADD REQUESTS

At Mount Vernon High School the staff believes all students can learn and need to be in challenging and rigorous classes. Students are responsible for determining and accepting the course of study for which they register. They must plan very deliberately, always keeping in mind high school graduation requirements, individual abilities and interests, and post high school plans. Schedule adjustments will be made for academic reasons only. In many cases, parent permission will be required, but does not guarantee a schedule adjustment. Students are to limit their visits to the guidance office to make schedule changes to “one and done”.

Students must request to drop or add courses within the first three (3) days of each semester. Dropping a class after the third day of a semester will result in a grade of “F” on the student’s transcript. Drop / Add forms requiring parent and teacher signatures may be used to make any schedule change. Remember, students must be enrolled in four (4) courses each semester to be considered a full-time student.

Schedule changes are limited and will be based on the following criteria:

- 1. Will be made during your free time only. You will not be excused from classes to make changes.**
- 2. Only adds or drops allowed. Shuffling of classes for convenience is discouraged.**
- 3. No additions to sections with enrollment already at the designated maximum level.**
- 4. Changes can be made for legitimate educational reasons. If you have extenuating circumstances that you believe justify a schedule change please see a counselor. Unless there are unusual circumstances, the counselor will not allow changes such as.....**
  - a. to change teachers**
  - b. to change lunch periods**
  - c. to change to a friend’s class**
  - d. to change to a section with more students than the section you are already in.**
- 5. Administrative approval may be required for some schedule changes.**
- 6. MVHS will follow the Kirkwood policies for courses taken on the Kirkwood campus or for online Kirkwood offerings. For Kirkwood courses taken on our campus (ex. Menu Planning/Nutrition, College Statistics), we will follow MVHS policy.**
- 7. In rare circumstances, students may be dropped from a course with a MEDICAL WITHDRAWAL. Students will need the correct paperwork from a physical or mental health care provider. Documentation must be in writing describing the absences and the medical procedures taking place with the student.**



# CAREER EXPLORATION OPPORTUNITIES

- **INTERNSHIP - .5 credit**  
**GRADES 11-12 ONE SEMESTER COURSE**  
**PREREQUISITE: COMPLETE A JOB SHADOW**

Through its internship program, the Workplace Learning Connection offers students a chance to gain work experience and specific knowledge about a particular career by spending time on a real job site.

High school juniors and seniors are assigned to a job site for 90 hours of planned and supervised career experiences spread over a 9-week period. Interns learn new skills, apply classroom knowledge in a real-world setting, develop employability behaviors that better prepare them for the workplace, and gain insight that will help them make more informed career choices. There are three requirements to meet in order to receive elective credit through MVHS:

- Complete 90 hours on a job site, working 2 hours per day for at least a 9-week period. Note that this requirement will mean blocking out at least a 2-hour window of time during the regular school day, thus limiting total class availability at MVHS. You will earn .5 unit of elective credit at MVHS for your 90-hour commitment.
- Complete the Guided Student Journal provided by the Workplace Learning Connection.
- Attend and participate in the three career development meetings sponsored by the Workplace Learning Connection.

A job internship is a real-life career exploration opportunity. The experience is designed for a student who has accumulated enough credits to allow the time to spend off-campus on a job site. Even though the internship will most likely be completed in 9 weeks, a student will have to make time available in his/her regular school schedule throughout an entire semester.

- **JOB SHADOW – NO CREDIT**  
**GRADES 10-12 1 DAY**  
**NO PREREQUISITES**

Job shadow students go into the workplace and spend two to six hours learning as much as they can about a specific job. Students will observe and interact with employers and workers on an actual job site to see if this career is a good fit for them.

In general, a student may apply for one job shadow experience per semester. Application forms must be completed and are available to students in late August (to apply for a first-semester job shadow) and in early December (to apply for a second-semester job shadow).

This experiential learning helps students better understand available local careers, as well as make a connection between what they're learning in high school and what will be required of them as employees.

Students must apply for a job shadow in a specific career area. Once assigned to a job shadow a student is responsible to:

- Contact the employer to verify that the student will attend the job shadow opportunity.
- Complete and return a MVHS pre-absence form at least one day prior to going on the job shadow.
- After the job shadow, complete an online survey to provide feedback to the employer and to the Workplace Learning Connection.
- After the job shadow, complete a "Thank You" post card, addressed to the employer. The post card is supplied and mailed by the Workplace Learning Connection.

A job shadow is a real-life career exploration opportunity. The experience is designed for a student who wants more direct information about a specific career area. A job shadow student must be responsible and dependable. The student will miss regular classroom time and must make up all missed work. A student must meet application deadlines, contact the employer in advance to verify attendance and follow up with the employer after the job shadow experience.

- No grade or credit is awarded for completing a job shadow.

# PROFILE OF A SUCCESSFUL STUDENT AT KIRKWOOD COMMUNITY COLLEGE:

This profile defines student characteristics that most commonly lead to successful participation and completion of College Credit in High School classes:

## Academic skills or standing:

- ◆ Demonstrates excellent reading or writing skills, or uses reading and writing accommodations effectively
- ◆ Completes all assignments by due date, including assigned reading
- ◆ Demonstrates self-motivation as a learner
- ◆ Applies classroom learning to cases, observations, and service learning
- ◆ Has a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5 in academic courses
- ◆ Junior or senior status

## Personal Traits/Dispositions:

- ◆ Demonstrates respect for others
- ◆ Demonstrates persistence
- ◆ Attends class (the entire class) every day unless there is a legitimate reason (illness, death in family, participation in required school activity, etc.)
- ◆ Exhibits intellectual curiosity and openness to new ideas
- ◆ Works well as part of a team
- ◆ Demonstrates honesty and ethical decision-making

## Maturity:

- ◆ Demonstrates self-advocacy and communications skills (communicates needs)
- ◆ Successfully manages academic, work, extracurricular, and other commitments

## COLLEGE CREDIT OPPORTUNITIES

### ● **SENIOR YEAR PLUS**

At MVHS, there are numerous opportunities to take courses that would earn a student college credit while in high school. This is due in large part to the legislation known as "Senior Year Plus". Senior Year Plus serves as an umbrella for a variety of programs including Alternative Concurrent Enrollment (formerly community college PSEO), concurrent enrollment and Post-Secondary Enrollment Options through a four year institution.

Mount Vernon High School, in cooperation with area colleges, offers a wide variety of dual credit (credit given on both a high school and college transcript) college courses to 12th 11th and recommended 9th and 10th graders.

Students must be aware when taking courses through Senior Year Plus that the grade they receive will be their grade for that class on their high school transcript. In addition, MVHS receives no progress reports from the college/university about student performance. The student is ultimately responsible for monitoring their own progress and success.

Students must consider that there can be serious consequences for poor grades in college courses. All grades for college courses will go on their official college transcript. A student who does poorly on college classes creates a low college grade point average (GPA) which may put that student on academic probation when beginning their post-secondary education. Academic probation status sometimes leaves a college student ineligible to receive financial aid. Please consider all the consequences, good or bad, of taking college level work.

Students may enroll in Kirkwood courses (alternative concurrent enrollment) or other post-secondary institutions. Most commonly, students enroll in courses through Cornell College and the University of Iowa, however other non-community colleges are included under the Senior Year Plus Legislation.



- **ALTERNATIVE CONCURRENT ENROLLMENT**

Students in 11th and 12th grades and recommended 9th and 10th graders may enroll in courses at eligible post-secondary community colleges under the Senior Year Plus legislation. The district will pay the post-secondary institution for each course enrollment approved by the Board. This includes payment for the required books for the course. In these courses, high school students are immersed with college students and the instructor is not necessarily aware that the student is still in high school.

Mount Vernon High school contracts with Kirkwood Community College for alternative concurrent enrollment courses. As part of earning Kirkwood college credit for these courses, students must complete an online application to Kirkwood Community College and must provide a Social Security number as part of the secure online college application process to create the official student record.

**THE SENIOR YEAR PLUS PROGRAM REQUIRES THAT THE FOLLOWING PREREQUISITES BE FULFILLED FOR ALTERNATIVE CONCURRENT ENROLLMENT COURSES AND PSEO COURSES:**

- ◆ Students must demonstrate proficiency in each of 3 academic areas: Reading, Mathematics, and Science as measured by standardized scores on the Iowa Assessments OR ACT.
- ◆ At Kirkwood Community College, students must take the ACCUPLACER, ALEKS or the ACT and have a qualifying score that meets Kirkwood admission requirements. Interested students should check with the counselor to look at specific scores required. The ACCUPLACER and ALEKS can be taken at no cost at the Kirkwood Testing Center in Cedar Hall (319-398-5456). For the ACT, students must plan ahead and register in advance.
- ◆ Students who don't meet qualifying scores established by area colleges will forfeit the opportunity to enroll in a college credit class.
- ◆ A student may not enroll in an Alternate Concurrent Enrollment course that has a Kirkwood course number below 100
- ◆ Courses must be credit-bearing and lead to an educational degree at an eligible post- secondary institution (music and art lessons, internship type courses are examples of courses not approved under Senior Year Plus Legislation).
- ◆ Courses must be non-religious or sectarian. Prior to registering for any college course, students must receive approval from MVHS.
- ◆ Courses taken as Alternative Concurrent Enrollment cannot replace MVHS graduation requirements. Any course taken as Alternative Concurrent Enrollment will be counted as .5 elective credit, not core credit, upon successful completion of the course (D- or better).
- ◆ Students must be enrolled in four MVHS courses to be considered full-time and be considered eligible for alternative concurrent courses and PSEO courses.
- ◆ Successfully completed alternative concurrent courses award both high school and college credit. The student will be awarded .5 elective credit for Mount Vernon High School and the credits awarded by Kirkwood. The grade received will appear on the high school and college transcript and will be calculated into the high school GPA.
- ◆ Students not planning to attend the college where credit was awarded upon graduating high school should plan to include the college transcript as part of their application process to other colleges. This does not guarantee that the credit will transfer to other colleges or into your degree program. Students must request the college transcript. MVHS does not have access to college transcripts.
- ◆ MVHS students are highly encouraged to exhaust the MVHS course offerings before taking courses through a post-secondary school. Students who complete the high school course first have shown the greatest success in the college course.

**Students who wish to enroll in an Alternative Concurrent course should contact the counselor for a list of courses available, the application form, and to confirm that pre-requisites for the course(s) have been fulfilled.**

- **CAREER ACADEMIES through Kirkwood Community College**

The concurrent enrollment program, also known as district-to-community-college sharing, promotes rigorous academic or career and technical pursuits by providing opportunities for high school students to enroll part-time in eligible nonsectarian courses at or through a community college. Per Senior Year Plus, concurrent enrollment

courses are offered through contractual agreements between community colleges and school districts within their service area. All college credit-bearing coursework offered at the Kirkwood Linn Regional Center and Mount Vernon High school are considered concurrent enrollment. (Same pre-requisites apply as described above). MVHS is responsible for payment of the course fee and will get supplementary funding from the state for student enrollment in the course(s). Academies offered at the Linn County Regional Center for the 2018-2019 school year are:

- ◆ Arts and Sciences Academy: General education core courses for students that are going to go for an associate's degree or transfer to a four year college.
- ◆ Advanced Manufacturing and Welding Academy: Students learn basic AutoCAD operations, general machine set-up, basic blueprint reading and math skills, as well as computer-based and hands-on training in code writing and CNC machine setup and operations.
- ◆ Architecture, Construction, and Engineering Academy: Unique, hands-on laboratory and classroom experiences in basic architecture and construction skills, with support from industry experts, including jobsite tours.
- ◆ Business Exploration Academy: Some of the most popular college majors are in business-related fields. This academy will give you a jump start to determine which areas best match your future goals.
- ◆ Business Social Media Marketing: Organizations of all sizes are turning to Social Media to create, manage and enhance brands via a Facebook page, Twitter profile or Instagram feed. This experience packages four courses required for Kirkwood's Social Media Marketing certificate that can be completed at the post-secondary level. Learn the fundamentals, design principles and core concepts of marketing necessary to become more effective in one of the fastest growing approaches to communication in a variety of sectors and career fields.
- ◆ Computer Software Development Academy: The Kirkwood Computer Software Development Academy can lead students to college certificates, diplomas, associates, bachelors and graduate degrees. Examples of college majors include, but are not limited to: Computer Programmer, Business Systems Analyst, Internet Programmer, and more
- ◆ Criminal Justice Academy: This college-level course work is designed to prepare you for your next step into a degree program or familiarize you with the criminal justice system before you seek entry-level opportunities.
- ◆ Dental Academy: Foundational course work jump-starts students in one of three dental related career fields.
- ◆ Education Academy: This fast-paced learning experience provides an introduction to students pursuing education careers. The curriculum combines a strong arts and sciences background with professional courses.
- ◆ Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) Academy: Fast-paced, hands-on learning environment that prepares students in pre-hospital emergency or entry-level firefighter. Utilize skills mastered, under supervision, in actual pre-hospital and emergency settings.
- ◆ Graphics, Media, Communications, and Design Academy: Learn to think creatively about the world around you. Explore design, hone your creative problem solving skills, and learn to use the most up-to-date software. Students will build on their art and communication skills to explore new levels of creativity, and layout and design fundamentals.
- ◆ Pre-Human Services Academy: This academy is a blend of theory and opportunities for real-life application in social service agencies.
- ◆ Industrial Maintenance, Renewable Energy and Automation Academy: Development of entry-level skills and industry certification and knowledge for those who want to pursue one of the many careers available in the sustainable energy and industrial maintenance industry.
- ◆ Information Technology Academy: This academy exposes students at an introductory level to networking, programming, and PC hardware to give them a better idea of which path would be best suited for them.
- ◆ Patient Care Academy: Unique, hands-on learning experience providing care for patients in a clinical setting. Work side-by-side with health care professionals in a long term health care facility. Fulfill prerequisites for many college health care programs.
- ◆ Pharmacy Technician Academy: Through hands-on clinical experiences students gain a basic understanding of medicine, prescription calculation, and record keeping required in a retail or hospital pharmacy.
- ◆ Pre-Allied Health Academy: The Physical Therapist Assistant Academy provides an introduction to Physical Therapy related careers. The curriculum combines a strong arts and sciences background with professional courses.
- ◆ Pre-Professional Academy: The Kirkwood Pre-Professional Academy prepares students for associates, bachelors and graduate degrees in Pre-Professional Programs (Pre-Chiro, Pre-Dental, Pre-Pharm, Pre-Med, and other Pre-Professional-related fields).

- ◆ Project Lead the Way: PLTW courses may be included in a package of academy classes at Linn Regional or offered as a companion experience. Courses include: Computer Science and Software Engineering, Environmental Sustainability, and Digital Electronics.
- ◆ Transportation Academy: Students become skilled in real life bumper-to-bumper diagnosis and maintenance, with certification opportunities as a power user of Snap On diagnostic tools. Experience cutting edge virtual training technology used in welding and auto collision repair to develop necessary foundation skills in the expanded automotive and transportation field.

Please note that the academy is expected to be taken in its entirety (with the exception of Project Lead the Way) not just one or two courses of the specific academy. For details on the courses and credits within each academy, see [www.kirkwood.edu/linnacademies](http://www.kirkwood.edu/linnacademies). Students will receive both high school credit and college credit (called dual enrollment credit). The college credits possible for each Kirkwood course are listed on the course descriptions. All one semester dual enrollment credit courses, whether taken at Linn County Regional Center, alternative concurrent, or PSEO will receive .5 Mount Vernon high school elective credit. Students interested in any of these programs should contact the counseling office for more information and be aware of timelines and deadlines for signing up for these programs.

## Extended Learning Program (ELP) TIER 3 - Accommodation possibilities:

- ◆ **Substitute a general course with an AP course**
  - **Example: substitute AP Psychology for Psychology**
- ◆ **Pretest out of a required course in order to take a related AP course**
  - **Example: pretest out of Financial Literacy to take AP Microeconomics**
- ◆ **Take an AP course as a freshman and/or a sophomore**
  - **Example: take AP Computer Science as a freshman**

## Advanced Placement (AP) Online Courses Through Iowa Online Advanced Placement Academy (IOAPA)

- AP Online courses are rigorous, **college**-level classes offered in a variety of disciplines.
- Any junior or senior may take AP Online courses.
- Freshmen and sophomore ELP students may take AP Online courses.
- Students must have an open period in their schedule for an AP Online course.
- Student should feel very comfortable with online course format and be an independent learner.
- Students will have both an online instructor and a mentor available at school for additional in-person support.

Space is very limited in these courses; classes will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis. Registration for an online AP course must go through the counselor's office. Registration for first semester begins in April and must be completed no later than mid-June. Registration for second semester begins in November and must be completed before winter break.

Online Advanced Placement courses available:

AP Biology  
AP Calculus AB  
AP Chemistry  
AP Computer Science A  
AP Computer Science Principles  
AP English Language & Composition  
AP English Literature & Composition  
AP Macroeconomics\*  
AP Microeconomics\*  
AP Psychology\*  
AP Spanish  
AP Statistics  
AP US Government and Politics\*

AP US History  
Introduction to Computer Science\* - 9th grade only  
(A semester-long online class designed to help prepare students for AP computer science classes.)

\*denotes semester-long class, all others are year-long

Course details are listed on the IOAPA course catalog page at:  
<http://www2education.uiowa.edu/belinblank/students/ioapa/Catalog.aspx>

Contact: DeAnn Searce, ELP Coordinator  
Phone: 895-6254, ext 3122  
E-mail: [dscearce@mvcasd.org](mailto:dscearce@mvcasd.org)

## SPECIAL TESTING PROGRAMS

There are numerous tests administered by organizations other than high schools for special purposes such as college admission, scholarships, placement, and vocational guidance. Therefore, it is necessary that students begin planning early. The choice of college will determine which tests are needed. Information about these tests may be obtained in the counseling office. Students are encouraged to discuss their individual needs with a counselor.

- ◆ PSAT/National Merit Scholastic Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT) - This test is an elective test administered to sophomores and juniors during the fall semester. For sophomores, it provides practice for the SAT and for juniors, initiates the selection process for National Merit Scholarship winners. There is a fee for this test.
- ◆ American College Testing Program (ACT) - The ACT is used by most four year colleges and universities for admission, placement, and scholarships. This test is most often taken during the spring (April) of the junior year, but can be taken in June, as well as at the beginning (September/October) of the senior year. The ACT may be used as one of the assessments to fulfill dual credit course eligibility requirements. Registration is online. Information is available in the counseling office. There is a fee for this test.
- ◆ College Entrance Examination Board (SAT) - Some colleges and some national scholarships require the SAT. This test is mainly for seniors although some juniors may wish to take it in the spring or summer. Students should consult their counselor for testing dates and centers. Registration materials are available in the counseling office. There is a fee for this test.
- ◆ Advanced Placement - These tests are used by some colleges to allow students advanced standing, advanced credit or both before they actually enroll as freshmen at college. Students are strongly advised to check the policy of their prospective college regarding advanced credit or placement before taking these tests. There is a fee for this test.
- ◆ ASVAB - The ASVAB is a multiple-aptitude battery that measures developed abilities and helps predict future academic and occupational success in the military. Students who take the ASVAB are not required to enlist in the military. Results can also be used by students to guide them into career areas where they show strength and interest. There is NO fee for this test.
- ◆ ACCUPLACER –The ACCUPLACER is a college placement test used to evaluate students' skills in math, reading, and writing. Community colleges use the ACCUPLACER to place students in appropriate classes. (At MVHS, the ACCUPLACER is used as one of the assessments to fulfill dual credit course eligibility requirements.) There is NO fee for this test.
- ◆ ALEKS – The ALEKS is a college placement test used to evaluate students' skills in math. Colleges use the ALEKS to place students in appropriate classes. (At MVHS, the ALEKS is used as one of the assessments to fulfill dual credit course eligibility requirements.) There is NO fee for this test.

# High School Course Requirements for Admission to Iowa's Regent Universities

In addition to meeting the Regent Admission Index requirement, students must complete the minimum number of high school courses specified below for the institution to which they're applying.

Subject Area	Iowa State University	The University of Iowa	University of Northern Iowa
<b>English/Language Arts</b>	Four years of English/Language Arts emphasizing writing, speaking, reading, as well as an understanding and appreciation of literature.	Four years, with an emphasis on the analysis and interpretation of literature, composition, and speech.	Four years, including one year of composition; also may include one year of speech, communication, or journalism.
<b>Math</b>	Three years, including one year each of algebra, geometry, and advanced algebra.	Three years, including two years of algebra and one year of geometry, for admission to the <b>College of Liberal Arts and Sciences</b> . Four years, including two years of algebra, one year of geometry, and one year of higher mathematics (trigonometry, analysis, or calculus), for admission to the <b>College of Engineering</b> .	Three years, including the equivalent of algebra, geometry, and advanced algebra.
<b>Natural Science</b>	Three years, including one year each from any two of the following: biology, chemistry, and physics.	Three years, including one year each from any two of the following: biology, chemistry, and physics for admission to the <b>College of Liberal Arts and Sciences</b> . Three years, including at least one year of chemistry and one year of physics, for admission to the <b>College of Engineering</b> .	Three years, including courses in general science, biology, chemistry, earth science, or physics; laboratory experience highly recommended.
<b>Social Science</b>	Two years for admission to the <b>Colleges of Agriculture, Business, Design, Human Sciences, and Engineering</b> . Three years for admission to the <b>College of Liberal Arts and Sciences</b> .	Three years, with U.S. history and world history recommended for admission to the <b>College of Liberal Arts and Sciences</b> . Two years, with U.S. history and world history recommended, for admission to the <b>College of Engineering</b> .	Three years, including courses in anthropology, economics, geography, government, history, psychology, or sociology.
<b>Foreign Language</b>	Two years of a single foreign language for admission to the <b>College of Liberal Arts and Sciences</b> and the <b>College of Engineering</b> . Foreign language courses are not required for admission to the <b>Colleges of Agriculture, Business, Design, or Human Sciences</b> .	Two years of a single foreign language.	Foreign language courses are not required for admission. However, two years of a foreign language in high school with a C- or above in the last term will meet the university graduation requirement.
<b>Other Courses</b>	Specific elective courses are not required for admission to Iowa State University.	Specific elective courses are not required for admission to The University of Iowa.	Two years of additional courses from the required subject areas, foreign languages, or fine arts.

Note: Non-resident freshman applicants may be held to higher standards for admission, but must meet at least the same requirements as resident freshman applicants.

# Regent Admission Index

Students from Iowa high schools planning to begin studies at an Iowa Regents institution must have a Regent Admission Index score of at least 245 and take the minimum number of required high school courses to qualify for automatic admission to Iowa State University, the University of Northern Iowa, and The University of Iowa. Students who achieve a score less than 245 will be considered for admission on an individual basis.

The index combines four factors that strongly predict success at regent universities: ACT or SAT test score, high school rank, high school cumulative grade-point average, and the number of completed high school core courses (which include only the courses listed below). **Information you will need to complete your RAI Score:**

**\*Note: There is an RAI calculator available at: [www.regents.iowa.gov/RAI/index.html](http://www.regents.iowa.gov/RAI/index.html)** (cap sensitive)

Your ACT or SAT score: \_\_\_\_\_

Your Current Cumulative GPA: \_\_\_\_\_

Your High School Rank: \_\_\_\_\_

Your Total Number of Core Courses (**See Below**): \_\_\_\_\_

Your Class Size: \_\_\_\_\_

## Mount Vernon High School Core Courses for RAI Calculation

English	Math	Science	Social Studies	Foreign Language
African/American Lit*	Algebra 1	Anatomy & Physiology	Political Science*	German 1
British Literature*	Algebra 2	Biology	Probs Mod.Society*	German 2
Contemporary Literature*	Geometry	Chemistry 1*	Psychology*	German 3
Drama Interp/Expression*	Honors Alg. 2	Chemistry 2*	Sociology*	Honors German 4
Film as Literature*	H. Pre-Calc/Trig	Adv. Chemistry 3*	Internat Relations*	Spanish 1
English 1	Honors Calculus	Earth Science	US History	Spanish 2
English 2*	College Prep Math*	Physics	World History	Spanish 3
Fiction Writing*		Physical Science	Criminal Justice*	Honors Spanish 4
Advanced Composition*		Astronomy/Meteorology*	Women in US Hist*	
21 <sup>st</sup> Cent. Journalistic Writ*		PLTW Princip of Engin.	AP World History	
Honors Composition*			Sports in Am. Soc*	
Honors American Lit.*			American West*	
Mystery Stories*			J-Term Rec US Hst	
Popular Literature*				
Honors World Literature*				
Speech & Debate*				
Interpersonal Commun*				
Approved college courses*	Approved college courses*	Approved college courses*	Approved college courses*	Approved college courses*
Approved BIG courses*			Approved BIG courses*	

In the RAI Calculation, the number of core courses you enter should include courses that you have successfully completed. A year-long course is worth 1 unit and a semester course is worth one-half (.5) unit as you calculate core units to enter into the RAI calculation. \* Any class marked by an asterisk is a semester-long course.

# MISCELLANEOUS

- **DRIVER'S EDUCATION**

The Mount Vernon Community School District does not sponsor a summer driver's education program. Instead, private companies offer driver's education programs in Mount Vernon. They offer comparable services and costs at convenient times to all families. Reduced driver's education fees are available for students who qualify through federal free/reduced lunch guidelines. These families may contact the high school office for more information. The private companies will advertise their programs and work directly with the school district to provide the reduced fees. As a reminder, all students must possess a driving permit before starting in a driver's education program. If you have any questions regarding driver's education, please contact the High School office at 895-8843.

- **INDEPENDENT STUDY**

Independent study may be available on a limited basis by approval of the principal. Advanced students should consider enrolling in college courses or online Advanced Placement courses as an alternate to applying for independent study course work. **A written plan of study must be approved by the instructor and principal prior to beginning an independent study course.**

## ART DEPARTMENT

### ART CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Illustrator:	Designer:	Art Historian/Museum:	Studio Artist:	Other:
Advertising	Branding	Art Appraiser	Ceramicist	Art Teacher
Animation	Costume	Art Law and Law Enforcement	Fiber Artist	Art Therapist
Book	Fashion	Collection Manager	Jeweler	
Comic	Graphic	Conservator	Muralist	
Concept	Interior / Furniture	Curator	Painter	
Film Story Board	Landscaping	Education Director	Photographer	
Graphic Novel	Product	Gallery Owner	Sculptor	
Letter Form	Theater Set/Prop			
Manga	Video Game			
Medical	Website			

## Art Classes

- **ART MEDIA SURVEY- .5 credit**  
**GRADES 9-12 ONE SEMESTER COURSE**  
**NO PREREQUISITES**

This is a hands-on elective for students interested in exploring a variety of art styles and media tools. This includes but is not limited to printmaking, painting, fiber art, sculpture, ceramic, and glass. Along the way we will learn terms and definitions connected to studio art. Students will be assessed on recognition of art terms, ability to recognize famous works of art, and the techniques shown in artwork they create in studio as well as use of studio time.

- **CERAMICS 1 - .5 credit**  
**GRADES 9-12 ONE SEMESTER COURSE**  
**NO PREREQUISITES**

This is a hands-on elective for students interested in learning how to create functional and sculptural ceramic pottery. Students will learn the vocabulary of ceramic techniques, materials, and tools. Students will learn slab building, coil building, and wheel throwing as well as glaze application techniques. Students will be assessed on work created and use of studio time.
- **CERAMICS 2 - .5 credit**  
**GRADES 9-12 ONE SEMESTER COURSE**  
**PREREQUISITE: CERAMICS 1**

This advanced course will continue to refine students' skills while focusing on our preferred method of construction. The course will begin with a production boot camp where we will use repetition to hone our skills. We will delve deeper into the science of clay bodies and glazes. Students will be assessed on their planning, work created, and use of studio time.
- **DIGITAL ART - .5 credit**  
**GRADES 10-12 ONE SEMESTER COURSE**  
**PREREQUISITE: DRAWING/PAINTING 1 and/or PHOTOGRAPHY 1**

This course will combine skills learned in Drawing and Painting 1 as well as Photography 1 and various other digital media techniques. Students will review software tools in the Adobe Suite as well as iMovie to create works of art. Students will explore branding by creating a logo, business card, and aesthetic for their graphic design firm. Students will be assessed through use of studio time, use of sketchbook and artwork created.
- **DRAWING and PAINTING 1- .5 credit**  
**GRADES 9-12 ONE SEMESTER COURSE**  
**NO PREREQUISITES**

This course focuses on the study of studio art and on foundational media techniques of drawing and painting. We will cover use of pencil, charcoal, acrylic, watercolor, and India ink. This course will allow for creative application of those techniques and art criticism. Students are required to write an essay analyzing the life and method of a famous artist and will reflect on how this artist has influenced the student's work. Students will be assessed on their planning, work created, and use of studio time.
- **DRAWING and PAINTING 2 - .5 credit**  
**GRADES 9-12 ONE SEMESTER COURSE**  
**PREREQUISITE: DRAWING and PAINTING 1**

This class follows Drawing and Painting 1 and will be a more in depth look into various media. We will also delve into mixed media and other more advanced techniques. Students will begin to focus on their preferred method of drawing and painting and will create a website featuring their work. Students will also create their first artist's statement. Students will be assessed on their planning, work created, and use of studio time.
- **PHOTOGRAPHY 1 - .5 credit**  
**GRADES 9-12 ONE SEMESTER COURSE**  
**NO PREREQUISITES**

This course will allow students to learn and practice the skills necessary to create art through photography. Starting with the basics of lighting and composition, students will learn what goes into creating a captivating image. Then images will be edited, enhanced, and manipulated using Adobe Photoshop. We will cover portrait, still life, abstract, and landscape photography. Students are required to write an essay analyzing the life and method of a famous artist and will reflect on how this artist has influenced the student's work.



- **PHOTOGRAPHY 2 - .5 credit**  
**GRADES 9-12 ONE SEMESTER COURSE**  
**PREREQUISITES: PHOTOGRAPHY 1**

This class follows Photography 1 and will be a more in depth look into photography techniques. Students will begin to focus on their preferred method of photography and will create a website featuring their work. Students will also create their first artist's statement. Students will be assessed on their planning, work created, and use of studio time.

- **SENIOR ART PORTFOLIO - .5 credit**  
**GRADE 12 ONE SEMESTER COURSE (repeatable)**  
**PREREQUISITES: DRAWING/PAINTING 1 and 2, PHOTOGRAPHY or CERAMICS**  
**\*\*APPLICATION LETTER / CONSENT OF INSTRUCTOR REQUIRED**

This independent study studio is open to students who plan to be involved in the visual arts after high school. The goal of this course is to provide the student with adequate time and supplies to create a Senior Portfolio. Students will focus their style and will create a body of work that reflects their style and voice. Students will be responsible for providing an art sketchbook and portfolio. Students will also participate in group critiques. Students will be assessed through use of studio time, use of sketchbook, artwork created, and participation in group critiques. Students are also required to write a final artist's statement describing the context and method of their work.

## MOUNT VERNON BUSINESS EDUCATION

### BUSINESS CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Accounting Clerk  
Administrative Assistant  
Associate Real Estate Broker  
Bank Chief Executive Officer  
Bank PR/Marketing Specialist  
Bank Teller  
Bill Collector  
Bookkeeper  
Broker  
Business Manager  
Career Resource Specialist  
Cashier  
Certified Public Accountant  
City Manager  
Clerical Worker  
Commercial Tax Specialist

Commodities Broker  
Community Rel. Dir. /Specialist  
Computer Customer Service Rep.  
Computer Sales/SysConsultant  
Computer Keypunch Operator  
Consumer Credit Counselor  
Cost Accountant  
County Clerk  
Court Reporter  
Credit Manager  
Customer Service Representative  
Data Entry Operator  
Department Manager  
Display Manager  
Executive Secretary  
Financial Planner

Hospital Administrator  
Hotel Desk Clerk/Manager  
Ins Actuary/Underwriter/Agent  
Internal Revenue Agent  
Job Training Counselor  
Legal Assistant/Secretary  
Mail Carrier/Clerk  
Medical Secretary  
Office Machines Operator  
Probation Officer  
Restaurant Owner/Manager  
School Secretary  
Secretary/Word Processor Operator  
Software Engineer  
Stenographer  
Teacher/Counselor

# Available Classes

- **FINANCIAL LITERACY - .5 credit**  
**GRADES 11-12 ONE SEMESTER COURSE** (graduation requirement)  
**NO PREREQUISITES**  
This course introduces students to money management and personal financial tasks that students will use in everyday life. Students will learn how to earn money through career search and method of payments, manage money through banking and budgeting, make money grow through investments such as stocks and bonds, make sound purchasing decisions, and be a responsible user of credit. Community and business involvement, including guest speakers and field trips will provide support to students as well as foster positive relationships in the community. This course relies heavily on project based assessment allowing students to demonstrate their ability to apply, analyze and synthesize what they are learning.
- **EARLY BIRD FINANCIAL LITERACY - .5 credit**  
**GRADES 11-12 EVERY OTHER DAY, YEAR-LONG**  
**NO PREREQUISITES**  
Same as above except will meet every other day all year long during the early bird period. Transportation to early bird classes is the responsibility of the student.
- **ECONOMICS - .5 credit**  
**GRADES 11-12 ONE SEMESTER COURSE**  
**NO PREREQUISITES**  
Students will study contemporary economics. In contemporary economics, students will study how people attempt to satisfy unlimited wants with limited resources. The trade-offs and opportunity cost of these economic decisions, and the role of government will be examined. Fiscal policy, supply and demand, economic reasoning, business cycle, gross domestic product, unemployment, economic development and inflation will be studied.
- **ACCOUNTING I - .5 credit**  
**GRADES 9-12 ONE SEMESTER COURSE**  
**NO PREREQUISITES**  
This class is designed for students desiring entry level preparation for careers in business and is highly recommended for students seeking further accounting study at the collegiate level. Emphasis is on the understanding of basic accounting concepts for a sole proprietorship (a business owned by one person). The class will take the student through an entire accounting cycle for a sole proprietorship. QuickBooks Accounting software will be used to accentuate accounting fundamentals.
- **ACCOUNTING II - .5 credit**  
**GRADES 9-12 ONE SEMESTER COURSE**  
**PREREQUISITE: ACCOUNTING I**  
This class is a continuation of the content learned in Accounting I. The emphasis is on the understanding of basic accounting concepts for a partnership (a business owned and operated by two or more people). The class will take the student through and entire accounting cycle for a partnership. QuickBooks Accounting software will be used to accentuate accounting fundamentals.
- **COMPUTER BUSINESS APPLICATIONS 1 - .5 credit**  
**GRADES 9-12 ONE SEMESTER COURSE**  
**NO PREREQUISITES**  
This course is an introduction to and a fundamental mastery of the four basic business software applications: Word Processing, Spreadsheets, Presentations, and Databases. Microsoft Office 2010 will be used throughout the course with Microsoft Word, Microsoft Excel, Microsoft PowerPoint, and Microsoft Access. There will be some work with alternative open source software like OpenOffice, LibreOffice, and certain online presentation sites like prezi.com as well. The final unit will have to do with simple video editing using Windows MovieMaker / iMovie software.

- **INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY ESSENTIALS - .5 credit**

**GRADES 9 – 12 ONE SEMESTER COURSE**

**NO PREREQUISITES**

This introductory computer course provides students with a survey of several areas within the information technology field. The course is made up of units that examine each of the following topics: careers in information technology, ethics and technology, computer hardware, computer operating systems, software applications, programming, and networking.

- **ENTREPRENEURSHIP - .5 credit**

**GRADES 9-12 ONE SEMESTER COURSE**

**NO PREREQUISITES**

Students will learn about what it takes to own and operate a business. In the first half of the class, the students will learn about business concepts and create a business plan for a “start-up business.” This plan will then be presented to potential community investors and school administrators. In the second half, the students will idea-generate a business that the class will own and operate. Students will create a business name and logo, write a mission statement, develop a product or service, create a management team, develop a marketing/advertising campaign, staff the business, find financing, and hopefully successfully navigate the ups and downs of running a business. All profits from the student-run business will be donated to a charity of the class’s choosing.

- **FUNDAMENTALS OF WEB PROGRAMMING – .5 / dual credit with KCC**

**GRADES 11-12 ONE SEMESTER COURSE**

**NO PREREQUISITES**

Fundamentals of Web Programming presents hypertext markup language (HTML) and cascading style sheets (CSS) for encoding and creating Web pages. The class introduces Server Side Includes and simple JavaScript for enhancing those Web pages. Web programming emphasizes a structured approach to page layout, coding and styling, exposing students to a variety of software tools. Web programming aims to teach students the real-world fundamentals of web page design and development.

- **theSTABLE (may take this class twice, both times for credit) - .5 Credit**

**GRADES: 11-12 ONE SEMESTER COURSE**

**PREREQUISITE: ENTREPRENEURSHIP or PERMISSION OF INSTRUCTOR**

Students will be involved in the continued development and operations of theSTABLE, a student-run business specializing in selling branded Mustang apparel and merchandise in conjunction with the Booster Club.

Students should expect to spend their time focused on market planning, marketing research, product/service management, promotion, pricing, merchandising, selling, distribution, and financial analysis. Skills needed to be successful include: creative and logical thinking, willingness to work as a team, effective communication, ethical behavior and professional demeanor when working with customers and investors.

\*\*This class has a work component built-in and may require students to work outside of normal instructional time.

## ADDITIONAL ELECTIVE COURSES

- **PUBLICATION/ DESIGN (YEARBOOK) – 1.0 credit**

**GRADES 9-12 YEAR LONG COURSE**

**NO PREREQUISITES**

**ALL YEARBOOK EDITORS MUST ENROLL IN THIS COURSE**

This class is for dedicated, responsible students who pay attention to details. Its focus is on real-life skills of computer design, news writing, advertising, budgeting, and meeting deadlines. Students will learn to use current technology, taking pictures with a digital camera and using InDesign computer layout software to design yearbook pages. Yearbook staff (i.e. editor-in-chief, sports editor, photographer, student life reporter) must enroll in this class. Students who enroll in this course must dedicate themselves to the full year of study and must be able to be trusted with valuable equipment and important files.

# ENGLISH/LANGUAGE ARTS DEPARTMENT

## ENGLISH/LANGUAGE ARTS CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Advertising Agent	Journalist	Reporter
Auctioneer	Lawyer and Paralegal	Retail Manager
Book Store Manager	Lecturer	Salesperson
Claims Agent	Librarian	Scriptwriter
Clerk	Lyric and Song Writer	Secretary
Communications Director	Newspaper Reporter	Social Worker
Consultant	Personnel Manager	Sportscaster
Editor	Poet	Stenographer
Electronic Mass Marketing	Poet Versifier	Teacher
Employment Manager	Promotion Manager	Telecommunications
ESL (Eng. as a 2 <sup>nd</sup> Language Instructor)	Proofreader	Translator
FAX Operator	Public Relations Agent	Travel Agent/Guide
Film, TV, Stage Performer	Publicist	Typist
Government Service	Radio & TV Announcer	Word Processor Operator
Insurance Agent	Receptionist	Writer

## English Required Courses

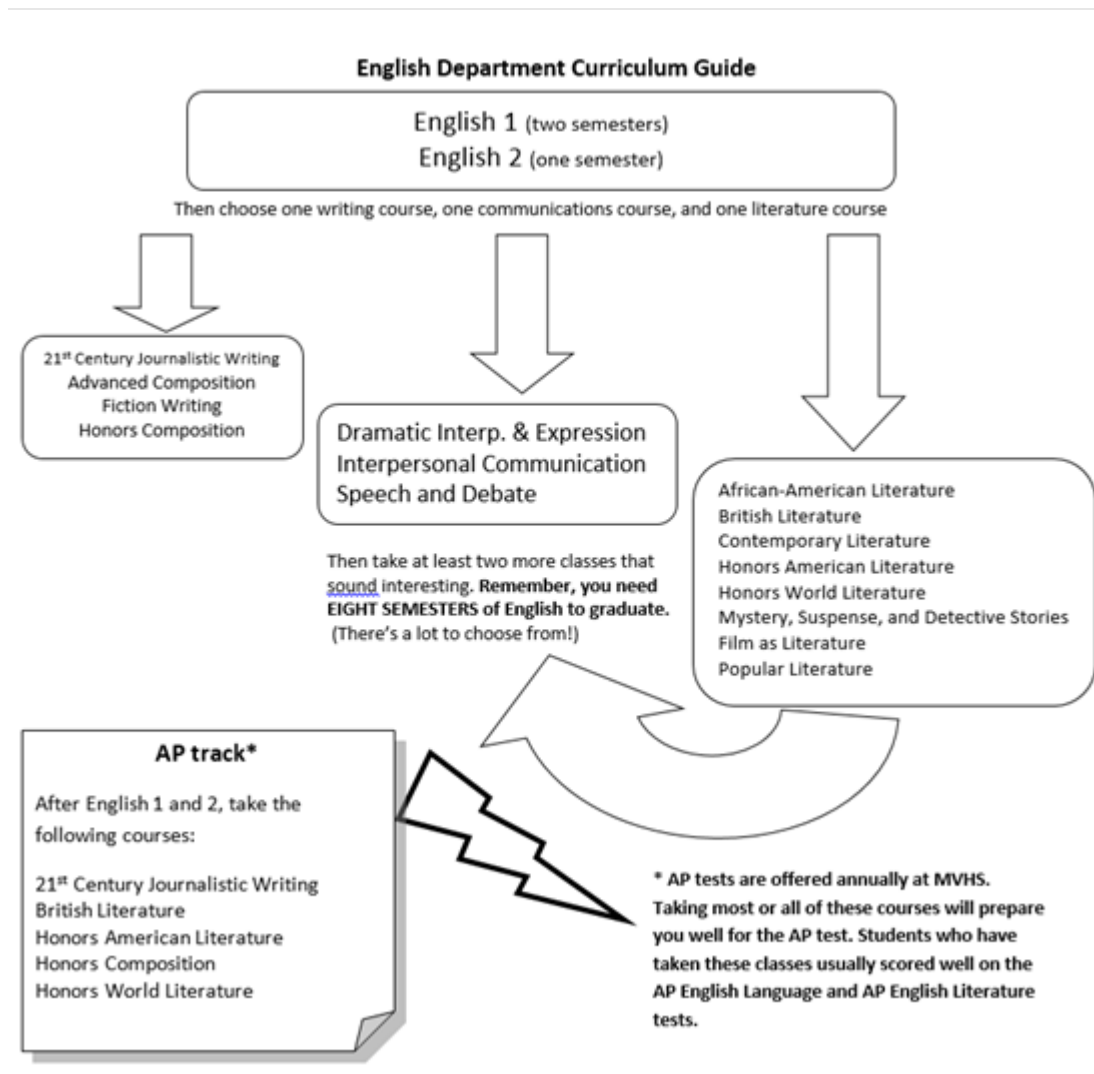
- **ENGLISH 1 – 1.0 credit**  
**GRADE 9 YEAR LONG COURSE**  
**NO PREREQUISITES**

This course prepares ninth graders for high school reading, writing, and speaking. Reading includes all major literary genres; writing is both expository and creative and includes work on usage, grammar, spelling, and vocabulary; speaking involves dramatic interpretation, pantomime, and expository address. Beginning poetry and classical literature through film are part of the curriculum. A beginning research paper is required. Romeo and Juliet, Of Mice and Men, and Lord of the Flies are among the works read.

- **ENGLISH 2 – .5 credit**  
**GRADE 10 ONE SEMESTER COURSE**  
**PREREQUISITE: ENGLISH 1**

**(1st or 2nd SEMESTER)**

English 2 is the final semester of the required core English requirement and includes the study of literature, writing, speaking, and usage. Students will study short stories, novels, plays, poems, and essays. Expository writing and creative writings are integrated with reading, and a research project is required. Catcher in the Rye, To Kill a Mockingbird, and Shakespearean drama are major units.



**Plan ahead:**

Work with your parents, teachers, and the guidance department to pick classes that are the **best fit for YOU**. Some classes are only offered in specific semesters, so make sure to ask questions. Honors classes are only open to juniors and seniors, except for Honors Composition, which is only open for seniors. ***The next step is to have your current English teacher sign off on your choices prior to registration.***

## English Elective Courses

The English courses listed below are open to sophomores, juniors, and seniors unless otherwise noted. Students must take at least five (5) semesters of English electives as a requirement for graduation from MVHS. In addition, the English Department requires that students enroll in at least one elective in each of the major areas: literature, speech/communication, and writing. College bound students should also be aware of the requirements for entrance into the college they are considering when planning their high school schedules. Students must confer with a department member before selecting their English courses for future semesters.

Students whose writing is below standard level as determined by their English 1 and English 2 writing are strongly encouraged to enroll in one semester of Fiction Writing. The writing process is an integral part of the writing done in

all classes. Students should expect to meet the writing requirement in all English elective courses by sharing their writing with other students at various stages of the writing process.

Outside reading is required in most literature courses because reading is the basis of all language skills. Verbal class participation is also very important in all English classes. Therefore, regular attendance in class plays a key role in a student's success in the learning process. Orally questioning, arguing, or reiterating literary themes usually results in a higher level of achievement. Reading, writing, listening, viewing, and speaking are important components of our English curriculum.

- **FICTION WRITING - .5 credit**

- GRADES 10-12 ONE SEMESTER COURSE**

- NO PREREQUISITES**

- This class emphasizes the composition of short fiction with instruction to guide the student through the composition process. Activities provide a laboratory experience in which students write daily. Although composition is an independent activity, peer editing, class discussion, and teacher conferences provide feedback to the writer. Short fiction published in current literary magazines as well as contemporary classics and recent student work will be studied as models. For students who enjoy writing, this class provides an outlet for expression; at the same time it attempts to expose them to the complexities of contemporary fiction writing.

- **ADVANCED COMPOSITION - .5 credit**

- GRADES 10-12 ONE SEMESTER COURSE**

- NO PREREQUISITES**

- The purpose of this class is to improve the reading and writing skills of students as they learn the technical elements of a variety of literary genres. Specifically, students will be studying these four styles of writing: technical writing (business letters, resumes, interviews and explanatory writing); news writing (news stories, reviews, interviews, critiques and editorials); creative writing (poetry, short stories, personal narratives); and essay writing (persuasive research paper and literary analysis).

- **21<sup>st</sup> CENTURY JOURNALISTIC WRITING - .5 credit**

- GRADES 10-12 ONE SEMESTER COURSE**

- NO PREREQUISITES**

- 21st Century Journalistic Writing will engage students in discussion of opinion vs. fact, interviewing skills, choosing an angle, ethics, law, and the history of journalism. Students will work with media skills of posting stories online, designing spreads with In-Design, editing digital photos, and videos/slideshows. The course will cover different news writing styles such as inverted pyramid, feature writing, investigative reporting, and opinion writing. Students will be encouraged to publish their work online or in print.

- **HONORS COMPOSITION - .5 credits**

- GRADE 12 ONE SEMESTER COURSE**

- NO PREREQUISITES**

- A college prep composition course that familiarizes students with college writing requirements and encourages them to develop writing techniques that work best for them. Emphasis is on developing a repertoire of writing structures and on improving individual writing skills. The goal is to give students fluency and familiarity with the types of writing they may encounter in college work. High standards of correctness and time management are expected and necessary. Students will share their writing with each other, primarily in the editing process.

- **SPEECH and DEBATE - .5 credit**

- GRADES 10-12 ONE SEMESTER COURSE**

- NO PREREQUISITES**

- Speech and Debate is a course for students who want to learn to think clearly and express themselves effectively before an audience. Students are provided opportunities to increase their fluency as a speaker and develop self-confidence. The course covers multiple aspects of public speaking and communication literacy, giving students background knowledge through readings/lectures and practical experience through participation. Speech and Debate introduces students to a study of poise, use of body and voice, public

speaking, argumentation/debate, and oral interpretation of literature through units including personal experience, exposition, persuasion, special occasion speeches, Lincoln-Douglas debate, Public Forum debate, and student congress.

- **INTERPERSONAL COMMUNICATION - .5 credit**  
**GRADES 10-12 ONE SEMESTER COURSE**  
**NO PREREQUISITES**

This course will serve as an introduction to the principles of effective communication. Students will learn to communicate more effectively and improve relationships through the study of the communication cycle, modes of communication (including written, verbal, nonverbal, and mass media), personal perception, gender differences, and conflict resolution. Students will analyze the different styles and uses of communication in business, social, formal, and informal situations. Students will also explore the benefits and liabilities (including ethical and legal issues) of social media. Students will reflect on personal communication strengths and style through a cumulative portfolio project. IPC meets the English department communication requirement.

- **DRAMATIC INTERPRETATION AND EXPRESSION - .5 credit**  
**GRADES 10-12 ONE SEMESTER COURSE**  
**NO PREREQUISITES**

This course is a study of drama/plays from the Greek to contemporary theater. It is also a collaborative class where students create, perform in, and direct their own improvisational show for their peers in the high school. Students will learn about the role and contribution of each of the major participants in theater--the actor, the playwright, director, designer, and audience. The student will explore ways of bringing drama from the page to the stage, emphasizing equally the literary and theatrical qualities of play texts and individual expression. Students will be encouraged to read and experience plays from both an academic and theatrical point of view. Attendance at an outside professional theatrical performance during the semester is required. Curriculum will include: research topics in theater history; dramatic activities; creative writing activities such as scene writing, parody and satire; and the performance of a final monologue. (Previous experience in theatre activities is not required).

- **AFRICAN AMERICAN LITERATURE - .5 credit**  
**GRADES 10-12 ONE SEMESTER COURSE**  
**NO PREREQUISITES**

In this course, students will read, analyze, and discuss literary works in various forms and media written by African Americans. We will study texts from a variety of time periods and locations in order to better understand the collective voices of African American writers, film makers, and artists. We will also use the works to examine what it means to be a person of color, and how the term African American struggles to encompass all people of color. Finally, we compare these works with the current climate of social justice. Students will be asked to speak, listen, read, and write in order to share their ideas.

- **BRITISH LITERATURE - .5 credit (2019-2020)**  
**GRADES 10-12 ONE SEMESTER COURSE**  
**NO PREREQUISITES**

This college prep literature course will give students a solid background in the British canon, focusing primarily on works from the 17th-19th centuries. Students will read, at minimum, Beowulf, Shakespeare's Macbeth and/or Hamlet, works of premier British poets, Chaucer's Canterbury Tales, and a major British novel. Individual projects allow students opportunities to select authors or subjects of personal interest. Class discussion, exams, and essay writing are central to the course. This course is highly recommended for students headed for four-year college programs.

- **CONTEMPORARY LITERATURE - .5 credit**  
**GRADES 10-12 ONE SEMESTER COURSE**  
**NO PREREQUISITES**

This course gives students the opportunity to read 20th century novels, plays, short stories, and poetry. The largest part of the literature is American. Class discussions and writing are paramount to success in the course. Writing is frequent and is done both in class and as take-home assignments. Individual reading in addition to shared class reading is expected and necessary. Strongly recommended, but not required, as a

prerequisite to Honors American Literature.

- **POPULAR LITERATURE - .5 credit**  
**GRADES 10-12 ONE SEMESTER COURSE**  
**PREREQUISITE: TEACHER APPROVAL**

This general English class allows students a chance to participate in and succeed in a literature course based on writings of high interest to high school-aged students. The reading will be individually chosen based primarily upon the student's own preferences, except for two books that will be read as a class. Writing will consist of both daily and weekly journaling as well as book reports.

- **MYSTERY, SUSPENSE, AND DETECTIVE STORIES - .5 credit**  
**GRADES 10-12 ONE SEMESTER COURSE**  
**NO PREREQUISITES**

This course is a study in the conventions of a mystery and its development as a genre of literature. Students will study short stories by early detective story authors such as Edgar Allen Poe and Arthur Conan Doyle. Students will continue with short stories and films from "The Golden Age" of detective stories and the "hardboiled" school of writing. The true crime book Catch Me If You Can by Frank Abagnale and mystery novel Hold Tight by Harlan Coben are two of the popular books read.

- **FILM AS LITERATURE - .5 credit**  
**GRADES 10-12 ONE SEMESTER COURSE**  
**NO PREREQUISITES**

One definition of literature is "the stories in which we see ourselves reflected and find meaning in that reflection." Film has become this literature for most Americans. This class will view, discuss, and write about films. Sometimes students will read the books which inspired the film and give speeches about them. Thus, the course will use a popular art form to practice writing, reading, and speaking while increasing awareness of film techniques and of the history and cultures the films recreate. Some adult themes are studied. Typical units include: History of Film-The Silent and the Oldies; Film Language and Style; Film Noir; Major Directors past and present; Morals of Society as portrayed through film; Science Fiction; Heroes; Academy Awards.

- **HONORS AMERICAN LITERATURE - .5 credit**  
**GRADES 11-12 ONE SEMESTER COURSE**  
**NO PREREQUISITES**

A college prep English course that attempts to give students a sense of richness and variety in American Literature, an awareness of its historical development and identifying characteristics with a focus on 19th century American literature, authors, and prominent themes of that literary period. The hope is that students will discover how much pleasure is waiting for them in further reading of the literature of their own country. Concentration is given to major writers and prevalent ideas. Activities are built around the reading. Exams are designed to help make the step to college an easier one with few surprises for the student in required college literature courses. Some authors and novels studied include: The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn; The Scarlet Letter; Walden, and Tennessee Williams' plays. This course is highly recommended for students seeking a four-year college program. Writing is intensive in this course.

- **HONORS WORLD LITERATURE - .5 credit (2018-2019)**  
**GRADES 11-12 ONE SEMESTER COURSE**  
**NO PREREQUISITES**

This course will cover classic literature from a wide array of cultures, but focus primarily on the Western cultures. Much of the reading and subsequent literary analyses will be centered thematically around common human problems and experiences as portrayed in poetry, particularly drama, and some fiction. Students will also work with creation stories and mythology. The longer works will include some or all of the following: Gilgamesh, Camus' The Stranger, Khafka's Metamorphosis, and Tolstoy's The Death of Ivan Ilyich. Essay writing will be practiced regularly. Students will be involved in a major research project of one well-known author of their choice during this course.



# FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCE DEPARTMENT – (FCS)

## FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCE CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Advertising Analyst  
Appliance Sales  
Babysitter  
Caterer  
Chef  
Child Care Worker  
Cosmetologist  
Day Care Operator  
Department Store Manager  
Dietary Consultant  
Dietician  
Extension Service Specialist  
Fashion Designer  
Fashion Illustrator

Flight Attendant  
Food Sales  
Genetic Counselor  
Home Economist  
Home Service Director  
Homemaker  
Institution Superintendent  
Interior Decorator  
Interior Designer  
Milliner  
Nanny  
Nutritionist  
Occupational Therapist  
Parent

Physical Therapist  
Practical Nurse  
Preschool Teacher  
Psychiatric Social Worker  
Registered Nurse  
Reporter  
Restaurant Employee  
Restaurant Owner Manager  
Seamstress  
Social Service Worker  
Social Worker  
Vocational Teacher

## HEALTH CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Aerobic Instructor  
Athletic Coach  
Athletic Trainer/Sports Medicine  
Bacteriologist  
Business Administration  
Chiropractor  
CPR Instructor  
Dental Assistant  
Dental Hygienist  
Dental Technician  
Dentist  
EMT

Laboratory Technician  
Lifeguard  
Nutrition Researcher  
Orthopedic Surgeon  
Osteopath  
Practice Nurse  
Professional Athlete  
Public Administration  
Public Health Educator  
Public Health Engineer  
Public Health Statistician  
Health Club Manager

Recreation Leader  
Sanitary Engineer  
School Nurse  
Social Worker  
Speech Health Pathologist  
Sports Writer or Editor  
Swimming Instructor  
Teacher  
Umpire  
Veterinarian  
Virologist  
X-Ray Technician

## Available Classes

- **CHILD DEVELOPMENT - .5 credit**  
**GRADES 9-12 ONE SEMESTER COURSE**  
**NO PREREQUISITES**

This course is a study of human development as it affects the family and individual child. Pregnancy and birth will be covered along with wearing the empathy belly during class while experiencing everyday activities. Teen pregnancy will be covered along with prevention. We will cover care of an infant through age 12 focusing on emotional, social, physical and mental development. Crisis topics including death, divorce, illness, child abuse, birth defects, and disabilities will be dealt with from a child's and parent's point of view. Also "Baby Think It Over" will be taken home for one night minimum unless other arrangements are made for an alternative assignment.

- **INTERIOR DESIGN - .5 credit**  
**GRADES 9-12 ONE SEMESTER COURSE**  
**NO PREREQUISITES**

This course provides an opportunity to acquire and apply skills in decorating and designing a home. Emphasis is placed on elements and principles of design along with color schemes. Other topics include background decorations—floors, wall and window treatments; furniture selection and styling; furniture arrangements; and creative use of accessories. Learning experiences will include various classroom projects, a repurpose project, viewing housing and looking at landscapes. Scaled floor plans for individual rooms and a

house will be drawn and evaluated, considering clearance space and traffic flow. Ecofriendly, new design trends, historical houses and business design will also be talked about.

- **FOODS AND NUTRITION I - .5 credit**  
**GRADES 9-12 ONE SEMESTER COURSE**  
**NO PREREQUISITES**

This course is designed for those students with little or no previous experience in food preparation. A basic study of nutrition is included in this course. It also provides an opportunity to learn and apply basic skills and principals involved in planning, preparing, and serving simple nutritious meals. A variety of foods are prepared including quick breads, yeast breads, soups, vegetables, casseroles, beef, pork, poultry, pies, cakes, modified recipes, cookies, fruits, and candies. The final project is a group meal where each cooking group makes a meal and sits down to eat it with proper table setting and manners.

- **MENU PLANNING AND NUTRITION - .5 credit dual credit with KCC**  
**GRADES 11-12 ONE SEMESTER COURSE**  
**PREREQUISITE: FOODS AND NUTRITION I**

This course is designed to further the knowledge and skills acquired in Foods I. The first quarter is focused on nutrition focusing on nutrients, digestion, USDA dietary guidelines, diet analysis and different types of diets. The second quarter is focused on creating and planning a menu. Class experiences include: menu analysis, menu planning, creating different types of menus, and food budgeting, Weekly food labs will be incorporated into the curriculum. Students will have a choice between pre-selected recipes for Nutrition and create their own recipes during Menu Planning.

- **SEWING 1 - .5 credit**  
**GRADES 9-12 ONE SEMESTER COURSE**  
**NO PREREQUISITES**

This is an individualized class for the student who is interested in any aspect of sewing. First, students learn basic sewing skills and continue to learn sewing techniques as they sew various projects. Students will take a field trip to a fabric store where they will pick out their first project supplies and purchase them themselves. The first project is a sewing project from a pattern or instructions. Students will also remake an existing clothing piece into a new sewing idea. We will sew a community service project for a local organization and sew for a holiday or season. There will be teacher posted projects and student picked projects in the class. A student who knows how to knit, crochet, or cross stitch may do this as a project for the class. Students can buy their own supplies or use donated items available within the classroom.

- **SEWING 2 - .5 credit**  
**GRADES 9-12 ONE SEMESTER COURSE**  
**PREREQUISITES: SEWING 1**

This course is designed to further your experience in sewing. Each student will work on individual projects following a class project calendar. Various projects include a teacher given starter project to brush up on sewing skills, instruction or pattern project, clothing project, project of choice, mini sewing projects, holiday/seasonal project, re-structure project, community service project and a final project.

- **ADULT LIVING - .5 credit**  
**GRADES 10-12 ONE SEMESTER COURSE**  
**NO PREREQUISITES**

This class prepares students for everyday life and helps them prepare for living on their own. Course content includes: self-esteem, stereotypes, relationships, teen pregnancy, STD's, dating, marriage, family meals, meals on a budget, babies, kids, fun kid snacks, party planning, budgeting, laundry, mending, nutrition and many other topics related to everyday living. Students are encouraged to suggest their own topics of interest.

# INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT

## INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Aircraft Mechanic	Forest Manager	Mechanic Maintenance
Architectural Drafting	Forester	Mechanical Drafting
Auto Mechanic	Foundry Worker	Mechan Drawing Instructor
Auto-body and Fender Repair	Furniture Maker	Mechanical Engineer
C.A.D. Drafter	Gunsmith	Model Builder
Cabinet Maker	Hardware Store Worker	Paint Store Manager
Cable Television Installer	House Design/Building Contractor	Plant Operator
Cable Television Line Tech	Industrial Manufacturing Engineer	Plumber
Carpenter	Industrial Technology Teacher	Power Plant Mechanic
Computer Repair Technician	Interior Designer	Service Station Attendance
Diesel Mechanic	Jewelry Maker	Sheet Metal Worker
Electrical Drafting	Job Training Counselor	Stained Glass Maker
Electrician	Log Grader	Tool Designer
Electrician Helper	Log Sawyer	Toy Maker
Electronics Engineer	Logger	Welder
Engineer Aide	Lumber Broker	Wood Pattern maker
Equipment Rental Manager	Lumber Grader	Wood Turner
Farm Equipment Mechanic	Lumber Yard Worker	
Farmer	Machinist	

## Available Classes

- **PLTW: INTRO TO ENGINEERING DESIGN – 1.0 credit / dual credit with KCC (2018-2019)**  
**GRADES 9-12 YEAR-LONG COURSE**  
**PREREQUISITES: ALGEBRA 1 OR CURRENTLY ENROLLED IN ALGEBRA 1**  
This course introduces students to a variety of careers in engineering and technology. Students will study technology systems and manufacturing processes. Students will experience how engineers and technicians use math, science, and technology within an engineering problem-solving process. Students will use state-of-art design software to apply learned skills to real world engineering and manufacturing problems. Note: Students should bring a 1.5" three ring binder for class.
- **PLTW: PRINCIPLES OF ENGINEERING – 1.0 credit / dual credit with KCC (2018-2019)**  
**GRADES 9-12 YEAR-LONG COURSE**  
**PREREQUISITES: ALGEBRA 1**  
Students explore the wide variety of careers in engineering and technology. They explore various technology systems and processes. Using activities, projects, and problems, students learn first-hand how engineers and technicians use math, science, and technology in an engineering problem-solving process to benefit people. The course also addresses concerns about social and political consequences of technological change.
- **PLTW: CIVIL ENGINEERING AND ARCHITECTURE – 1.0 credit / dual with KCC (2019-2020)**  
**GRADES 9-12 YEAR-LONG COURSE**  
**NO PREREQUISITES**  
In this class students will study the design and construction of residential and commercial building projects. The course includes an introduction to many of the varied factors involved in building design and construction including building components and systems, structural design, storm water management, site design, utilities and services, cost estimation, energy efficiency, and careers in the design and construction industry. Civil Engineering and Architecture is a high school level course that is appropriate for 10th or 11th grade students interested in careers related to civil engineering and architecture. Other than their concurrent

enrollment in college preparatory mathematics and science courses, this course assumes no previous knowledge.

- **ARCHITECTURAL PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS – 0.5 credit / dual credit with KCC (2018-2019)**  
**GRADES 9-12 ONE SEMESTER COURSE**

**NO PREREQUISITES – Fundamentals of Drafting recommended**

This course introduces the skills and methods for understanding and interpreting construction drawings and technical specifications for residential and commercial buildings. Students will use construction blueprints, both in hand and online, to display a working knowledge of this form of graphic communication.

- **COMPUTER AIDED DRAFTING - .5 credit (2018-2019)**

**GRADES 9-12 ONE SEMESTER COURSE**

**NO PREREQUISITES**

Students in this class will develop knowledge and skills to communicate graphically with engineers, architects, CNC operators, machinists, builders, and other production workers. Emphasis will be placed on drafting vocabulary and processes. Coursework will include class discussion and lessons from written sources, but will focus on production of workable CAD drawings for a variety of production applications. Instruction and projects will progress from simple drawings to complex 3D modeling and architectural drawings using Autodesk CAD, Autodesk Inventor, and Autodesk Revit. By the end of this class students should be able to produce drawings detailed and accurate enough to guide actual production.

- **INTRODUCTION TO INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY - .5 credit**

**GRADES 9-12 ONE SEMESTER COURSE**

**NO PREREQUISITES**

This survey course allows students to sample architecture and construction, manufacturing, STEM, and power and energy career cluster areas. Classroom discussion, workshop demonstrations, and hands-on activities will be completed that cover all course areas offered.

- **EXPLORING INDUSTRIAL TECH – 0.5 credit**

**GRADES 9-12 GIRLS ONLY ONE SEMESTER COURSE**

**NO PREREQUISITES**

This class will introduce female students to a wide range of ideas and skills that exist as part of the skilled trades. This introduction will focus on practical knowledge and skills that we believe all students, young men and young women alike, should have as well-informed citizens preparing to live on their own. This course will focus on hands-on lab work and experiences and the planning needed to carry them out. We believe the young women who take this course will have a new-found confidence in their ability to understand and accomplish tasks they once knew little about. Examples of potential topics follows, but this class is not limited to those listed:

- |   |                                  |
|---|----------------------------------|
| *Changing the oil in your car.            | *Changing your car tire.         |
| *Changing a bad light switch.             | *How to change a light fixture   |
| *How to change a sink fixture.            | *How to set a toilet.            |
| *How to build small projects from wood.   | *How to repair metal by welding. |
| *How to design a new kitchen or bathroom. | *How to hire a contractor.       |

- **POWER TECHNOLOGY - .5 credit**

**GRADES 9-12 ONE SEMESTER COURSE**

**NO PREREQUISITES**

This course is an introduction in small engine repair. Areas covered will include: occupations, safety, tools, engine identification and inspection, basic engine principles and design, basic electricity, ignition systems, lubrication systems, cooling systems, fuel systems, governor systems, troubleshooting, principles of operation of the four cycle engine, and principles of operation of the two-cycle engine.

- **AUTO MECHANICS - .5 credit**  
**GRADES 9-12 ONE SEMESTER COURSE**  
**NO PREREQUISITES**

The auto mechanics course is a study of the different systems of the automobile. Areas covered will be safety, tools, lubrication system, cooling system, fuel system, electrical system, ignition, computerized fuel and ignition systems, transmission, brake system, and careers in auto mechanics. Activities will consist of individual assignments using the equipment in the auto mechanics area.

- **ELECTRICITY AND PLUMBING - .5 credit**  
**GRADES 9-12 ONE SEMESTER COURSE**  
**NO PREREQUISITES**

This course studies the fundamentals of electrical circuits and plumbing systems. Areas covered will include the principles of electricity, using meters, basic electronic circuits, A.C. circuit design, and plumbing.

- **MATERIALS PROCESSING - .5 credit**  
**GRADES 9-12 ONE SEMESTER COURSE**  
**NO PREREQUISITES**

This course is designed to teach skills necessary for basic woodworking and carpentry applications. Specific and safe use of a wide variety of power equipment is stressed through demonstration and testing. Students will also learn basic skills in proper material use, joinery, process planning, estimating, and finishing. Coursework includes academic and classroom work, but is focused on producing good projects in the lab. Students will benefit from being self-motivated, paying attention to detail, and having a desire to produce quality products. It is possible that students will be planning personal project(s) that they will take home with them. There is a fee equal to the cost of such projects, unless exception has been obtained from instructor or administration.

- **ADVANCED MATERIALS PROCESSING - .5 credit**  
**GRADES 9-12 ONE SEMESTER COURSE (repeatable one time with instructor permission)**  
**PREREQUISITES: MATERIALS PROCESSING or WOOD FAB**

An extension of Materials Processing, this course focuses on woodworking and carpentry skills at the next level. Specific and safe use of already introduced power equipment is reviewed and more specialized equipment is introduced. Coursework can include classroom work including discussions and testing, but is centered on planning and executing the building of a quality project(s). The expectation is that the projects of students in this class will involve the same areas of emphasis with higher level skills and more detailed planning than in the introductory class. All students will benefit from being self-motivated, paying attention to detail, and having a desire to produce quality products. It is expected that students will be planning personal project(s) that they will take home with them. There is a fee equal to the cost of such projects, unless exception has been obtained from instructor or administration.

- **CONSTRUCTION TECHNOLOGIES – 0.5 credit**  
**GRADES 10-12 ONE SEMESTER COURSE (repeatable one time with instructor permission)**  
**PREREQUISITES: MATERIALS PROCESSING AND ADVANCED MATERIALS PROCESSING**

Students will work to develop core residential construction skills. Safe operation of relevant hand and stationary power equipment is covered. Current residential construction materials, methods, and terminology are covered in classroom work and discussion, hands-on lab activities, and the building of small structures. This class focuses on general knowledge in a broad range of building systems and the coordination requirements between those systems. All students are expected to be self-motivated, pay attention to detail, and have a desire to produce quality products.

- FLEXIBLE MANUFACTURING - .5 credit**  
**GRADES 9-12 ONE SEMESTER COURSE (repeatable one time with instructor permission)**  
**NO PREREQUISITES**

Flexible Manufacturing provides the knowledge, skills, and technologies required for employment in metal technology systems. Students need to develop knowledge of the concepts and skills related to this system in order to apply them to personal and career development. Career and technical education supports integration of academic and technical knowledge and skills. Students must have opportunities to reinforce, apply, and transfer knowledge and skills to a variety of settings and problems. Knowledge about career opportunities, requirements, and expectations and the development of workplace skills prepare students for success.
- CONSTRUCTION LAB – 0.5 credit / dual credit with KCC**  
**\*\*Must be taken at Kirkwood Regional Center in Hiawatha**  
**GRADES 11-12 ONE SEMESTER COURSE**  
**PREREQUISITES: MATERIALS PROCESSING, ADV. MATERIALS PROCESSING, AND CONSTRUCTION TECHNOLOGIES**

Students will apply prior knowledge of construction practices to hands-on modules and real-world projects. Projects will allow students to display skills that can be used for post-secondary employment or further education opportunities. Student will be expected to provide basic tools and safety glasses.

## MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT

### MATHEMATICS CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

<p>Accountant            Actuary            Actuary Clerk Worker            Airplane Pilot            Architect            Bank Cashier            Banker            Bookkeeper            Broadcasting Tech            Carpenter            Chemist</p>	<p>Commercial Drafting            Commercial Teacher            Dental Technician            Dentist            Development Tech Engineer            Economist            Electrician            Electronic Technician            Engineer            Forester            Head Physician</p>	<p>Insurance Salesperson            Machinist            Mathematic Statistician            Mathematics Teacher            Navigation            Optometrist            Plumber            Secretary            Statistician            Surveyor            Technician Analyst &amp; Engineering</p>
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## Available Classes

*Entering 9<sup>th</sup> grade students MUST have a recommendation from the middle school Mathematics instructor to take Algebra Prep, Algebra, or Geometry.*

- ALGEBRA PREPARATION – 1.0 credit**  
**GRADES 9-11 YEAR LONG COURSE**  
**PREREQUISITE: TEACHER RECOMMENDATION**

This course provides students with an introduction to the concepts of algebra and geometry, and at the same time solidifies their grasp of arithmetic concepts and procedures. It is a mathematical connection for those students who intend to move on to algebra and geometry or who are exploring that possibility.

- ALGEBRA 1 – 1.0 credit**  
**GRADES 9-12 YEAR LONG COURSE**  
**PREREQUISITES: ALGEBRA PREP and Teacher Recommendation**

This course is organized around families of functions, with special emphasis on linear and quadratic functions. This course involves the rigorous study of mathematical algorithms and properties. It is intended for the capable mathematics student.
- GEOMETRY – 1.0 credit**  
**GRADES 9-12 YEAR LONG COURSE**  
**PREREQUISITE: ALGEBRA 1 and Teacher Recommendation**

Students will develop reasoning and problem solving skills as they study topics such as congruence and similarity, and apply properties of lines, triangles, quadrilaterals, and circles. Transformational and coordinate approaches to geometry are introduced. This course is recommended for college-bound students or those considering such trades as carpentry, surveying, construction, etc.
- CONSUMER MATH – 1.0 credit**  
**GRADES 11-12 YEAR LONG COURSE**  
**PREREQUISITES: TWO FULL YEARS OF MATH COMPLETION**

The Consumer Math course is designed to provide practice with the type of math that is used in everyday life. Students solve problems involving income, banking, the use of insurance, buying and operating a car, renting or buying a home, income tax, etc.
- ALGEBRA 2 – 1.0 credit**  
**GRADES 11-12 YEAR LONG COURSE**  
**PREREQUISITES: ALGEBRA 1 and GEOMETRY**

This course is a continuation of the study of algebraic concepts introduced in Algebra 1. The topics covered are similar to those covered in Honors Algebra 2 but at a slower pace. This course is designed to assist students in fulfilling a four-year mathematics requirement for a four-year college.
- HONORS ALGEBRA 2 – 1.0 credit**  
**GRADES 10-12 YEAR LONG COURSE**  
**PREREQUISITES: ALGEBRA 1 and GEOMETRY (with Teacher Recommendation)**

This course is designed to follow Geometry in our mathematics curricular sequence. It is faster paced and more rigorous than Algebra 2. The first part of the course deals mainly with manipulating algebraic expressions and solving various types of equations, while the latter part of the course covers special topics, such as sequences and series. This course is a requirement for students continuing on to our Honors Pre-Calculus and Trigonometry course.
- COLLEGE PREP MATHEMATICS – .5 credit**  
**GRADEs 11-12 ONE SEMESTER COURSE**  
**PREREQUISITES: ALGEBRA 2 or HONORS ALGEBRA 2**

This course is designed for the college-bound senior who wants to continue in their study of challenging topics in mathematics. Topics covered will include trigonometry as well as a survey of topics in algebra and geometry.
- COLLEGE STATISTICS - .5 CREDIT / dual credit with KCC**  
**GRADES 11-12 ONE SEMESTER COURSE**  
**PREREQUISITES: ALEKS score of 30-45% OR a minimum ACT MATH score of 19**

This course focuses on the following Statistics topics: descriptive statistics, correlation and linear regression, inferential statistics and probability distributions as applied to confidence intervals, hypothesis testing, and applications to business and other fields. This course is designed for the college bound student and is designed to offer challenge.

- **HONORS PRE-CALCULUS and TRIGONOMETRY – 1.0 credit**  
**GRADES 11-12 YEAR LONG COURSE**  
**PREREQUISITES: ALGEBRA 1, GEOMETRY, and HONORS ALGEBRA 2 (a minimum grade of B in Honors Algebra 2 is highly recommended)**

This course is designed for students interested in the sciences, engineering, mathematics, business, or other college related careers with a strong mathematical emphasis. Areas of study include polynomial functions, logarithmic and exponential functions, graphing, trigonometric identities and equations, vectors, complex numbers, sequences and series, and problem solving. Emphasis will be on real-world application of mathematical concepts. Second semester is dedicated primarily to studying trigonometry.

- **AP CALCULUS – 1.0 credit**  
**GRADE 11-12 YEAR LONG COURSE**  
**PREREQUISITES: HONORS PRE-CALCULUS and TRIGONOMETRY**

The curriculum in this course follows a College Board-approved AP Calculus syllabus, and is designed to cover the same material as a college semester-long Calculus I course. At the end of this course, all students will be encouraged to take the AP Calculus AB examination with the potential to earn college credit at many colleges and universities.

## MUSIC DEPARTMENT

### MUSIC CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Actor	Dancer	Orchestra Leader
Actress	Dramatic Reader	Orchestrator
Arranger of Music	Impersonator	Organist and Pianist
Choir Director	Manager Sales	Piano Tuner/Technician
Choreographer	Musician	Popular Singer
Chorus Dancer/Singer	Music Critic	Radio or TV Director
Clergy	Music Librarian	Recreational Therapist
Comedian	Music Supervisor	Religious Ed Director
Composer	Musical Director	Sales Clerk
Concert Singer	Musical Entertainer	Teacher
Conductor	Occupat Therapist	

### Available Classes

- **BAND - 0.5 credit/semester**  
**GRADES 9-12 YEAR LONG COURSE**  
**NO PREREQUISITES**

Emphasis will be on giving students' knowledge through experience in a variety of styles of instrumental music. This class includes Marching Band in the fall and Concert Band for the rest of the school year. Marching Band presents seven (7) or more public performances including home football games, a parade, and two or three competitions. Concert Band presents four (4) or more public performances including concerts and contests. Opportunities are available to participate in other instrumental activities such as Jazz Band or Pep Band as well as contest solos and small ensembles. Students receive group instruction during Band and have an individual or small group lesson.



- **EARLY BIRD MARCHING BAND - 0.125 credit (2-3 days/week) (1<sup>st</sup> QUARTER)**

**GRADES 9-12**

**NO PREREQUISITES**

Students signed up for BAND will automatically be registered for the early bird portion of band. Early Bird Marching Band is a required part of the band class (see above). Students will be given credit for both Early Bird Marching Band and for the standard Band class.

- **CONCERT CHOIR 0.5 credit/semester**  
**GRADES 10-12 YEAR-LONG COURSE**  
**NO PREREQUISITES**

All students in grades 10–12 have the opportunity to audition into Concert Choir. This is an advanced ensemble focusing on the All-State literature, a cappella singing, and advanced music theory. Students are exposed to a variety of quality choral literature of an advanced nature. Foreign languages are common. Advanced music theory and compositional techniques are also explored. Students are required to take three individual lessons per quarter. Students are also required to attend and perform in one concert per quarter and State Large Group Contest. Students are encouraged to take a solo to contest and participate in State solo/ensemble contest but will not be required to do so. Additional vocal experiences available include: chamber choir, carolers, jazz choirs, honor choirs, and the spring musical.

- **SELECT WOMEN'S CHOIR 0.5 credit/semester**  
**GRADES 10-12 WOMEN YEAR-LONG COURSE**  
**NO PREREQUISITES**

Treble singers in grades 10–12 have the opportunity to audition for Select Women's Choir. Students will develop an advanced understanding of proper breathing technique, vowel formation, posture, and music theory. Students are exposed to a variety of quality choral literature while exploring various styles. Foreign languages are explored but not a focus. Basic elements of music theory will also be explored. Students are encouraged to grow individually while understanding the importance of individual commitment to excellence in building a quality ensemble. Students are required to take three private lessons per quarter. These may be done individually or with a partner. Students are also required to attend and perform in one concert per quarter and State Large Group Contest. Students are encouraged to sing solos and are required to participate in small group contest in at least one ensemble. Additional vocal experiences available include: chamber singers, carolers, jazz choirs, and the spring musical.

- **MIXED CHOIR 0.5 credit/semester**  
**GRADE 9 YEAR-LONG COURSE**  
**NO PREREQUISITES**

All 9th grade students will participate in Mixed Choir for a year of technical and musical development and growth. (Unless notified otherwise by the director) Here, they will develop a basic understanding of proper breathing technique, vowel formation, posture, and music theory. Students will be exposed to a variety of quality choral literature. Basic elements of music theory will also be explored. Students are encouraged to grow individually while understanding the importance of individual commitment to excellence in building a quality ensemble. Students are required to take three lessons per quarter in a small group setting. Students are also required to attend and perform in one concert per quarter and State Large Group Contest. Students are encouraged to participate in State solo/ensemble contest but will not be required to do so. Additional opportunities include jazz choir and the spring musical.

- **ORCHESTRA 0.5 credit/semester** (students taking band AND orchestra will receive 1.0 credit per semester)  
**GRADES 9-12 YEAR-LONG COURSE**

**PREREQUISITES: Prior participation in orchestra or audition for instructor**

This course is open to all string players interested in playing orchestral literature and chamber music. Orchestra presents five or more public performances during the year, including concerts and contests. Members from this group can also choose to participate in honor orchestras, solo/ensemble contest, and musical pit orchestra. Students receive group instruction during Orchestra class and have an individual or small group lesson.

## PHYSICAL EDUCATION/HEALTH DEPARTMENT

### PHYSICAL EDUCATION/HEALTH CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Bacteriologist	Orthopedic Surgeon	Sanitary Engineer
Business Administration	Osteopath	Social Worker
Chiropractor	Physical Therapist	Speech Health-Pathologist
Dental Hygienist	Practical Nurse	Sports Writer or Editor
Dental Assistant	Professional Athlete	Swimming Instructor
Dentist	Public Administrator	Teacher
Dental Technician	Public Health- Engineer	Umpire
Fitness Training Spec.	Public Health-Educator	Virologist
Exercise Science	Public Health-Statistician	
Laboratory Technician	Recreation Leader	X-Ray Technician
Lifeguard		
Model		

## Available Classes

Physical Education is a state and school district requirement for all students each school year. This PE requirement may be waived by the high school principal for the following reasons:

1. Physical disability waiver – physician’s written approval is required.
2. Religious waiver – parental written request is required.

*Students who qualify for the waivers listed above must still complete the minimum credits required for a MVHS diploma. Courses that are waived DO NOT earn credit.*

- **MUSTANG STRENGTH and SPEED PHYSICAL EDUCATION - .5 credit**  
**GRADES 9-12 ONE SEMESTER COURSE (repeatable course, can take both semesters)**  
**\*\*Mustang Strength & Speed PE will also be offered as an Early Bird option, every other day all year**  
**NO PREREQUISITES**

This course is designed for athletic strength and fitness training as it is the hope that all athletes (and any student interested in strength training) will take this course to get their strength training during the school day, thus saving practice time for coaches. The emphasis of this course is on injury prevention, increased durability, strength, power, speed, agility, body composition, mobility, and flexibility. Weight room safety, warm-up procedures, cool-down procedures, lifting technique, major muscle identification, and individual goal setting are all important components of this course.

**\*\*For EB Mustang Strength & Speed PE, enrollment priority will be given as follows:**

1. underclassmen with year-long elective courses
2. seniors
3. juniors
4. sophomores
5. freshmen

• **LIFETIME FITNESS - .5 credit**

**GRADEs 9-12 ONE SEMESTER COURSE**

**\*\*Lifetime Fitness will also be offered as an Early Bird option, every other day all year**

**NO PREREQUISITES**

Students will be taught and instructed in lifetime activities that they will be able to do in their lifetime as an adult. Students will learn fundamentals of each game and be able to practice their skills during class. Games that will potentially be taught include Badminton, Basketball, Bowling, Fitness, Golf, Kickball, Pickleball, Softball, Tennis, Volleyball, Whiffle-ball, etc. Fitness testing and training will be every other day during the units of the course.

**\*\*For EB Lifetime Fitness, enrollment priority will be given as follows:**

1. underclassmen with year-long elective courses
2. seniors
3. juniors
4. sophomores
5. freshmen

• **HEALTH PURSUITS - .5 credit**

**GRADES 10-12 ONE SEMESTER COURSE**

**PREREQUISITE: FRESHMAN HEALTH**

This course is intended for students that have an interest in learning about many aspects of health and wellness. Some components of the course include: general health and wellness, positive psychology, sport psychology, leadership acquisition, nutrition, exercise physiology, strength and conditioning, and health related careers. Some activities that will supplement coursework include: team building, hiking, Frisbee golf, and more.

## SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

### SCIENCE CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Annealer Welder

Anthropologist

Artist

Assayer

Bacteriologist

Biochemist

Biologist

Botanist

Ceramic Engineer

Curator

Chemical Engineer

Chem. Processing Plastics

Dentist

Dental Hygienist

Detective

Dietician

Ecologist

Electrolysis Plater

Entomologist

Environmental Scientist

Exterminator

Farmer or Rancher

Family/Consumer Scientist

Fish/Wildlife Service

Forest Ranger

Game Warden

Gardener

Geologist

Herpetologist

Horticulturalist

Immunologist

Landscape Architect

Laboratory Technician

Medical Secretary

Metallurgist

Nursery Operator

Nutritionist

Occupational Therapist

Pharmacist

Physical Therapist

Physician/Surgeon

Photographer

Practical Nurse

Research Chemist

Registered Nurse

Research Nutritionist

Science Teacher

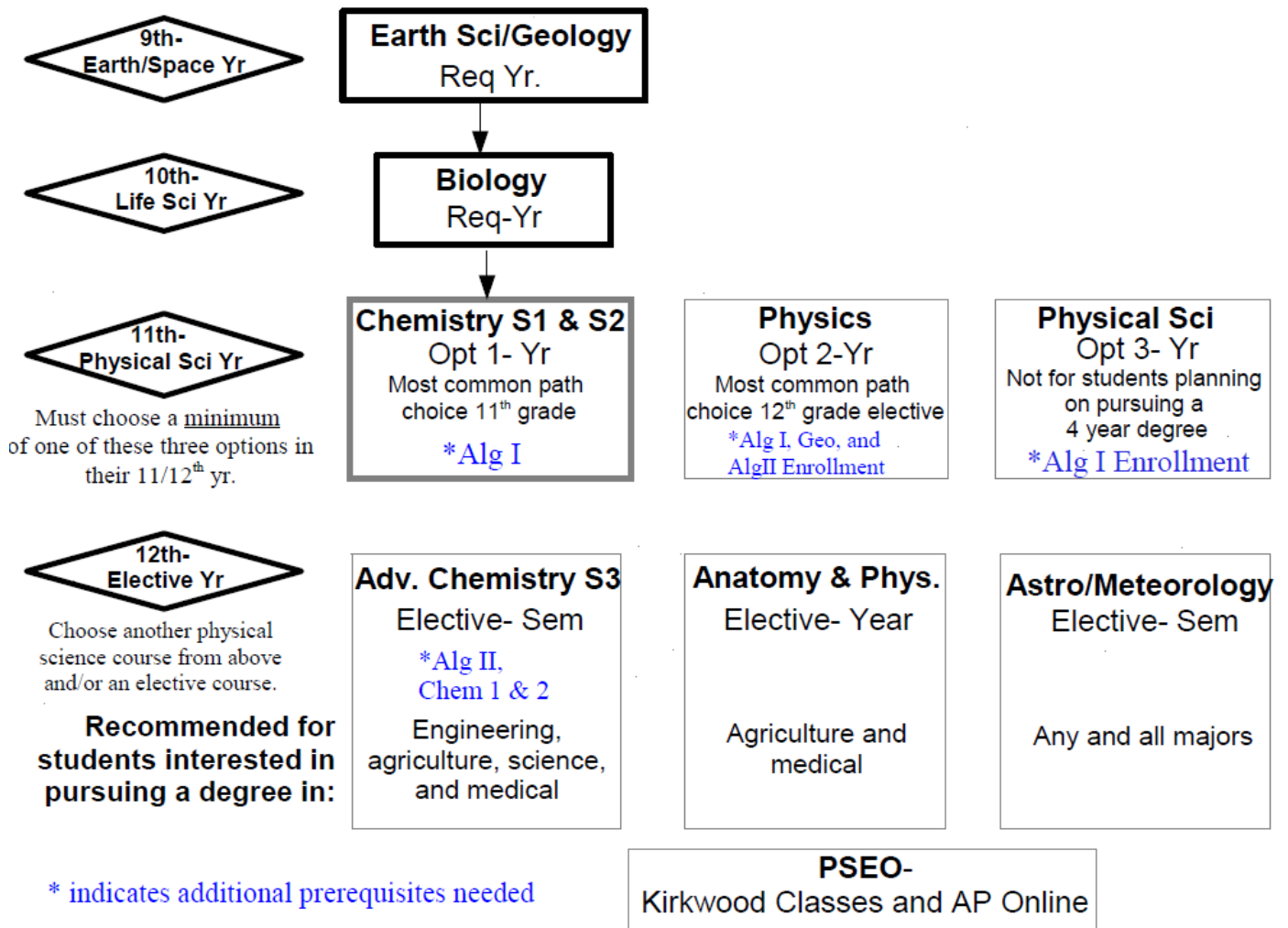
Taxidermist

Veterinarian

X-ray Technician

Zoologist

# Science Curriculum Guide



## Available Classes

THE TWO (2) COURSES LISTED BELOW ARE REQUIRED OF ALL STUDENTS:

- EARTH SCIENCE / GEOLOGY – 1.0 credit**  
**GRADE 9 YEAR-LONG COURSE**  
**NO PREREQUISITES**

Earth Science/Geology is designed to provide the student with a basic understanding of his/her home planet. It is a science that deals with the Earth, its structure, changing processes, history and place in space. Special emphasis will be placed on studying Iowa's unique geological features and how they impact the entire planet.

- **BIOLOGY – 1.0 credit**

- GRADE 10 YEAR-LONG COURSE**

- PREREQUISITE: EARTH SCIENCE / GEOLOGY**

- Course topics will include Chemistry of life, Cells, Genetics, Evolution, Human body, and Ecology. Biological principles are developed through laboratory experiences, model building, and argumentation using methods of observation and scientific inquiry. This course is evaluated in the following areas: Experimental and Mathematical Thinking, Developing and Using Models, and Construction and Justification of Scientific Explanations.

**THE FOLLOWING COURSES ARE SCIENCE ELECTIVES:**

**(two semesters of a Physical Science are REQUIRED for graduation)**

- **CHEMISTRY S1 & S2 – 1.0 credit**

- GRADES 11-12 YEAR-LONG COURSE**

- PREREQUISITES: ALGEBRA I, BIOLOGY, EARTH SCIENCE/GEOLOGY**

- This course is designed for students interested in attending a four year college. Students should have a working knowledge of algebra and be able to solve for unknowns in given equations. Topics of study include atomic structure, periodic trends, chemical compounds, chemical reactions, the concept of the mole, energy and reaction rate, and nuclear reactions. Students will be required to apply concepts in a laboratory setting and write formal lab procedures and analysis.

- **ADVANCED CHEMISTRY S3 – .5 credit**

- GRADES 11-12 ONE SEMESTER COURSE**

- PREREQUISITES: CHEMISTRY S1 & S2, ALGEBRA 2**

- Chemistry 3 is designed to develop and build on the ideas and concepts gained in Chemistry S1 and S2. Additional emphasis is placed on reaction chemistry: acids, bases, equilibrium, thermochemistry, reaction kinetics, and organic chemistry. This course is designed to cover additional chemistry material not covered in the first year of chemistry, but that will be found in all introductory college chemistry classes. It is recommended for students interested in medical, engineering, or science-related fields.

- **PHYSICAL SCIENCE - 1.0 credit**

- GRADES 11-12 YEAR-LONG COURSE**

- PREREQUISITES - TWO (2) FULL YEARS OF SCIENCE, ALGEBRA 1**

- Physical Science is an introductory one year program including information from both physics and chemistry. Our approach will be conceptual, with a heavy emphasis on general concepts and phenomena keeping with the developing mathematical skills of the students. There is not as much emphasis on the mathematical calculations as in Physics. Topics will include motion, forces, chemical reactions, atomic structure, structure and properties of matter, energy, heat, electricity, magnetism, light, and sound.

- **PHYSICS – 1.0 credit**

- GRADES 11-12 YEAR-LONG COURSE**

- PREREQUISITES: BIOLOGY, ALGEBRA 1, GEOMETRY, and COMPLETION OR ENROLLMENT IN ALGEBRA 2**

- Physics is an in depth, one year program. Our approach will be a combination of lab based learning with conceptual and mathematical calculations. There is a heavy emphasis on the mathematics and ideas in Physics. We will focus on how mathematical calculations can give insight into the physical phenomenon. Topics will include motion, forces, gravitation, energy, machines, and possibly heat, waves, and light.

- **ANATOMY & PHYSIOLOGY – 1.0 credit**

**GRADES 11-12 YEAR-LONG COURSE**

**PREREQUISITE: BIOLOGY**

This course provides students with the fundamental concepts in anatomy and physiology. We will study the structure of the human body. This course is designed to help meet the individual needs of students to prepare for higher education and to study in an area of biological interest or health related profession.

- **ASTRONOMY / METEOROLOGY - .5 credit**

**GRADES 11-12 ONE SEMESTER COURSE**

This course is split into two quarters; the first quarter will cover astronomy concepts. Astronomy is the study of the objects in space, including stars, planets, comets, and their origins. This course is designed to provide the students with an understanding of these topics; the history of space travel will also be investigated. The second quarter will discuss Meteorology concepts; students will develop an understanding of the unique conditions that take place daily to create the variety of diverse weather conditions experienced in the Midwest and other parts of the world.

## SOCIAL SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

### SOCIAL SCIENCE CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Archaeologist

Archivist

Attorney

Behavior Researcher

Census Taker

Clergyperson

Community Manager

Conservation Officer

Conserv./Historical Papers

Cultural Anthropologist

Economist

Environmental Planner

Export Manager

Foreign Correspondent

Foreign Service

Foreign Travel Escort Officer

Geographer

Geologist

Governor

Historian

Historic Site Administer

Historical Novelist

International Ed and Development

Internat.Exchange Program Director

Judge

Literary Writer

Missionary

Museum Exhibits Director

Newspaper Editor/Pub

Newspaper Reporter

Publishing

Radio News Reporter

Reference Librarian

Research Director

Social Worker

State Legislator

Stock Broker

Survey Interviewer

Teacher

U.S. Senator/Rep

Urban Planner

Wire News Editor

## Available Classes

**THE THREE (3) COURSES LISTED BELOW ARE REQUIRED OF ALL STUDENTS:**

- **UNITED STATES HISTORY – 1.0 credit**

**GRADE 9 YEAR LONG COURSE**

**NO PREREQUISITES**

United States History examines the major turning points in American history beginning with an intensive study of Mount Vernon History and then continuing on with the sequence from 8th grade, beginning with the Roaring 20s and continuing through the Great Depression, World War II, the growth of the United States, the Cold War and the Civil Rights Movement, Vietnam, Watergate, the resurgence of conservatism, the fall of the Berlin Wall, the technological revolution, 9-11, and additional topics continuing through the 1990s to the modern day. Attention is given to political issues, institutions, political parties, leadership, and diplomatic and constitutional questions, as well as economic, social, and intellectual trends. Current events are frequently included in class discussion as a means of studying contemporary history.

- **WORLD HISTORY – 1.0 credit**  
**GRADE 10 YEAR LONG COURSE**  
**NO PREREQUISITES**

World History is a survey of major eras in World History beginning with the Renaissance to the modern day, emphasizing major historical transformations and processes that have shaped the interrelated global experience. Topics include Reformation, colonization, imperialism, Enlightenment, the French Revolution, 19th Century Liberalism, industrialization, urbanization, socialism and nationalism as they have affected life in Europe, the Middle East, Asia, South America, and Africa in the modern era.

- **POLITICAL SCIENCE - .5 credit**  
**GRADE 12 ONE SEMESTER COURSE**

**\*\*Political Science may be offered Early Bird, every other day all year, if enough requests indicate a need. NEW FOR 2018-2019: Political Science may be offered every other day all year within the school day, if enough requests indicate a need.**

**NO PREREQUISITES**

Political Science is the study of the structure of government at the federal, state, and local levels. Students will examine the party system, and the differing stances on issues taken by various political groups within the United States. The Bill of Rights is examined, with particular attention paid to freedom of speech, press, and religion along with search and seizure and gun control laws. Important Supreme Court cases are studied, and issues such as abortion, capital punishment, medical ethics cases, and affirmative action are debated. Students are encouraged to become active citizens by writing their legislators about local issues of their choosing. Students are required to do research and complete various writing assignments and projects throughout this course. Class discussion and debate are emphasized in grading.

**THE FOLLOWING COURSES ARE SOCIAL SCIENCE ELECTIVES:**

- **AP WORLD HISTORY - 1.0 credit**  
**GRADES 11-12 YEAR LONG COURSE**

***(May be taken by sophomore ELP students in place of World History - with department approval. May be delayed until junior or senior year and if so, recommend taking Psychology or Sociology as sophomore)***

The AP World History course focuses on developing students' understanding of world history from approximately 8000 B.C.E. to the present. The course has students investigate the content of world history for significant events, individuals, developments, and processes in six historical periods. The course also provides five themes that students explore throughout the course encompassing the five major geographical regions of the globe: Africa, the Americas, Asia, Europe, and Oceania.

**\*\*This is a college level course. Students are encouraged to take the AP Exam in the spring to attempt to earn college credit.**

- **WOMEN IN U.S. HISTORY - .5 credit (2018-2019)**  
**GRADES 11-12 ONE SEMESTER COURSE**  
**NO PREREQUISITES**

This course addresses the history of women in the United States from the colonization of North America through modern times. This class will focus on the impact that women have had on the development of the United States and how women's roles have changed over time. Students will look closely at how women's historical experiences challenge our understanding of American history. This class will consist of class lectures, primary documents, class discussions, movies, group and individual research projects. \*\* Sophomores are able to take this course with instructor permission, and two semesters of an 'A' in U.S. History.

- **THE AMERICAN WEST - .5 credits (2019-2020)**

**GRADES 11-12 ONE SEMESTER COURSE**

**NO PREREQUISITES**

In this course we will explore the Old West. We will learn about the American West and how it shaped our nation's history. We will cover topics that are of interest to you including early explorers, Native Americans, fur traders, miners, cowboys and of course frontier men and women. Class will consist of lectures, both individual and group projects, movies, reading and internet research. \*\* Sophomores are able to take this course with instructor permission, and two semesters of an 'A' in U.S. History.

- **CRIMINAL JUSTICE- .5 CREDITS**

**GRADES 11-12 ONE SEMESTER COURSE**

**NO PREREQUISITES**

In this course you will learn how our criminal justice system in America operates as well as develop a good understanding of how court decisions affect our lives. We will examine how our criminal justice system tries to balance individual rights with social concerns. We will spend a good deal of time discussing and sharing hot topics in criminal justice that interest you. Class will consist of lectures, debates and discussion, mock trials, individual and group projects and a trip to the Crime Lab.

- **INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHOLOGY - .5 credit**

**GRADES 11-12 ONE SEMESTER COURSE**

**NO PREREQUISITES**

Psychology is a fascinating course which will engage students in the study of human thought, behavior and motivation. During the semester, students will survey various topics including an introduction to the subfields of psychology, the practice of mental health treatment in the United States today, the study of psychology across the lifespan, the psychology of learning, the biology of behavior, motivation and emotion and social psychology. This is a survey course which seeks to allow students to obtain knowledge of psychology and to apply this knowledge in order to have a better understanding of self and of others. Students will engage in class discussion, group projects, writing, research and analysis of relevant studies. \*\* Sophomores are able to take this course with instructor permission, and two semesters of an 'A' in U.S. History.

- **INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY - .5 credits**

**GRADES 11-12 ONE SEMESTER COURSE**

**NO PREREQUISITES**

In this class we will learn how society shapes human social behavior. Sociology is the study of social structures and how they affect our lives. In this class we will learn how people become socialized and the various social institutions that help mold us. We will learn about the role of family, schools, church, and the government as social institutions. We will cover topics that are of interest to you including the development of male and female gender roles, sexism in advertising, poverty in America, racism, deviance and issues facing teens. Class will consist of lectures, discussions, readings, individual and group projects and movies. \*\* Sophomores are able to take this course with instructor permission, and two semesters of an 'A' in U.S. History.

- **INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS - .5 credit (2019-2020)**

**GRADES 11-12 ONE SEMESTER COURSE**

**NO PREREQUISITES**

This course will introduce topics through an overview of international security, foreign policy, international organizations, international law, international politics, and international political economy. Students will gain a clear understanding of the main theories of international relations and their applications to contemporary world issues. This course will focus on knowledge and analysis of current world and political affairs. Students must handle challenging reading, writing, and synthesizing assignments within this demanding course.



- **PROBLEMS OF A MODERN SOCIETY - .5 credit (2018-2019)**

**GRADES 11-12 ONE SEMESTER COURSE**

**NO PREREQUISITES**

This course explores relevant contemporary social issues. By nature, the content and topics studied in this course are organic. Integrating the fields of psychology, sociology and history, students will study contemporary problems at the local, state, national and global level. Students should leave the course with an ability to seek quality information about relevant topics, analyze contemporary problems both effectively and critically and to share that information in written and/or oral fashion. This is a student centered course which relies on student research, collaboration and upon a high level of engagement from each student in the classroom. This is a great fit for students interested in contemporary issues facing our world today. \*\* Sophomores are able to take this course with instructor permission, and two semesters of an 'A' in U.S. History.

- **SPORTS IN AMERICAN SOCIETY - .5 credit**

**GRADES 11-12 ONE SEMESTER COURSE**

**NO PREREQUISITES**

This class will study the influence sports have had on our society and culture. Students will study the historical development of amateur and professional athletics. The psychological and sociological perspectives of sports will also be studied. Class content will be adjusted to include the interests of students enrolled in the course and to include current issues in sports.

## LEARNING SKILLS PROGRAM

- **DIRECTED STUDIES - 1.0 credit**

**GRADES 9-12 YEAR LONG COURSE**

**PREREQUISITES: PLACEMENT BY STUDENT STUDY TEAM**

This course provides students with structured study time within a small group setting. Students will work on skills such as communication, writing, reading, and study skill development. IEP goals and objectives are worked on during this class. Generally, students in the Learning Skills Program will be enrolled in at least one period daily in a Directed Studies class.

- **WORK EXPERIENCE – 0.5 credit**

**GRADES 11-12 ONE SEMESTER COURSE**

**PREREQUISITES: PLACEMENT BY STUDENT STUDY TEAM**

This course is designed for students with work experience considerations in their IEP. Work Experience provides students with the opportunity to volunteer at either school-based or off-site business locations. These positions give students the opportunity to experience a variety of work sites prior to making career/college decisions. Students who have successful work experiences can gain valuable job-related skills, obtain positive references for future job opportunities, list the work experiences on their resume, and/or be hired as an employee with the business. Requirements for Work Experience include that the participant is on track to graduate, has a 90% attendance rate in the semester prior to participation, and has working as a goal area or service on the IEP.

## VOCATIONAL COURSES

- **ELEMENTARY AIDE - .5 credit**

**GRADES 10-12 ONE SEMESTER COURSE**

**PREREQUISITES: Completion of contract; willingness / ability to work directly with elementary students**

An elementary aide will assist in a Washington Elementary classroom working in cooperation with and under the supervision of the regular classroom teacher. The aide will have a chance to experience the many responsibilities and tasks that are part of a teacher's every-day activities. Daily attendance is required. Grading is Pass or Fail and is based on daily attendance, teacher evaluation, and the completion of a final paper. Actual classroom placement will be assigned by Washington Elementary based on the needs of the staff. *A student may take the Elementary Aide course a maximum of two semesters while in high school.*

- **WORK STUDY - .5 credit**

**GRADES 11-12 ONE SEMESTER COURSE**

**PREREQUISITES: COMPLETION OF APPLICATION**

This is a vocational program designed for juniors and seniors. During the work portion of the curriculum, students will keep a log of hours worked. Regular attendance at the job site is required. Transportation to the job site is the student's responsibility. Grading will be based on a pass/fail basis. An evaluation form completed by your work supervisor and the completion of a final paper at the end of the semester is required for successful completion of this course.

## WORLD LANGUAGE DEPARTMENT

Anthropologist	Foreign News Interpret/Translator	Receptionist
Composer	Historian	Salesperson
Customs Examiner	Immigration Inspector	Social Group Worker
Diplomat	Information Clerk	Stage Performer
Dramatic Coach	Lawyer	Stenographer
Essayist or Author	Librarian	Teacher
Export Clerk	Medical Assistant	Travel Agent
FBI Agent	Messenger	Travel Guide
Flight Attendant	Missionary	Tutor
Foreign Corresp Services	Musician	
Foreign Exchange Clerk	Physician	

### Available Classes

- **GERMAN 1 – 1.0 credit**

**GRADES 9-11 YEAR LONG COURSE**

**NO PREREQUISITES**

Students will develop basic skills for communicating in German: listening, reading, writing and speaking skills will be emphasized. The focus will be on vocabulary acquisition and practice of German expressions. Students may use songs, pictures, videos, games, role playing, and memorizing expressions to develop that focus. During the course, students will learn and demonstrate speaking survival skills in simulated social situations. Learning about the culture of German speaking countries will be introduced and integrated as a part of learning the German language. A grade of C- or better must be earned in order to proceed to the next semester of German. There may be special consideration given upon instructor approval.

- **GERMAN 2 – 1.0 credit**  
**GRADES 10-12 YEAR LONG COURSE**  
**PREREQUISITE: GERMAN 1**

The language skills and cultural knowledge acquired in German I will be expanded in order that students will be able to cope with a greater depth and diversity in classroom and social situations in German. In addition to continuing the activities experienced in German I, students will be doing more reading and short writing assignments. A grade of C- or better must be earned in order to proceed to the next semester of German. There may be special consideration given upon instructor approval.

- **GERMAN 3 – 1.0 credit**  
**GRADES 11-12 YEAR LONG COURSE**  
**PREREQUISITE: GERMAN 2**

In German III, students will increase their reading and writing skills, while continuing to improve their speaking and listening skills. An increased emphasis will be placed on grammar. Students will reenter previously acquired skills and expand them in novel ways. Linguistically, they will be learning to respond to situations which move beyond memorized dialogues and phrases. A grade of C- or better must be earned in order to proceed to the next semester of German. There may be special consideration given upon instructor approval.

- **HONORS GERMAN 4 – 1.0 credit**  
**GRADE 12 YEAR LONG COURSE**  
**PREREQUISITE: GERMAN 3**

German IV is the culmination of the four-year sequence. Students will devote more time to reading and writing. They will study advanced grammatical structures and expand their vocabulary. Modern German literature and poetry, art and architecture, history, films and radio dramas will be some of the areas the students will explore. Students will increase their ability to function in German in social situations by learning methods of circumlocution. They will also practice test-taking in preparation for college entrance exams. A grade of C- or better must be earned in order to proceed to the next semester of German. There may be special consideration given upon instructor approval. If there is sufficient enrollment, the AP curriculum for German 4 will be taught.

- **SPANISH 1 – 1.0 credit**  
**GRADES 9-11 YEAR LONG COURSE**  
**NO PREREQUISITES**

The Spanish language is studied by developing the student's listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills. The student is introduced to basic vocabulary and grammar structures of the language; thus enabling the student to speak and write about themselves and others. Class activities stress finding meaningful and practical applications of Spanish in their lives. Students will study cultural diversity and work on developing a non-judgmental approach to cultures other than their own. Each student is expected to attend cultural events outside of class. Grades will be based on four main standards: presentational communication (speaking and writing), interpersonal communication, interpretive skills (listening comprehension and reading comprehension), and culture. A grade of C- or better must be earned in order to proceed to the next semester of Spanish. There may be special consideration given upon instructor approval.

- **SPANISH 2 – 1.0 credit**  
**GRADES 10-12 YEAR LONG COURSE**  
**PREREQUISITE: SPANISH 1**

In Spanish 2 students continue to develop their skills in listening and reading with understanding, and speaking and writing with intention and meaning. Emphasis is placed on acquiring a range of vocabulary useful in everyday conversation, and more complex grammar structures that enable meaningful written and spoken communication. Students are expected to speak Spanish in class every day. Daily interactive exercises increase skills in interpersonal communication while projects develop presentational writing and speaking skills. Culture is integrated throughout the course with current events, readings and video in order to heighten the students' awareness of issues facing Spanish speaking populations. Students are also expected to attend cultural events or investigate cultural topics outside of class. Grades will be based on four main standards: presentational communication (speaking and writing), interpersonal communication, interpretive skills (listening comprehension

and reading comprehension), and culture. A grade of C- or better must be earned in order to proceed to the next semester of Spanish. There may be special consideration given upon instructor approval.

- **SPANISH 3 – 1.0 credit**  
**GRADES 11-12 YEAR LONG COURSE**  
**PREREQUISITE: SPANISH 2**

Emphasis is placed on broadening the student's listening, reading, writing, and speaking skills. Grades will be based on four main standards: presentational communication (speaking and writing), interpersonal communication, interpretive skills (listening comprehension and reading comprehension), and culture. Grammar and culture is discussed through various means of comprehensible input including reading authentic materials, viewing authentic film, and the instructor will speak in Spanish for a minimum of 90% of the class time. Students are expected to use the Spanish language every day in class as well. A grade of C- or better must be earned in order to proceed to the next semester of Spanish. There may be special consideration given upon instructor approval.

- **HONORS SPANISH 4 – 1.0 credit**  
**GRADE 12 YEAR LONG COURSE**  
**PREREQUISITE: SPANISH 3**

The emphasis of Honors Spanish 4 is quality practice and fine-tuning of student listening, speaking, reading and writing skills. Grades will be based on four main standards: presentational communication (speaking and writing), interpersonal communication, interpretive skills (listening comprehension and reading comprehension), and culture. Students are expected to speak Spanish almost exclusively in class every day through activities, discussions and regular oral presentations. Written work is emphasized through a variety of projects requiring reading and analysis of authentic materials, creativity in individual and group work, group problem-solving, and expressing opinions. Students study advanced grammar while exploring Hispanic literature and history. Students are expected to be involved in a self-elected and designed service-learning project. A grade of C- or better must be earned in order to proceed to the next semester of Spanish. There may be special consideration given upon instructor approval.

## ADDITIONAL LEARNING OPPORTUNITY

- **IOWA BIG - .5 credit for each class per semester**  
**GRADES 11-12 YEAR-LONG COURSE(S)**  
**NO PREREQUISITES**

Iowa BIG provides an opportunity for MVHS students, in conjunction with the Cedar Rapids School District, to earn high school core academic and/or elective credit in a project-based, community-integrated program. Students choose to take elective or select core academic courses in a project-based environment and tap into their own passions and interests to take on community, business, or student-pitched projects. Students will learn rigorous content and 21st century skills through projects that have real audiences and expectations. Students will work directly with community and business mentors and coaches as well as staff to build a strong resume of experiences and expertise. *Students interested in this program should contact the counseling office for more information and be aware of timelines and deadlines for signing up.*

The Mount Vernon Community School District will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, age, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status (for programs), socioeconomic status (for programs), disability, religion, and creed. Students, parents, employees and others doing business with or performing services with the district who feel that they have experienced discrimination are encouraged to contact Matt Thede, Equity Coordinator, Mount Vernon Community High School, 731 Palisades Road SW, Mount Vernon, IA 52314, telephone: [319-895-8843](tel:319-895-8843) x4005, where our district has a grievance procedure for processing complaints of discrimination. Inquiries may also be directed in writing to the Director of Civil Rights – Region VII, US Department of Education, 310 W. Wisconsin Ave., Suite 800, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53203-2292 (phone: 414-291-1111) or to the Iowa Department of Education; Grimes State Office Building; Des Moines, Iowa, 50319-0146 (phone: 515-281-5294).