

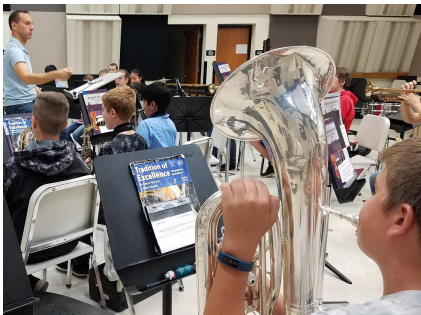
Van Buren High School

Course Description Guide

2023-2024 School Year



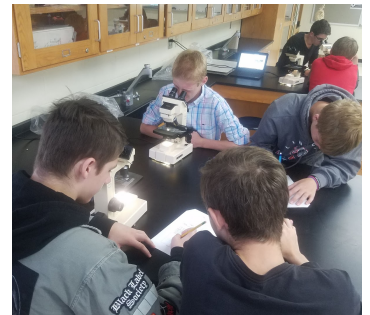
Building Experiences. Building Connections. Building Thinkers.



Fine Arts



Athletics



Academics

VAN BUREN HIGH SCHOOL

217 South Main Street
Van Buren, Ohio 45889

Course Description and Information Guide

2023-2024 School Year

As your school guidance counselor and high school principal, we would like to assist you in any way we can to see that you select a schedule of classes that best fits your needs. Much effort has gone into the development and planning of the courses to be offered for the upcoming school year at Van Buren High School. The course descriptions that you find in this guide are intended to assist you in selecting courses for the upcoming year.

Some of the courses you will need to take are required, based on the graduation requirements section of this guide. Other classes, however, you will be able to take as electives that can help prepare you specifically, and individually, for your future plans. You are encouraged to select your classes with considerable thought and intent.

This course description book lists all current courses at Van Buren High School. Note that courses may be added or dropped as state and local requirements and/ or needs dictate.

Most of the information you need for course selection is found in this course description guide. If you have any further questions, feel free to contact either of us at the high school by calling 419-299-3384.

Martin Zender
Guidance Counselor

Kevin Shoup
High School Principal

Cassie Schaffer
Dir. of Teaching & Learning

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High School General Information

Most high school course offerings are dependent upon enrollment/requests. Course descriptions offered are not meant to be inclusive but to present a general description of what to expect during the year.

Please Remember

- Twenty-one units of credit are required for graduation and the End of Year Exams must be passed or complete one of the other 2 state requirements (pg.6) . No student will be permitted to participate in graduation exercises unless all graduation requirements are satisfied and all school obligations cleared.
- Credit is earned on a semester basis.
- All information regarding Millstream Career and Technology Center course descriptions and other information is available in the guidance office. (or online at <https://fcs.org/millstream-career-center/>)
- Student class rank, transcripts, GPA, and other information is available in the guidance office.
- Current transcripts will be distributed to students at the beginning of the year as well in February during scheduling time.
- Students must pass 5 credits to be eligible for athletics, and extracurricular and co-curricular activities.
- Students taking CCP courses may count those towards eligibility.
- Van Buren Schools will work to accommodate CCP class schedules including travel time for students attending other facilities. For courses that do not require student attendance (i.e. - online courses), students may be required to remain at Van Buren High School.

DROPPING AND ADDING CLASSES

Each spring students select classes which will determine their course of study for the following school year. These choices are considered to be binding upon the student following a verification of the courses selected. It must be understood that these courses should be chosen carefully and with genuine consideration of the student's future schooling. Schedule adjustments will be made following the end of a school year to facilitate the repeat of a failed required course.

It should be understood by parents and students that when registering for course work, a student places an obligation upon the school administration to accommodate the courses requested, to staff them with qualified and certified teachers, and to provide adequate textbooks and materials. It is impossible to maintain acceptable class size balances when many late requests for schedule changes are honored. Also, to have maximum teaching time, teachers must be able to begin full classroom instruction on the first day of classes. Fall schedule changes negatively impact the efficient use of class time. Students are encouraged to make realistic course selections based upon teacher recommendations and actual classroom performance.

The school counselor and/or principal may allow schedule changes for up to four (4) school days from the start of each semester (4 days for full year courses).

If a student withdraws from a course after school begins, a mark of "F" may be recorded for the semester and may be calculated in the grade point average.

A student who is withdrawn from a course administratively for any reason may receive a semester grade of "F" in that particular course and no academic credit. The "F" may be calculated in the grade point average.

Van Buren High School Graduation Requirements: [VBHS GRADUATION REQUIREMENT GRAPHIC](#)

1. Twenty-one (21) units of credit must be earned. These 21 credits must fulfill the State of Ohio Minimum Requirements listed below.
2. Electives must include at least one (1) full unit or two half (1/2) units fine arts and financial literacy (satisfied through required Financial Literacy).
3. A student must enroll in at least five (5) units of credit each year.

Subject Area

English Language Arts 4 units
Students must pursue at least 1 full credit each year to remain on track for graduation requirements.

Health 1/2 unit

Mathematics 4 units, one must include Algebra 2 (or equivalent)

Physical Education 1/2 unit

Science 3 units – must include:
1 unit Biological Science and 1 unit Physical Science

Social Studies 3 units

Financial Literacy 1/2 credit of Financial Literacy

Fine Arts 1 unit
Any courses offered by the Art or Music Department. Also, Graphic Arts and Design with Engineering Foundations.

Electives 4.5 units

Total 21 units

Must meet requirements set forth by the Ohio Department of Education that demonstrate preparedness for College and Career.

[VBHS GRADUATION SEALS](#) - Graduates must acquire a minimum of 2 seals (one must be a state seal.)
See additional details specific to graduating class in the guidance office.

Recommended Four-Year Schedule Plan...

Freshman :	Credit	Sophomore :	Credit
English	1	English	1
Math	1	Science	1
Science	1	*^P.E.	1/4
*^P.E.	1/4	Math	1
*Health	1/2	Social Studies	1
Social Studies	1	Electives	1-2
Electives	1-2		

Junior :	Credit	Senior :	Credit
English	1	English	1
Math	1	Math	1
Science	1	Electives	3-5
Electives	4-5		
Government	1		
Bus. Economics	1/2		

*can be scheduled at any time but is recommended during Freshman and Sophomore years.

^Course can be completed through credit flex program. Additional detail available in the guidance office.

COLLEGE CREDIT PLUS PROGRAM

Eligible students can take a course and earn high school and college credit that appears on both their high school and college transcripts. The course must apply to a degree or professional certificate.

Ohio public school districts and Ohio public colleges and universities must participate in College Credit Plus. To be eligible, students must meet the admission standards of the participating college or university to which they apply for enrollment and must be in grades 7-12 in the year they participate.

There is no cost for the student to participate in College Credit Plus when the student is enrolled in a public college or university. The high school and college or university share the cost for the course, unless the student fails the course or withdraws after the deadline.

By **April 1st**, you must notify your high school if you intend to participate in the program in the following school year with the official CCP "Intent Form". All students **MUST** turn in this Intent Form by April 1st to participate in CCP for the following school year.

It is the responsibility of the students to prepare and communicate CCP schedules to the guidance office the semester prior to course being taken (Fall courses need to be communicated prior to Summer).

It is the responsibility of the students and/or parents to acquire all necessary information including risks and responsibilities of CCP participation. This information can be obtained through an annual community meeting in December of the preceding year. Additionally, information can be found on the Van Buren School website, as well as through the counselors office.

CRITERIA FOR DIPLOMA WITH ACADEMIC HONORS

The student who completes the college preparatory curriculum in high school must meet any seven of the following eight criteria:

- Four units of English
- Four units of mathematics that include Algebra 1, Algebra 2, and Geometry or equivalent and another higher level course or a four-year sequence of courses that contain equivalent content
- Four units of science that include Physics, Chemistry 2, Anatomy/Bio 2, OR a CCP Science course
- Four units of social studies
- Either three units of foreign language or two units each of two foreign languages
- One unit of fine arts
- Maintain an overall high school grade point average of at least 3.5 on a four-point scale up to the last grading period of the senior year.
- A composite score of 27 on the American College Testing (ACT) tests or 1210 composite score on the Scholastic Assessment Tests (SAT)

VOCATIONAL CRITERIA FOR DIPLOMA WITH HONORS

The student who completes an intensive career-technical education curriculum in the high school must meet any seven of the following eight criteria:

- (a) Four units of English
- (b) Four units of mathematics that include algebra 1, algebra 2, and geometry or equivalent and another higher level course or a four-year sequence of courses that contain equivalent content
- (c) Four units of science that include chemistry and a higher level of science
- (d) Four units of social studies
- (e) Four units of career-technical minimum. Program must lead to an industry recognized credential, apprenticeship or be part of an articulated career pathway which can lead to post secondary credit
- (f) Maintain an overall high school grade point average of at least a 3.5 on a four-point scale up to the last grading period of the senior year
- (g) Obtain a composite score of 27 on the American College Testing (ACT) tests or 1210 composite score on the Scholastic Assessment Tests (SAT).
- (h) Achieve the proficiency benchmark established for the appropriate Ohio Career-Technical Competency Assessment or the equivalent.

For Additional Honors Diploma Options, please view requirements at:

<http://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Ohio-s-Graduation-Requirements/Honors-Diplomas>

CREDIT FLEXIBILITY

The credit flexibility initiative is part of a statewide effort to increase learning and engagement and to help students graduate ready for success in college and careers. In addition to earning credit by successfully completing traditional courses, the credit flexibility program provides new options for students including:

- *Earning credit by demonstrating mastery of the essential content of a traditional course by “testing out”, presenting a portfolio documenting mastery, or a combination of both.*
- *Successfully completing a mentorship, internship, educational travel, or service learning program aligned to the academic curriculum.*
- *Successfully completing an online course or academic summer or after school program aligned to the school curriculum.*
- *Successfully completing a ‘hybrid’ learning experience that may combine any of the options above as well as units of traditional learning.*

** Student proposal application is due to the office by May 1st, with notification of review to the student by the Credit Review Panel by May 31st for 1st semester credit flex. Applications for 2nd semester credit flex are due by November 1st with notification of review to the student by November 30th.* **Contact the guidance office for more information on Credit Flexibility.***

PREPARE FOR Future NOW

Freshman Year

- Explore your career and future options using *Transeo*, including identifying the graduation seals (minimum of 2) you plan to pursue.
- Assess your personal and academic strengths using the *YouScience* career aptitude assessments
- Talk to your parents, teachers and friends about your interests and goals.
- Seek information from those with similar experiences and interests.

Sophomore Year

- Repeat practices of Freshman year.
- Begin creating your digital portfolio.
- Students will be provided the Pre-ACT.
- Prepare and consider taking the ACT prior to entering Junior year.
- Consider Career Foundations (Business, Engineering, Medical) Course relative to interests and goals.
- Apply to Millstream if interested in one of their programs for Junior year.
- Develop three potential career pathways (End Goal - Education, Economics, Experiences, Expectations) that will be included in the digital portfolio.
- Work toward achievement of graduation seals and modify seal goals as needed.
- Use *YouScience* results to shadow careers that would utilize the aptitudes the career assessments identified. Submit the College/Career/Military Visit form in *Transeo* at least one week before your visit.

Junior Year

- Take Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test/National Merit Qualifying Tests (PSAT/NMSQT).
- Take the ACT.
- Take the appropriate college entrance tests and/or achievement tests.
- Consult college handbooks, visit with college representatives.
- Attend college/career fair at Findlay High School and other college night programs.
- Take ASVAB Military placement test for military or career options.
- Where appropriate, make interview appointments for the early fall.
- Plan senior course selection to enhance your college/career goals.
- Develop a *LinkedIn* profile and begin connecting with Van Buren graduates to further explore career options.
- Start connecting with Van Buren graduates through *LinkedIn* or other platforms to explore career options.
- Work toward achievement of graduation seals and modify seal goals as needed.
- Consider enrolling in the Beyond VB Internship program to explore career options - See details [HERE](#).
- Update your digital portfolio with any pathway changes, activities & honors, etc.
- Review your *YouScience* results and consider completing the five additional aptitude assessments to gain a clearer understanding of your aptitudes and the careers that value those aptitudes.
- Make college, career, and military exploratory visits using the College/Career/Military Visit form in *Transeo*.

Senior Year

- Meet with your guidance counselor if you need to consider a major change in plans or type of college/career.
- Make college, career, and military exploratory visits using the College/Career/Military Visit form in *Transeo*.
- Consider enrolling in the Beyond VB Internship Program - See details [HERE](#)
- If applying for early decision of early action, service academics, or ROTC scholarships, submit your application by October or November deadlines.
- Explore and consider apprenticeship programs for those interested in specific career fields.
- Begin working on college applications if college is part of your post-high school path. Some important reminders include:
 - Meet college's deadline for receipt of applications, transcript, and recommendations. Colleges establish a folder for you when your application is received.
 - Where teacher recommendations are required, give the teacher at least two weeks' time for preparation. Provide a stamped, addressed envelope.
 - Give your guidance counselor all secondary school report forms before application deadlines. This is your responsibility.
- If applying for apprenticeships, employment, or the military, be aware of application deadlines so you can meet them.
- If you are not sure how to apply for employment, reach out to the employer or meet with the career advisor for guidance.
- Attend college/career fairs and college night programs.
- Apply for November or December SAT, achievement test, and/or October or December ACT.
- If you are applying for financial aid, have your parents complete the Financial Aid Form (FAF) and submit it to the college scholarship service after January 1. FAFSA is available each year on October 1st for the following school year.
- Connect with Van Buren graduates through *LinkedIn* or other platforms to finalize career options.
- Complete graduation seal requirements.
- Update and finalize your digital portfolio and share it with colleges, potential employers, scholarship committees, etc.

**When you hear from a college, notify your guidance counselor of your status. Your counselor needs this information to ensure that the college of your choice receives your final transcript.

English Department Courses

#201 English 9 (1 credit, required for Freshmen)

Students will read literature including novel(s), short stories, poetry, drama, and Shakespeare with an emphasis on critical evaluation of the texts and their purposes. Writing compositions will focus on expanding the skills learned in elementary and middle school and applying them to a variety of different contexts.

Students will learn to apply their writing skills to make effective decisions for purpose, audience, and task while exploring their individual writing styles and interests. In addition, students will learn to critically evaluate and analyze complex texts and research by completing their own individual nine week long research project. The project will focus on being able to find scholarly sources and how to use those sources in order to further their understanding of a specific topic or idea. Likewise, students will have opportunities to engage with one another in a variety of different forms such as debates, trials, group projects or discussions, and public speaking.

#260 English 10: Writing and Planning for Your Future (1 credit, required for Sophomores)

This required sophomore course will focus on students developing a plan for their futures and completing class content which will move them toward their future plans. The class will start with an exploration of career options (apprenticeships, certifications, military, college, etc.) and creation of the online career portfolio (including résumé and cover letter). That exploration will lead to students learning about branding and developing written, oral, and/or visual branding content which relates directly to their career aspirations. Students will be reading *Fail Fast, Fail Often*, by Ryan Babineaux, Ph.D. and John Krumboltz, Ph.D., to be inspired to not fear failure but to look at it as an opportunity to learn and grow. Students will lead discussions of the book in “fishbowl” conversations. In the second semester, students will build on what they accomplished in the first semester and focus on building critical analysis and argumentation skills through reading and writing. Students will write a personal narrative, argumentative essay, and synthesis to add to their online portfolios, and those will all include career themes. When writing, students will be expected to provide sufficient research to support their ideas and convey their ideas effectively following MLA formatting standards. Students will also be considering how they can utilize the Aristotelian appeals (logos, pathos, ethos) to be persuasive with career-related writing and personal brand development. Throughout both semesters, students will focus on effective communication to build connections with those who could mentor them, provide employment and other post-high school opportunities, etc. Students will participate in a shadow day during both the first and second semesters.

#203 English 11 (1 credit)

Students will conduct critical analysis of literary texts and develop their composition skills in this year-long course. Literary analysis will focus on discovering the variety of literary techniques and devices that authors use within their writing with an emphasis on careful reading of a variety of historical documents, short stories, novels, plays, or poetry. Students will then use that analysis to contribute to classroom discussions to provide more depth of understanding. Composition will stress interpretation and analysis of representative works using textual evidence and documentation as well as provide an opportunity for individual growth in written expression.

#205 English 12 (1 credit)

The first semester of this course is an introduction to speech communication which emphasizes the practical skill of public speaking, including techniques to lessen speaker anxiety, and the use of visual aids to enhance speaker presentations. Civility and ethical speech-making are the foundations of this course. Students will participate in a variety of presenting/speaking situations. The second semester of this English course will focus on literature from a variety of genres. It will continue to develop a systematic approach to writing, to create a foundation for discussion and critical analysis of personal and scholarly writing, and to identify certain literary concepts in a variety of literary genres. The students will develop an understanding and appreciation of literature including the short story, nonfiction essay, poetry, drama, and novels and will increase their abilities to respond to literature based on their own experiences. Writing will be highlighted through the use of essay, research, documentation, and creative writing. At the end of this course, students will have produced a minimum of 5 full-length essays.

#614 Pop Culture/ Humanities (Dual Credit - 1 ELA, 1 Soc. Studies Elec., 1 period full-year)

(Open to all students grades 11-12 - Senior priority if necessary)

This course will offer simultaneous credit providing 1 English Language Arts credit as well as 1 Social Studies Elective credit. This course will be scheduled for 1 period, occurring for the duration of the year. Exploration of cultural themes such as movies, music, TV shows, style, and more that have pushed society into different directions for centuries. The course will focus on how the themes have culminated in the society we live in now with a heavy focus on project based learning.

#CCPEng - English Composition (1 HS Credit, 3 college credits)

Must be accepted by the partnering institution for CCP.

(Open to all students grades 11-12 - Senior priority if necessary)

Focuses not only on writing but also on reading and critically engaging various texts. Students will read and write essays with a variety of rhetorical purposes: Observing, explaining, investigating, evaluating, problem solving and arguing. Also includes library and electronic research culminating in research papers. Full process approach to writing using the formal elements and conventions of academic prose.

Mathematics Department Courses **See Department Course “Flow Chart” [HERE](#)**

#303 Algebra I (1 credit)

(Prerequisite: 8th grade Math)

This course emphasizes several foundational algebraic concepts that will be built upon in student’s future mathematical careers. Topics covered in this course include linear equations and inequalities, graphing, ratios and proportions, functions, systems of equations, polynomials, factoring, laws of exponents and exponential functions, square roots, and quadratic equations. A graphing calculator is required (TI-84 or TI-84 plus).

#312 Algebra I Support (.5 credit, full-year)

(Prerequisite: None) - (This course is Pass/Fail)

This is a support class for Algebra 1. Algebra 1 must be taken with this course.

#304 Algebra II (1 credit)

(Prerequisite: Algebra I and Geometry or taken with Geometry)

This course emphasizes the understanding of algebraic concepts. Many of the concepts of Algebra I are reviewed, therefore the student should have a basic and sound understanding of the concepts taught in Algebra I. The topics taught in Algebra II, but not in Algebra I, are logarithms, parabolas, hyperbolas, ellipses, functions, determinants, and basic trigonometry. A graphing calculator is required (TI-83 plus, TI-84, or TI-84 plus).

#310 Algebra II Support (.5 credit, full-year)

(Prerequisite: None) - (This course is Pass/Fail)

This is a support class for Algebra 2. Algebra 2 must be taken with this course.

#305 Geometry (1 credit)

(Prerequisite: Algebra I)

This course covers reasoning and proof, parallel and perpendicular lines, planes, triangles, quadrilaterals, area, surface area, volume, similarity, right triangle trigonometry, circles, and transformations. A graphing calculator is required (TI-83, TI-84, or TI-84 plus).

#306 Geometry Support (.5 credit, full-year)

(Prerequisite: Algebra I) - (This course is Pass/Fail)

This is a support class for Geometry. Geometry must be taken with this course.

#316 Real World Stats (1 credit)

(Prerequisite: Algebra I and Geometry)

This course provides students an introductory understanding of concepts, and real world applications of statistics and probability. Topics covered include statistical study design, displaying qualitative and quantitative data, measures of center and spread, an introduction to linear regression, basic and compound probabilities, binomial distributions, normal distributions and an introduction to sampling distributions. A graphing calculator is required (TI-84 or TI-84 plus).

**See math course flow chart for recommended sequencing.*

#314 Statistics (1 credit)

(Prerequisite: Algebra I and Geometry)

This course provides students with an understanding of the concepts and the applications of statistics and probability. As a part of it, students will learn how to collect, organize, analyze and interpret various types of data. The course has a structure very similar to that of a collegiate introduction to statistics course. It stresses the development of techniques for the collection and analysis of data, along with the applications to many disciplines. Topics covered include statistical study design, displaying qualitative and quantitative data, measures of center and spread, an introduction to linear regression, basic and compound probabilities, binomial distributions, normal distributions, sampling distributions, an introduction to confidence intervals and an introduction to hypothesis testing. A graphing calculator is required (TI-84 or TI-84 plus).

#307 Pre-Calculus (1 credit)

(Prerequisite: Algebra II)

This course is a fast-paced class and covers polynomial, power, rational, exponential, logistic, and logarithmic functions and their graphs. Precalculus also covers basic and analytic trigonometric functions. The class ends with an introduction to calculus using limits and derivatives. A graphing calculator is required (TI-84 or TI-84 plus).

#308 Calculus (1 credit)

(Prerequisite: Pre-Calculus)

This course covers topics such as limits and continuity, derivatives, applications of derivatives, the definite integral, differential equations and mathematical modeling, and applications of definite integrals. A graphing calculator is required (TI-83 plus, TI-84, or TI-84 plus).

Science Department Courses

#501 Physical Science (1 credit, required for Sophomores)

This is a comprehensive study of chemistry and physics. In the area of chemistry a study of matter and chemical reactions will be included. The physics portion of the course includes forces, motion, and energy. Laboratory experiences are incorporated into the curriculum to reinforce topics and develop laboratory skills. Students must be able to solve basic algebraic equations and work with math formulas.

#501A and #504A Advanced Physical Science (#501 - Physical Science and #504 Chemistry) (2 Credits - Sophomores Only - 2 Class periods daily, full year)

Prerequisite (Completed Algebra 1 and Biology with an A)

This course will follow similar content to traditional Physical Science and Chemistry courses but have a more in-depth analysis. Due to this course meeting daily for two class periods, this course moves at a faster pace. This course is designed to allow students the ability to earn both Physical Science and Chemistry credits in 1 academic year in order to free up scheduling of advanced science courses (Anatomy, Chemistry 2, Physics) as upperclassmen. Students enrolled in this course are expected to take these advanced science courses in their junior and senior years.

#502 Biology I (1 credit, required for Freshmen)

This course is taught as a traditional study of human biology, taxonomy, biochemistry, genetics, microbiology, botany, ecology, and zoology. Laboratory experiences are incorporated into the curriculum to reinforce topics and develop laboratory skills.

#504 Chemistry (1 credit)

(Prerequisite: Algebra 1, Physical Science)

This is a college-prep course that offers a thorough introduction to chemistry and will prepare the student for college chemistry. Laboratory experiences will be both qualitative and quantitative.

#514 Chemistry II (1 credit)

(Prerequisite: Chemistry I)

This course expands upon topics covered in Chemistry I and additionally adds in topics such as Thermodynamics, Oxidation-Reduction, Electrochemistry, Reaction rates, Equilibrium, Buffered Solutions, and an Introduction to Organic Chemistry. Laboratory experiences will be both qualitative and quantitative. The course is designed for students seeking a science related field and will be taking multiple college chemistry courses.

#503 Anatomy & Physiology (1 credit)

(Prerequisite: Biology I)

This course emphasizes human anatomy and physiology. The course will focus laboratory work around animal dissection. This will help the student gain a better understanding of comparable anatomy and physiology in humans. This course is designed to lean towards a medical career.

#505 Physics (1 credit)

(Prerequisite: Pre-Calculus or concurrent, Algebra II)

This is a comprehensive course covering all aspects of physics including one and two dimensional motion, forces, energy, waves, Newton's Laws of Motion, etc. Laboratory experience supports the curriculum throughout the year and special projects are periodically assigned. The course is project and problem based, requiring critical thinking and problem solving skills.

#510 Forensics (1 Credit, Full year)

Forensic science is an inquiry based course designed for students to analyze crime scene evidence using scientific analysis and reasoning. All areas of science will be explored in forensic science. Lab activities include: fingerprint analysis, hair and fiber analysis, tool marking, DNA, impressions, blood analysis, and crime scene processing.

**#709 Agricultural, Food and Natural Resources & #708 Animal & Plant Science can be combined to equal one (1) credit toward science graduation requirements.*

Social Studies Department Courses

#606 Modern World History (1 credit, required for Freshmen)

Students in this course will study significant historical people (political leaders, scientists, social reformers), geographical regions (Latin America, Asia, Africa, Europe, Middle East), military conflicts political movements (Enlightenment, Imperialism, Nationalism); and technological advancements (Scientific & Industrial Revolutions, Atomic Age, Globalization) that took place around the world during the modern era (1700 - present).

#608 Modern American History (1 credit, required for Sophomores)

This course examines the history of the United States of America from 1877 to the present. The federal republic has withstood challenges to its national security and expanded the rights and roles of its citizens. The episodes of its past have shaped the nature of the country today and prepared it to attend to the challenges of tomorrow. Understanding how these events came to pass and their meaning for today's citizens is the purpose of this course. The concepts of historical thinking introduced in earlier grades continue to build with students locating and analyzing primary and secondary sources from multiple perspectives to draw conclusions.

#607 Government (1 credit required for Juniors)

Students in this course will study the development of the American political and economic systems. In doing so, students will come to appreciate the heritage and organization of our democratic system of government and free-market economy. The course will be devoted to discussing and analyzing significant events, theories, and problems that have arisen involving our government and economic systems since 1776. Students will also analyze how the development of America as a political and economic power has impacted the world during the 20th century.

#OWEGOV111 CCP Government (1 semester - 1 credit)

Students must meet the CCP standards to qualify for this course. Specific content reliant on partnering institutions.

#611 Psychology (1 credit)

This Psychology course is designed to introduce students to the study of the behavior and mental processes of human beings and animals. Students are exposed to the psychological facts, principles, and phenomena associated with each of the major subfields within psychology. Topics covered include developmental psychology, the biological bases of behavior, sensation and perception, cognition, personality, social psychology, and abnormal psychology.

#610 History through Film (1/2 credit)

This course will examine the use of movies to depict and explain various historical events. Students will watch, discuss, and verify the accuracies or inaccuracies of the selected films through research. Topics covered will include wars, political issues, and other events that have shaped history.

#613 The Holocaust (1/2 credit, 1 semester)

(Open to juniors and seniors only)

This class will analyze the elements of pre and post-World War I that allowed for Adolf Hitler and the Third Reich to come to power in Germany. We will evaluate the circumstances that allowed for the Holocaust to occur and the aftermath in a post-World War II world.

#615 Sociology (1/2 credit, 1 semester)

Sociology is an elective course designed to familiarize students with various cultures and the problems resulting from people living in groups. This course covers such topics as culture, subcultures, social institutions, socialization, collective behavior, social change, social deviation, the family, gender, religion, racial and ethnic minorities, poverty, and crime. This course deals specifically with the pressing problems of our society, their causes, and possible solutions.

#614 Pop Culture/ Humanities (Dual Credit - 1 ELA, 1 Soc. Studies Elec., 1 period full-year)

(Open to all students grades 11-12 - Senior priority if necessary)

This course will offer simultaneous credit providing 1 English Language Arts credit as well as 1 Social Studies Elective credit. This course will be scheduled for 1 period, occurring for the duration of the year. Exploration of cultural themes such as movies, music, TV shows, style, and more that have pushed society into different directions for centuries. The course will focus on how the themes have culminated in the society we live in now with a heavy focus on project based learning.

Health / Physical Education Department Courses

#101 Physical Education (1/4 credit, 1 semester)

(Required course. Must take 2 times. One time must be in class & can be taken once with credit flex)

The physical education program is an extension of the middle school program with more emphasis on lifetime and team activities, the value of physical activity, and how to develop/incorporate a healthy lifestyle now and in the future. The objectives of each unit will allow the student to grow Physically, mentally, and socially. While also helping development of team working skills, goal setting, sportsmanship, self confidence and personal physical fitness levels.

#101CF Credit Flex PE - See Detailed requirements and agreement [HERE](#)

Those who enroll and fail to properly withdraw through the guidance office will lose the option and opportunity for this program and may be required to take #101 Physical Education.

#110 Health (1/2 credit, 1 semester)

(Required Course)

This course builds on knowledge gained in the middle school health classes. It includes education of all aspects of whole person health including the 6 dimensions of wellness (physical, intellectual, emotional, social, environmental, and spiritual). Emphasis is placed on making positive health and wellness choices and how these choices will impact a person daily and for the rest of their life. There will be featured guest speakers from The Women's Resource Center, The Family Resource Center, Open Arms, and Life Connection of Ohio. The CPR/AED and Organ & Tissue Donation education requirements for graduation will be fulfilled.

#111 Advanced Health (1/2 credit, 1 semester)

(Prerequisite: Health)

This course will be an extension of Health 110. It will cover topics such as the 6 dimensions of wellness, Family Health History, Stress Management, Time Management, Reproduction, Sexually Transmitted Diseases, Alcohol, Drugs, Violence Prevention, Dating Violence, and Nutrition more in depth. There will be featured guest speakers, activities, and personal projects. Emphasis will be placed on making positive choices as the individual begins adulthood.

#108 Strength and Conditioning (1/4 credit, 1 semester)

(Open to all students grades 9 through 12. Prerequisite:Counts toward PE graduation requirement. Can be taken multiple times.)

Detailed and elaborate full body weight training program designed to improve speed, agility, quickness, general strength and athleticism. While training, emphasis will be placed on the proper use of form and technique with effort and intensity to promote personal improvements. Students will be educated on appropriate lifestyle skills and behaviors, including an emphasis on the importance of rest/sleep, safety, nutrition, exercise, and choosing appropriate life styles and behaviors to promote good health and a positive wellbeing. This course is intended to supplement our athletic department for the development and health of our student-athletes.

#109 Sports Management and Recreation (1/2 Credit, 1 Semester)

(Open to all students grades 10 -12)

This course is an introduction to sport management and recreation topics. The main focus includes sport management planning, marketing, financing, leading, organizing sport events, and facilities. Sport law, sport psychology and sport topics/ethics are also overviewed. This course will identify numerous career opportunities in and around the sports world.

Career Development and Exploration

The courses offered in the area of Career Development and Exploration will assist students in examining the components of college and career choice. Participation in these courses will help to prepare students to develop an appropriate plan which could include enrolling in CCP courses, attending Millstream Career Center, or continuing to explore other career options through the Beyond VB Internship Program.

#260 English 10: Writing and Planning for Your Future (1 credit, required for Sophomores)

Required English course for all sophomores. See description under English Department Offerings.

#440 Medical Foundations (½ credit 1 semester)

(Open to all students grades 9 through 12)

The Medical Foundations course provides students an overview of the opportunities available in the healthcare industry. Students will be introduced to some of the fundamental skills of healthcare professionals such as practicing suturing techniques, learning how to read EKGs, learning about blood pressure and how to take a patient's blood pressure, and basic first aid. Students will also have the opportunity to interact with medical professionals through guest speakers and participating in COSI activities such as the Interactive Autopsy and Knee Replacement experiences.

#442 Business Foundations (½ credit 1 semester)

(Open to all students grades 9 through 12)

This course will introduce you to the world of business and prepare you for the economic roles of consumer, worker, and citizen. This course will serve as a background for business courses you may take in college, including marketing, management, finance, human resources, supply chain, etc...This course will assist you with consumer decision making, prepare you for employment, and help you effectively perform your responsibilities as a citizen. You will also continue to use Microsoft Word, Microsoft Excel, and PowerPoint to increase your business/computer skills as needed, while introducing you to entrepreneurial skills, and the beginnings of Accounting and Personal Finance.

Consider pairing with #413 Accounting (for the second semester).

#441 Engineering Foundations (½ credit 1 semester)

(Open to all students grades 9 through 12)

The focus of Engineering Foundations is to introduce students to the application of the engineering design process and will provide a foundation for other engineering/design courses. Students will use 2D and 3D modeling software to help them design solutions to solve proposed problems, document their work, and communicate solutions. Additionally, students will interpret industry prints, and create working drawings from functional models. Emphasis is given to experimental problem solving in real systems. Students will also have the opportunity to explore different areas of engineering careers.

Consider pairing with #405 Intro. to Design (for the second semester).

#002 Beyond VB Internship

(Open to all students grades 11 through 12)

The Beyond VB Internship program is an opportunity for juniors and seniors who are on track for graduation to get outside Van Buren's walls to gain a more in-depth career experience than a shadow day can provide. Participants will spend at least 60 hours (.5 credits) and up to 120 hours (1 credit) per semester in a career field to become informed about the opportunities the career presents and determine if that career is one the student wants to continue to pursue. Students will use *Transeo* to find internship opportunities and track their hours once accepted into the internship program.

Art Department Courses

#055 Art I (1 credit)

This course provides a basic introduction to the fundamentals of art through problem solving. Teacher-assigned projects are explored through a wide range of media including drawing, painting, ceramics/sculpture, graphic design, printmaking, and crafts. Coursework includes a basic study of art history and art appreciation. A notebook, journal, research/critiques, and outside sketchbook assignments are required.

#056 Art II (1 credit) (Prerequisite: Art I)

A continuation of Art I, this course explores the media, on a more in-depth level. Teacher-assigned projects will be used as a vehicle through exploration. Art history and art appreciation study is continued. A journal, research /critiques, and outside sketchbook assignments are required.

#057 Art III (1 credit) (Prerequisite: Art II)

This course is a continuation of Art II, exploring the media, on a more in-depth level. Teacher-assigned projects and some personal contracting will be used as a vehicle through exploration. Art history and art appreciation study is continued. A sketchbook, journal research paper/critiques, and outside sketchbooks assignments are required. A portfolio will be started.

#058 Art IV (1 credit) (Prerequisite: Art III)

Art IV is an in-depth, independent study course with emphasis placed on two areas (major/minor) of concentration such as drawing, painting, ceramics/sculpture, graphic design, printmaking, or crafts. In addition, a service project and some teacher-assigned projects will also be required. A sketchbook, based upon sketching through research, notebook, journal, research/critiques, and contracting are required. Instruction is on a personal and individual basis. Emphasis is placed on career placement and portfolio preparation for the college-bound student. Due to the independent nature of the course, students must exhibit self-motivation and self-discipline, be a positive artistic leader and role model for other students within the department. Previous behavior, dedication to the subject, and skill level will be used to determine teacher approval.

#059 Independent Art (½ credit - 1 semester) (Prerequisite: None Grades: 10-12)

This course provides a basic introduction to various art mediums. Teacher-assigned projects along with school projects. These will range from creating various products for arts sales (ceramics, sculpture, jewelry, and painting) and completing art projects for the school (murals, painting ceiling tiles and designing posters). Students will also be introduced to prepping and setting up for art sales, creating flyers, and how to price various products. There is no prerequisite for this course, however completion of this course does not allow students to progress to Art II. Furthermore, students do have the opportunity to continue taking this course during the next semester/school year.

#233 Yearbook 1 (1 credit)

The intent of this course is to create a yearbook that is a historical record of the Van Buren elementary, middle, and high schools. Emphasis will be placed on the layout of pages, writing (body, copy, captions), and photography. Each student will be expected to participate in all facets of the class. The juniors that take the class will be expected to take the class as seniors unless there is agreement between the student and advisor that taking the class as a senior is not in one's best interest. The ideal staff size would be fifteen students, but more can be accepted with the advisor's approval.

#234 Yearbook 2 (1 credit)

(Prerequisite: Digital Photography 1)

The intent of this course is to have the second-year yearbook students act as the leaders and mentors for students taking their first year of yearbook. With a year of experience under their belts, these students will use their experience to help first-year students, and depending on the number of third-year students, they might need to take some or all of the editorial positions. Emphasis will again be placed on the layout of pages, writing (body copy, captions), and photography. Each student will be expected to participate in all facets of the class. More will be expected from these students in concern to leadership since students should have knowledge about how the yearbook should be run. These students will also be looked upon to be leaders during ad sales. The ideal staff size would be fifteen students, but more can be accepted with the advisor's approval.

#237 Yearbook 3 (1 credit)

(Prerequisite: Digital Photography 2)

Third-year yearbook students will have a very clear understanding of how the yearbook works, and these students will hopefully fill the editorial positions. In those positions, they will be expected to develop layouts for the yearbook spreads, work with first- and second-year staff to ensure quality development and content, and edit spreads before sending them on to the adviser. The goal of the yearbook staff each year is for the yearbook to earn a gold rating from the Columbia Scholastic Press Association, and our ability to do this will be determined by the leadership of the third-year students. The ideal staff size would be fifteen students, but more can be accepted with the advisor's approval.

Music Department Courses

#045 Men's Chorus (1 Credit) (Prerequisite: None)

The Van Buren Men's Chorus is for those wishing to sing in an all-male vocal ensemble. This ensemble is considered to be a "training ground" for the potential participation in the Chorale in future years, however students currently in the Chorale may also take Men's Chorus if the schedule is willing. Students are given the opportunity to perform at local concerts and concerts within northwest Ohio. Students in this group will focus on proper vocal technique; sight-reading skills; singing within a larger ensemble; and aural techniques. Students will be expected to prepare and attend at least two concerts (and perhaps more, depending on the year), and both District III Large Group Adjudicated Event, as well as State Large Group Adjudicated Event (if the group should qualify). This group will perform Class B – Class A literature, depending on the make-up of the group and its advancement throughout the year. Attendance at all performances is required of all class members and is a part of the grade during each grading period.

#046 Women's Chorus (1 Credit) (Prerequisite: None)

The Van Buren Women's Chorus is for those wishing to sing in an all-female ensemble. This ensemble is considered to be a "training ground" for the potential participation in the Chorale in future years, however students currently in the Chorale may also take Women's Chorus if the schedule is willing. Students are given the opportunity to perform at local concerts and concerts within northwest Ohio. Students in this group will focus on proper vocal technique; sight-reading skills; singing within a larger ensemble; and aural techniques. Students will be expected to prepare and attend at least two concerts (and perhaps more, depending on the year), and both District III Large Group Adjudicated Event, as well as State Large Group Adjudicated Event (if the group should qualify). This group will perform Class B – Class A literature, depending on the make-up of the group and its advancement throughout the year. Attendance at all performances is required of all class members and is a part of the grade during each grading period.

#054 Chorale (Varsity Choir) (1 credit)

(Prerequisite: By audition) - Intended for Juniors, Seniors and sophomores in show choir)

The Van Buren High School Chorale is the most advanced and premier vocal mixed ensemble of the Van Buren Music Department. Students will begin to explore advanced choral literature from all genres of choral music and continue to work on proper vocal technique; sight-reading skills; singing within a larger ensemble; and aural techniques. Students will be expected to prepare and attend at least two concerts (and perhaps more, depending on the year), both District III Large Group Adjudicated Event, as well as State Large Group Adjudicated Event (if the group should qualify) as well as a performance at graduation. This group will perform Class A – Class AA literature, depending on the make-up of the group and its advancement throughout the year. Attendance at all performances is required of all class members and is a part of the grade during each grading period.

#050 Music Theory (1/2 credit)

(Prerequisite: None)

Music theory explores the basics of how music is structured and how it has evolved over the years. Students will analyze chords, rhythms, and other elements of music; learn scales and modes; and start to explore advanced music theory techniques, including arranging some of their own music as a project. This course will be primarily geared for those that wish to continue on with music as a major or a minor.

#044 Evolution of Music (1/2 credit, 1 semester)

The course is open to those who have no involvement in music as well as those planning to pursue music in college and beyond. Experience reading or playing music is not necessary. The course will cover basic music theory, history and appreciation of music. History will cover all periods from Medieval to modern day and include various types of music including choral, orchestral, jazz, and current day popular music.

#061 Digital Music Production (1/2 credit)

(Open to all students 9-12)

The class will explore all aspects of music production, including live sound production, recording, mixing and editing and along with electronic music composition. No previous music experience required.

#052 Band (1 credit)

(Prerequisite: Successful achievement in middle/high school band or by instructor approval if not previously in middle school band. Can be taken 4 times)

The high school band consists of students in grades 9-12 who have either been members of the middle school band or have been accepted by satisfactorily auditioning for the director. The band is a marching band from June through the final football game or contest of the season. The marching band performs at all football games, parades, band festivals, 4-5 OMEA contests and State Finals contest if qualified. The band performs as a concert band from November through June. The concert band presents 3 concerts at home, and participates in OMEA District and State Large Group Contest (if qualified) each year. Individual and group musicianship skills are emphasized. Attendance at all rehearsals and performances is mandatory.

Special Note: Percussionists will rehearse in a period separate from the band during the second semester. Student percussionists will perform with band for all performances as well as at the district solo and ensemble competition. Attendance at all performances is required of all members and is part of the grade during each grading period.

#047 Jazz Band (1/2 credit)

(Prerequisite: Successful achievement in middle/high school band or by instructor approval if not previously in a school band. Can be taken 4 times)

The school jazz band consists of students in grades 9-12 who are also members of the high school concert band or have been accepted by satisfactorily auditioning for the director. The band will meet daily for rehearsal during school. The band will perform with the concert band at concerts and may perform additional concerts in the community. Instruments used in the jazz band include trumpet, trombone, baritone, saxophone, piano, guitar, bass guitar and drum set.

Industrial Arts Department Course

#405 Intro. to Design (1/2 credit, 1 semester)

(Open to grades 9-12)

Skills introduced in (#441) Fundamentals of Engineering (not a prerequisite) will be further developed through project based learning activities such as maze design, 3-D printed derby car, robotics, pinball machine, and a lego technical writing project.

#409 Advanced Design (1 credit)

(Prerequisite: Intro. to Design OR Engineering Foundations) (Fine Art Credit)

Further drafting methods and techniques will be taught like geometric construction, auxiliary projection, and architecture. We will also draw with CAD and print to a 3D printer. We will build a robot that is operational and can be programmed in the C+ language. Personalized opportunities for continued exploration of interest from Design or Fundamentals of Engineering will be created.

Woods Technology *Students may select:*

#404 Woods Technology I (1 credit)

#408 Woods Technology II (1 credit) *(Prerequisite: Woods Technology I)*

#418 Woods Technology III (1 credit) *(Prerequisite: Woods Technology II)*

#419 Woods Technology IV (1 credit) *(Prerequisite: Woods Technology III)*

The students will apply learned techniques to major hardwood projects. This class will require concentration, patience, and pride in fine workmanship. You will learn quality craftsmanship as you undertake the design and construction of a major hardwood project. You will be responsible for purchasing the wood that it requires to build your project. As you advance through the program you will be expected to pick more difficult projects. As the students advance they will learn construction. Residential construction will be taught from the ground up. Projects around the school grounds will be tackled to give experiences to the students. After taking the advanced classes, the student will understand how a house goes together and will be able to perform fundamental repairs. Students will also be able to expand on skills learned in Woods I, II and III.

Graphic Arts

(Fine Art Credit, Open to grades 9-12)

Students may select:

#403 Graphic Arts I (1 credit)

#423 Graphic Arts II (1 credit) *(prerequisite:Graphic Arts I)*

#424 Graphic Arts III (1 credit) *(prerequisite:Graphic Arts II)*

In this course you will use software programs such as InDesing, PhotoShop, Coral Draw and Illustrator. We will do projects like notepads, greeting cards, business cards and logos. Printing processes like Screen printing, Sublimation and Laser Printing will be studied. Fundamentals of black and white photography will be covered. Targeted areas will be the function of the camera, developing film, contact sheets and prints. Troubleshooting will be stressed along with several types of techniques. This offering will function as a student-led store in which students will be utilizing their skills to create merchandise as well as strategize and implement business concepts and strategies.

*may be taken with Applied Business for simultaneous credit.

World Language Department Courses

#221 Spanish I (1 credit)

(Prerequisite: None)

Students will begin to listen to, speak, read and write Spanish while achieving an awareness of the similarities and differences between US and Hispanic cultures.

#222 Spanish II (1 credit)

(Prerequisite: Spanish I)

By successful completion of the second year of Spanish, the student can communicate with native Spanish speakers on a conversational level. This year further develops listening, speaking, reading and writing skills while emphasizing culture studies. Students will read stories and watch movies in Spanish. They will have class discussions over the stories/movies and or/ complete questions as they are watching a movie in the target language.

#223 Spanish III (1 credit)

(Prerequisite: Spanish II)

Skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writing in Spanish will be developed at a more advanced level. Students will read stories and watch movies in Spanish. They will have class discussions over the stories/movies and or/ complete questions as they are watching a movie in the target language.

Advanced grammatical concepts and tenses will be learned and used. This course prepares students for taking advanced placement tests for college credit as well as for entering the job market with a skill that enhances their employability.

#224 Spanish IV (1 credit)

(Prerequisite: Spanish III)

Skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writing in Spanish will continue to be developed and used at a more advanced level. Advanced grammatical concepts and tenses will be learned and used. Students will read stories and watch movies in Spanish. They will have class discussions over stories/movies and or/ complete questions as they are watching a movie in the target language. In addition, Spanish IV will be more focused on authentic Spanish literature, projects, dialogues, debates, and real-life communication than in other levels.

During the second semester of the course students will attempt to earn Ohio's Seal of Biliteracy through various examinations assessing interpretive, interpersonal, and presentational communication skills.

Online Foreign Language options may be available through an independent study program. See guidance office for additional information.

Agriculture Education Department Courses

See Department Course "Flow Chart" [HERE](#)

#709 Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources (1 Credit)

(Open to students grades 9-12 Prerequisite: None)

This is the first course in the agricultural and environmental Systems career field. It introduces students to the pathways that are offered in the Agricultural and Environmental system career field. As such, learners will obtain fundamental knowledge and skills in food science, natural resource management, animal science and management, plant and horticultural science, power technology and biotechnology. Students will be introduced to the FFA organization and begin development of their leadership ability.

#708 Animal and Plant Science (1 Credit)

(Open to students grades 9-12 Prerequisite: None)

Students will apply knowledge of animal and plant science to the agriculture industry. They will be introduced to the value of production animals relative to the agricultural marketplace. Students will engage in animal classification and selection, body systems, along with animal welfare and behavior in relation to the production of animals. Students will learn principles of plant anatomy and physiology, and the role of nutrition, deficiencies and growing environment on plant production. Throughout the course, business principles and professional skills will be examined.

#712 AG Business (1 Credit)

(Open to students Grades 9-12 Prerequisite: Ag., Food, and Nat'l Res.)

Course may be accepted for some universities for college Agriculture program credit.

Learners will examine elements of business, identify organizational structures and identify and apply management skills. Learners will develop business plans, financial reports, and strategic goals for new ventures or existing businesses. Learners will use marketing concepts to evaluate the marketing channels, product approaches, promotion and pricing strategies. Learners will practice customer sales techniques and apply concepts of ethics and professionalism while understanding related business regulations. Projects and activities will enable students to develop communication, leadership, and business management skills.

#713 Greenhouse and Floriculture Management (1 Credit)

(Open to students grades 10-12; Prerequisite: Ag. Food, and Nat'l Resources)

The course will apply principles of science, engineering, and business to support the sustainable propagation and production of plants in a commercial nursery or greenhouse facility. Management of soil/media, water and nutrient distribution, lighting, ventilation and temperature, and pests will be learned and applied. Students will demonstrate knowledge of propagation methods, plant health, nutrition, and growth stimulation. Students will develop successful business, communication, marketing, and sales strategies for use in the greenhouse and floriculture industries.

Students will use principles and elements of design to create various types and styles of floral arrangements with natural and artificial plants and plant products. Topics will include identification of ornamental plants and cut flowers, use of design materials, and storage and handling applications. Students will develop successful business, communication, marketing, and sales strategies for use in the floral industry.

#714 Science and Technology of Food (1 Credit)

(Open to students grades 10-12; Prerequisite: Ag., Food, and Nat'l Resources & Animal and Plant Science)

Through this course learners will examine the research, marketing, processing, and packaging techniques applied to the development of food products. Learners will examine principles of food preservation techniques and determine correlations to food sensory, shelf life, and food stability. Learners will examine and develop food safety, sanitation, and quality assurance protocol. Government regulations and food legislation will be examined and the implications to food science and technology will be identified. Projects and activities will enable students to develop communication, leadership, and business management skills.

#715 Mechanical Principles (1 Credit)

(Open to students grades 10-12; Prerequisite: Ag., Food, and Nat'l Resources)

Students will engage in the mechanical principles utilized in animal and plant production systems. They will learn electrical theory, design, wiring, hydraulic and pneumatic theory, along with metallurgy in relation to hot and cold metals. Students will apply knowledge of sheet metal fabrication applicable to the agricultural industry along with identifying, diagnosing, and maintaining small air-cooled engines. Throughout the course, students will learn critical components of site and personal safety as well as communication and leadership skills.

#716 Meat Science and Technology (1 Credit)

(Open to students grades 10-12; Prerequisite: Ag. Food, and Nat'l Resources)

Students will apply food chemistry and microbiology to processing, preservation, packaging, storage and marketing of meat products. Students will design and implement a quality assurance program that meets legal compliance and demonstrates knowledge of safe operation and maintenance of equipment and facilities. Students will evaluate carcass composition, assign quality grades, and examine valued added products. Throughout the course, students will demonstrate customer service and sales techniques while understanding the scope and importance of business and safety regulations.

#717 Forestry & Woodland Ecosystems (1 Credit)

(Open to students grades 10-12; Prerequisite: Ag., Food, and Nat'l Resources)

(Not offered in 2023-24)

Students will apply principles of botany, dendrology and silviculture to the management of forests and forest ecosystems. They will apply principles of timber cruising with surveying and mapping techniques to take forest measurements. Learners will develop the knowledge and skills necessary for forest reforestation, timber stand improvement, timber harvesting and forest product utilization. Learners will operate and maintain forestry equipment, apply fire management practices, and understand related regulations, laws, and policy issues.

#707 Animal Health/Vet Science (1 Credit)

(Open to students grades 9-12; Prerequisite: Ag. Food and Nat'l Resources or Animal and Plant Science)

Students will examine causes, symptoms, and treatment of common diseases with emphasis on developing preventative health management plans. Topics will include the study of pathogens, and classifying types of diseases and disorders. Students will perform animal health assessments and compare them to standard characteristics. Throughout the course, students will utilize principles of technology to manage information systems, and research issues affecting the industry.

*Course qualifies as gifted service

#706 Ag Capstone (1 Credit)

(Open to SENIORS only who have taken two ag courses (see flow chart)

Students apply Agricultural and Environmental Systems program knowledge and skills in a more comprehensive and authentic way. Capstones are project/problem-based learning opportunities that occur both in and away from school. Under supervision of the school and through partnerships, students combine classroom learning with work experience to benefit themselves and others. These can take the form of mentorship employment, cooperative education, apprenticeships, projects and internships.

*Course qualifies as gifted service

#709 & #708 can be combined to equal one (1) credit toward science graduation requirements.

Business Department Courses

#414 Excel for Everyone (1 credit)

(Open to students grades 9-12)

This course will provide all the tools necessary to create and use basic spreadsheets using Microsoft Excel. This is something nearly every business, medical, and math based occupations utilize day to day. In this class you will receive an overview of the program and learn the various methods for entering and editing data. Additionally, participants will learn the various ways to manage, calculate and format data in clear and visually appealing ways. This includes making basic calculations, and writing formulas. Students will gain a knowledge and understanding of how to create stunning visuals for display as well as interpret data in graphs and charts. All along, Excel's functionality is introduced using easy to understand examples which are demonstrated at a pace that is appropriate, along with real world data so that students can become comfortable in understanding and applying these skills.

#605 Financial Literacy(1/2 credit, 1 semester, Required for Juniors)

This course satisfies the graduation requirement for Financial Literacy and Personal Finance

Develops student's abilities to make wise economic decisions related to their personal financial affairs, the successful operation of organizations, and the economic activities of the country. The course will teach students how to manage and win with money as a lifetime skill. The everyday financial decisions an individual or family must make in order to earn, budget, save, and spend money over time will be covered. Other topics covered will include debt, life after high school, consumer awareness, mortgage and home/property ownership, bargain shopping, investing and retirement, insurance, careers and taxes, money and relationships, as well as giving and global economics.

#416 Applied Business (1 credit)

(Open to students grades 9-12)

This course will introduce you to the world of business and prepare you for the economic roles of consumer, worker, and citizen. This course will serve as a background for business courses you may take in college, assist you with consumer decision making, prepare you for employment, and help you effectively perform your responsibilities as a citizen. You will also continue to use Microsoft Word, Microsoft Excel, and PowerPoint to increase your business/computer skills as needed, while introducing you to entrepreneurial skills, and the beginnings of Accounting and Personal Finance. This offering will function as a student-led store in which students will be utilizing their skills to create merchandise as well as strategize and implement business concepts and strategies. *may be taken with any Graphic Arts for simultaneous credit.

#413 Accounting (1/2 credit, 1 semester)

(Open to students grades 9-12)

(Prerequisite: None)

This is a semester long introductory course in the double entry accounting procedures., that first nicely with the Business Foundations Course. Students will learn to keep financial records for a service or retail business. Principles covered include the The Accounting cycle, debit/credit theory, debit and credit parts, financial statements, use of various journals and ledgers, worksheets, accounts receivable and payable, and payroll systems. This course would be a tremendous asset for students wishing to pursue a career in business, or attend a school while majoring in any of the business related fields.

Computer Science Courses

Successful completion in good standing (B or better) of "Computer Programming" and "Computer Networking" will qualify students for the Technology Graduation Seal.

#428 Computer Programming (1/2 credit, semester course)

(Open to students grades 9-12)

**Recommended to be taken with #429 - earning a "B" or higher in both courses will earn the Technology Graduation Seal.*

Python is a general-purpose, object-oriented programming language with high-level programming capabilities. It has become popular because of its apparent and easily understandable syntax, portability, and ease of use. Python is a programming language that includes features of C and Java. In this course, students will learn the basics of building simple interactive applications. Students will learn the basic units of logic: sequence, selection, and loop. Students will apply algorithmic solutions to problem-domain scenarios. Students will gain experience in using commercial and open-source languages, programs, and applications.

#429 Computer Networking (1/2 credit, semester course)

(Open to students grades 9-12)

**Recommended to be taken with #428 - earning a "B" or higher in both courses will earn the Technology Graduation Seal.*

Students will install, configure, and troubleshoot network hardware and peripherals. Students will learn networking by exploring the OSI model, network topologies, and cabling. Students will design simple networks, know how to select physical devices, and be able to configure the equipment. Knowledge and skills relating to the operation and usage of network protocols will be developed. The course includes operating systems, printers/print servers, network configuration, and servers.