



Ridgefield High School
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www.ridgefieldsd.org/o/high-school

2019 - 2020

HIGH SCHOOL

COURSE CATALOG

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OUR GOAL

It is the goal of Ridgefield High School to provide and support quality education for every student in every classroom through the daily practice of every staff member. Success will be measured by the evidence of student learning.

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GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

There are four requirements that must be met to graduate from Ridgefield Public Schools.

1. Credit Requirements: A minimum of 23 credits is required for graduation from Ridgefield Public Schools for students in the classes of 2018, 2019, and 2020. Class of 2021 and beyond are required to earn 24 credits. Each semester course is worth 0.5 credits. Students take six classes for a total of 3 credits each semester. Students may be required to take additional classes based on their state assessment scores.

CREDIT REQUIREMENTS FOR CLASSES 2019 & 2020	2021+	
English 9 th Grade English (1 year) 10 th Grade English (1 year) 11 th Grade English (1 year) 12 th Grade English (1 year)	4.0	4.0
Mathematics	3.0	3.0
Science Physical Science (1 year) Biology (1 year) Elective Science (1 year)	3.0	3.0
Social Studies World Hist/AP Human Geog/AP World Hist (10 th) (1 year) US History/AP US History (11 th) (1 year) Contemporary World Issues (12 th) (1 year) Washington State History Required	3.0	3.0
Health and Fitness Health (1 semester) Physical Education (3 semesters)	2.0	2.0
Career and Technical Education	1.5	1.0
Fine Arts	1.0	2.0*
World Language		2.0*
Elective Credits	5.5	4.0
MINIMUM CREDITS REQUIRED	23	24

*Credit requirements can be adjusted per the student's Personalized Pathway and High School and Beyond Plan. See your counselor for more information.

2. High School and Beyond Plan-The HSBP is required for graduation. It is developed throughout high school, with extensive focus in the senior year. Counselors provide guidance and technical assistance to students, parents, teachers, and administrators in this process.
3. Successful completion of state testing requirements in the areas of English Language Arts, Science and Math.

The entrance requirements for each college/university other than the six four-year Washington Universities may be different. It is important to research each institution's admission requirements. There are lots of good college sites to investigate; one example is <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org>.

Class Scheduling and Dropping of Classes

Classes are selected and the master schedule is built upon students registering for classes as part of a student's career path and educational goals. Students commit to their chosen classes at the time of forecasting. STUDENTS MUST SEE THEIR COUNSELOR TO MAKE ANY SCHEDULE CHANGE.

Schedule changes will be considered during the first five days of a semester for the following reasons only:

1. A required course is needed this year.
2. Skill level/placement is inappropriate.
3. A prerequisite has not been met.
4. Failed the same subject with the same teacher.
5. The same course was previously passed.
6. Scheduling Error (missing periods, double scheduled periods, cancelled/newly formed classes).

Consequences for withdrawing on or after the 6th day of the semester. (W=Withdrawn)

0 – 5 Days Nothing posted to transcript .5 credit for new class	6 + Days Posted to transcript: “W” unless “F” is appropriate.
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COLLEGE / SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION

College Entrance Exams (CEEB Code 481-005)

SAT Reasoning and Subject www.collegeboard.org

ACT www.actstudent.org

Remember to have your test scores sent to colleges. You may choose four colleges on the registration application. If you need to have your scores sent to more than four schools, go to www.collegeboard.com. There is a fee per school.

Financial Aid

Financial aid is available for state and public schools, community colleges, and technical schools. Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA www.fafsa.ed.gov) required by all colleges for federal and state aid. You can file starting October 1st.

There will be a Financial Aid Information Night held at RHS in the fall. Please watch for the official date and time and be sure to attend. There are also multiple informational meetings held at WSU-Vancouver.

Scholarship Information

Check in with the High School and Beyond Office in the library frequently for local scholarship information. New scholarships will be announced periodically in the bulletin. Be sure to check with your college of choice for scholarships available at their institution. The internet can be a useful source. National scholarships searches can be done at www.fastweb.com or a statewide scholarship search engine is www.thewashboard.org.

NCAA/NAIA

If you are planning on participating in Division I or II sports at the college level you must register with the NCAA & NAIA Clearinghouses and bring release of information forms to your Counselor. Without this form you cannot compete at the National level. Please go online at www.eligibilitycenter.org for more information or www.playnaia.org Please note that by registering for the SAT/ACT with the code “9999”, your scores will be sent directly to NCAA Clearinghouse and code “9876” will have them sent to the NAIA Clearinghouse.

2019 - 2020

Ridgefield High School

Course Offerings

The course fees listed are for 2018-2019. Final course fees for 2019-2020 will be approved by the board during the summer of 2019.

Departments:

Career and Technical Education

English

Fine Arts

World Language

Health and Fitness

Math

Science

Social Studies

Other Offerings

COLLEGE, CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION

Career and Technical Education is a planned program of courses and learning experiences that begins with the exploration of career options. It supports basic academic and life skills, enables achievement of high academic standards, leadership, preparation for industry-defined work, and advanced and continuing education.

MANUFACTURING TECHNOLOGY

The mission of the Metal/Wood Technology Education is to provide students with technical and professional skills to pursue careers in the construction and fabrication trades.

METAL TECH

Open to Grades: 9-12

Credit: 0.5

Length of Course: One Semester

Prerequisite: None

Graduation Requirement: CTE or Elective

Fee: \$30

Course Description:

Designed to teach students basic Metalworking skills and gain knowledge in preparation for their advancement into the intermediate metal shop courses. This course will introduce students to hand tools as well as portable and stationary power tools. Forge foundry, welding, sheet metal.

MACHINING I

Open to Grades: 9-12

Credit: 0.5

Length of Course: One Semester

Prerequisite: Metal Tech

Graduation Requirement: CTE or Elective

Fee: \$30

Course Description:

Principles of machining and metal cutting using modern machine tools, hand tools and precision measuring instruments. Computer design and programming for running "CNC" computer controlled cutting machines.

MACHINING II

Open to Grades: 10-12

Credit: 0.5

Length of Course: One Semester

Prerequisite: Machining I

Graduation Requirement: CTE or Elective

Fee: \$30

Course Description:

This course prepares students for working in the field of Machining & an opportunity to earn industry certification.

MACHINING III

Open to Grades: 10-12

Credit: 0.5

Length of Course: One Semester

Prerequisite: Machining II

Graduation Requirement: CTE or Elective

Fee: \$30

Course Description:

This course prepares students for working in the field of Machining & an opportunity to earn industry certification.

WELDING I

Open to Grades: 9-12

Credit: 0.5

Length of Course: One Semester

Prerequisite: Metal Tech

Graduation Requirement: CTE or Elective

Fee: \$30

Course Description:

This course introduces basic welding and cutting. Emphasis is placed on beads applied with gases, mild steel fillers, and electrodes and the capillary action of solder. Upon completion, students should be able to set up welding and oxy-fuel equipment and perform welding, brazing, and soldering processes.

WELDING II

Open to Grades: 10-12

Credit: 0.5

Length of Course: One Semester

Prerequisite: Welding I

Graduation Requirement: CTE or Elective

Fee: \$30

Course Description: This course prepares students for working in the field of Welding & an opportunity to earn industry certification.

WELDING III

Open to Grades: 10-12

Credit: 0.5

Length of Course: One Semester

Prerequisite: Welding II

Graduation Requirement: CTE or Elective

Fee: \$30

Course Description: This course prepares students for working in the field of Welding & an opportunity to earn industry certification.

WOOD TECH

Open to Grades: 9-12

Credit: 0.5

Length of Course: One semester

Prerequisite: None

Graduation Requirement: CTE or Elective

Fee: \$30

Course Description:

Designed to teach students basic woodworking skills and knowledge in preparation for their advancement into the advanced Woodworking courses. This course will introduce students to hand tools as well as portable and stationary power tools. Must pass this course to move on to Construction or Cabinet Making.

CABINET MAKING I

Open to Grades: 9-12

Credit: 0.5

Length of Course: One semester

Prerequisite: Wood Tech

Graduation Requirement: CTE or Elective

Fee: \$30

Course Description:

This course introduces students to the craft of creating custom built cabinetry through practical application and classroom instruction. Students begin by learning how to design and build basic box cabinets. Other topics include standard cabinet sizes and specifications, types of lumber and sheet material, basic terminology, joinery techniques and safety operations. Students work on their own or with others to create a variety of projects such as kitchen cabinets, built-in shelves or closet storage units.

CABINET MAKING II

Open to Grades: 10-12

Credit: 0.5

Length of Course: One Semester

Credit: 0.5

Prerequisite: Cabinet Making I

Graduation Requirement: CTE or Elective

Fee: \$30

Course Description:

This course prepares students for working in the field of Cabinet Making & an opportunity to earn industry certification.

CONSTRUCTION I

Open to Grades: 9-12

Credit: 0.5

Length of Course: One Semester

Prerequisite: Wood Tech **Graduation**

Requirement: CTE or Elective

Fee: \$30

Course Description:

This course is an introduction to the basic building materials, components, methods, and sequences in residential construction. It is designed to give students basic, entry level skills in construction and related trades along with an overview of career opportunities available. Stick framed sheds will be built and delivered to community customers.

CONSTRUCTION II

Open to Grades: 10-12

Credit: 0.5

Length of Course: One Semester

Prerequisite: Construction I

Graduation Requirement: CTE or Elective

Fee: \$30

Course Description:

This course prepares students for working in the field of Construction & an opportunity to earn industry certification.

FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES

The mission of family and consumer sciences education is to prepare students for family life, work life, and careers by providing opportunities to develop knowledge, skills, attitudes and behaviors. Our unique focus is on how to manage the challenges of living and working in a diverse, global society.

FOODS I

Open to Grades: 9-12

Credit: 0.5

Length of Course: One semester

Prerequisite: None

Graduation Requirement: CTE or Elective

Fee: \$25

Course Description:

An introductory exploratory course covering topics ranging from beginning cooking to more advance skills by end of the semester. Start with learning basic recipes and advancing to multiple course meals.

FOODS II

Open to Grades: 9-12

Credit: 0.5

Length of Course: One semester

Prerequisite: Foods I

Graduation Requirement: CTE or Elective

Fee: \$25

Course Description:

A continuation of Foods I, expanding and building on previous learning, while taking a more in-depth look at cooking. We will explore each food category and multiple ways of preparation including fruit, vegetables, meat, poultry, fish, and world cuisines.

BAKING & PASTRY I

Open to Grades: 9-12

Credit: 0.5

Length of Course: One Semester

Prerequisite: Foods I

Graduation Requirement: CTE or Elective

Fee: \$25

Course Description:

This class will include basic baking techniques, cake decorating, pastry arts and cooking for large groups.

CHILD DEVELOPMENT I

Open to Grades: 9-12

Credit: 0.5

Length of Course: One semester

Prerequisite: None

Graduation Requirement: CTE or Elective

Course Description:

Research and study the importance of childhood focusing on theory. Discover the interrelationship of the physical, social, emotional and intellectual development of children related to development. Study guidance techniques and strategies for working with children while exploring careers relating to children.

CHILD DEVELOPMENT II

Open to Grades: 9-12

Credit: 0.5

Length of Course: One semester

Prerequisite: Child Development I

Graduation Requirement: CTE or Elective

Course Description:

This is a continuation of Child Development I. Expand your skills to prepare for a career with

children. Students who enroll in the class must be responsible, have good attendance and be good role models.

CHILD DEVELOPMENT III

Open to Grades: 10-12

Credit: 0.5

Length of Course: One Semester

Prerequisite: Child Development II

Graduation Requirement: CTE or Elective

Course Description:

The sole goal of this class is operating the learning lab. Students will work with children K-4 for an hour each morning during zero period. They will prepare lessons, activities and provide support for before care children. This is ideal for students who are seeking a career with children and/or enjoy time spent with young learners.

TEACHING ACADEMY

Open to Grades: 11-12

Credit: 1.0

Length of Course: One year

Prerequisite: Child Development I, II, & III

Graduation Requirement: CTE or Elective

Course Description:

Interested in a professional career and/or teaching? You will explore learning theories and styles, teaching methods and classroom management. First semester learn about and practice facilitating classroom discussion and questioning strategies. In addition, you will apply teaching strategies while teaching professional skills to your peers. Second semester you will be working as an intern placed with a mentor teacher that matches your grade and/or subject interest. During this semester, you will receive the practical, hands-on experience to complement your academic training. You will develop skills in leadership, communication and organization, which can be used in any career.

INDEPENDENT LIVING

Open to Grades: 11-12

Credit: 0.5

Length of Course: One semester

Prerequisite: None

Graduation Requirement: CTE or Elective

Course Description:

Students will learn the variety of skills needed to become independent. From choosing a roommate, developing healthy dating relationships, choosing a

career, researching post high school plans, how to buy a car, budgeting/personal finance and nutrition Plan and prepare healthy meals and learn how to care for clothes.

HEALTH

Open to Grades: 9

Credit: 0.5

Length of Course: One semester

Prerequisite: None

Graduation Requirement: Health

Course Description:

Health is a state required course for graduation that can be achieved in one semester. You will receive the skills needed to have a successful, healthy life while analyzing and learning skills to improve your physical, mental and social health.

TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION

Technology Education studies include designing, developing, and utilizing technological systems in real world experiences using up-to-date resources. Trade and Industry Education include preparatory programs that prepare individuals to produce, process, assemble, test, maintain, service and/or repair products.

DIGITAL PHOTO 1

Open to Grades: 9-12

Credit: 0.5

Length of Course: One semester

Prerequisite: None

Graduation Requirement: Fine Art, CTE or Elective

Fee: \$20

Equipment Requirement: Student must have access to a digital camera or phone camera.

Course Description:

In this introductory level course students will explore camera operations, photo composition and digital processing. Digital photo graphics will be created and shared and posted every day. Upon completion student will create collection of quality images.

DIGITAL PHOTO 2

Open to Grades: 9-12

Credit: 0.5

Length of Course: One semester

Prerequisite: Digital Photo I

Graduation Requirement: Fine Art, CTE or Elective

Fee: \$20

Equipment Requirement: Student must have access to a digital camera or phone camera.

Course Description:

If you enjoyed Digital One then Photo 2 is the course for you. Students will further their understanding of basic photography while expanding their portfolios to more challenging photography assignments. Assignments will include both commercial and portrait assignments in both Photoshop and Lightroom. Students will create a portfolio of work to demonstrate their photographic skills.

GRAPHIC DESIGN I

Open to Grades: 9-12

Credit: 0.5

Length of Course: One semester

Prerequisite: None

Graduation Requirement: Fine Art, CTE or Elective

Fee: \$20

Course Description:

Explore the Adobe Creative Suite. Turn your creativity into an array of digital artwork. Learn basic art concepts and learn how to be a commercial digital artist. Students will develop their digital art skills through graphic design programs and apply design concepts to illustration and explore current trends in industry, layout and typography. Projects will be created in Photoshop, Indesign Illustrator and Lightroom.

GRAPHIC ARTS & PRODUCTION

Open to Grades: 9-12

Credit: 1.0

Length of Course: One year

Prerequisite: None

Graduation Requirement: Fine Art, CTE or Elective

Course Description:

This class creates a Ridgefield School District business. The business is a student run organization that focuses on design, printing, and finishing. The goal is to maintain a profitable business through the school year, develop new products, develop relationships in the community, and assist RSD employees with classroom needs.

ANIMATION

Open to Grades: 9-12

Credit: 0.5

Length of Course: One semester

Graduation Requirement: Fine Art, CTE or Elective

Prerequisite: None

Learn and be tested on basic journalism principles. Write stories, headlines, edit copy, take photos, design pages and sell ad space. The goal of this class is to produce an outstanding yearbook that RHS students, staff and community can be proud of for many years.

YEARBOOK

Open to Grades: 9-12

Credit: 0.5

Length of Course: One semester

Graduation Requirement: CTE or Elective

Prerequisite: None

This course uses photograph, layout design and journalistic writing skills to produce our yearbook. Students will need skills or exposure in Photography, Graphic Design or Writing to be successful. Self-directed and motivated students are a must and teacher approval is highly recommended. We are creating a real product and we need motivated and dedicated students who are serious about excelling in Journalism.

BUSINESS MARKETING AND MANAGEMENT

Students in business, management and administration learn and practice skills that prepare them for diverse post-high school education and training opportunities, from apprenticeships and two-year college programs to four-year college and graduate programs.

MARKETING 1 – Intro to Marketing

Open to Grades: 9-12

Credit: 0.5

Length of Course: One semester

Prerequisite: None

Graduation Requirement: CTE or Elective

Course Description:

An introduction to marketing that allows students to gain a better understanding of the skills they will need for a business career path. Students will have the opportunity to flex their creativity and apply their knowledge through hands on projects including branding and packaging, promotions, visual presentation, sales, marketing research, and entrepreneurship. Group projects and

collaborations with other RHS classes is at the center of this class, therefore students will fine tune their teamwork skills that are a cornerstone of the business environment.

MARKETING II – Sports, Entertainment & Event Marketing

Open to Grades: 9-12

Credit: 0.5

Length of Course: One semester

Prerequisite: Marketing I

Graduation Requirement: CTE or Elective

Course Description:

In this course, the fundamental knowledge and skills students gained in Marketing I will be elevated to real world applications. Through extended critical decision making, problem solving, and creative brainstorming, students will actively promote attendance to RHS sports, plays, band events, yearbook sales and more. Social media marketing will also be introduced and integrated into their plans as a key component to the overall marketing strategy. Similar to Marketing I, this class continues to build teamwork skills and professional communication.

STEM-Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics

INTRO TO ENGINEERING & DESIGN (IED)

Open to Grades: 9-12

Credit: 1.0

Length of Course: Two semesters

Graduation Requirement: CTE or Elective

Course Description:

Students dig deep into the engineering design process, applying math, science, and engineering standards to hands-on projects. They work both individually and in teams to design solutions to a variety of problems using 3D modeling software, and use an engineering notebook to document their work.

PRINCIPLES OF ENGINEERING (POE)

Open to Grades: 10-12

Credit: 1.0

Length of Course: Two semesters

Prerequisite: Algebra

Graduation Requirement: CTE or Elective

Course Description:

Through problems that engage & challenge, students explore a broad range of engineering topics, including mechanisms, the strength of structures & materials & automation. Students develop skills in problem solving, research, & design while learning strategies for design process documentation, collaboration & presentation.

BIOMEDICAL**Open to Grades:** 9-12**Credit:** 1.0**Length of Course:** Two semesters**Graduation Requirement:** CTE or Elective**Course Description:**

Students explore concepts of biology and medicine to determine factors that led to the death of a fictional person. While investigating the case, students examine autopsy results, investigate medical history, and explore medical treatments that might have prolonged the person's life. The activities and project introduce human physiology, basic biology, medicine, and research processes while allowing them to design their own experiments to solve problems.

HUMAN BODY SYSTEMS**Open to Grades:** 9-12**Credit:** 1.0**Length of Course:** Two semesters**Graduation Requirement:** CTE or Elective**Course Description:**

Students examine the interactions of human body systems as they explore identity, power, movement, protection & homeostasis. Exploring science in action, students build organs and tissues on a skeletal Maniken®. Use data acquisition software to monitor body functions such as muscle movement, reflex & voluntary action and respiration. Take on the roles of biomedical professionals to solve real-world medical cases

MEDICAL INTERVENTIONS**Open to Grades:** 10-12**Credit:** 1.0**Length of Course:** Two semesters**Graduation Requirement:** CTE or Elective**Prerequisite:** Biomed or Human Body Systems**Course Description:**

Students follow the life of a family as the investigate how to prevent, diagnose, and treat disease. Explore how to detect and fight infection:

screen and evaluate the code in DNA; evaluate cancer treatment options; and prevail when the organs of the body begin to fail.

Center for Advanced Professional Studies (CAPS)

BUSINESS, MARKETING & ENTREPRENEURSHIP**Open to Grades:** 11-12**Credit:** 1.0**Length of Course:** Two semesters**Graduation Requirement:** CTE or Elective**Prerequisite:** Marketing**Course Description:**

Given the dynamic nature of idea and business start-up, there is no fixed curriculum in this strand, but rather a framework for unique learning experiences that introduce a new theme through targeted business projects and business partner engagement. Students will cover topics in innovation and entrepreneurship, finance, leadership and teamwork, market analysis, communication and technology, project and time management, while in the CAPS facility.

Project Examples from our Business and Entrepreneurship strand:

- To create a nationwide awareness of the eFactory's Accelerator Program. Focusing on recruit companies in big cities
- To provide clients with an easily digestible guide to implementing and using Google Analytics to monitor their website health
- Create video marketing material for a startup company's new website

ENGINEERING & INDUSTRIAL DESIGN**Open to Grades:** 11-12**Credit:** 1.0**Length of Course:** Two semesters**Graduation Requirement:** CTE or Elective**Prerequisite:** IED or POE**Course Description:**

The CAPS Engineering course is for students who are interested in a combination of rigorous science and engineering fundamentals, entrepreneurship, and innovation. Students use technical knowledge to create solutions to world problems. The class

begins with a broad introduction to industry-based engineering. Students will learn the essential components of Engineering including the Design Process. The remainder of the student's experience is individually tailored to the student's engineering interest, e.g. chemical, electrical, mechanical, aeronautics & astronautics, nuclear, civil & environmental, software/computer, architectural, advanced manufacturing and robotics. All students will have hands-on, active learning opportunities with a full immersion in real-world projects sponsored by business partners. The students do work for local, national and international organizations in the for profit and not-for-profit sectors.

HEALTH & MEDICAL SCIENCES

Open to Grades: 11-12

Credit: 1.0

Length of Course: Two semesters

Graduation Requirement: CTE or Elective

Prerequisite: PBS or HBS

Course Description:

Within the ever-changing world of healthcare, knowledge of medical practices and procedures has never been greater. Students taking the Health Sciences course will receive up-to-date training and experience in the medical field, medical policies and procedures, and current business operations. As a rising industry that provides quality, lasting jobs, students will learn important skills that will be a catalyst to their development and preparation for training within the medical and health sectors. Students will be mentored by experts in the medical field and will enjoy working on real-life projects that will benefit them for years to come. CAPS is all about students solving real problems, with real tools (used by real professionals), being mentored by real employers, leading to real contributions in the professional arena.

DIGITAL DESIGN

Open to Grades:

Credit:

Course Length:

Prerequisite: Digital Photo or Graphic Design

Graduation Requirement: CTE or Elective

Course Description:

Students enrolled in Digital Design will gain hands-on experience by working on cutting edge projects

and utilizing current technologies. Students should expect to spend time solving problems for local businesses using latest computer and software tools. To help students achieve their goals to learn and do. Local Industry mentors will work with CAPS students to teach and inspire.

ENGLISH

It is the goal of the English Department to give all students the opportunity to experience different forms of language and to provide and promote life-long communications skills. Students are required to earn four credits in English Communications in order to graduate. Students who know they are heading for a four-year university may take advantage of the Advanced Placement program and take the AP Exam.

ENGLISH 9

Open to Grades: 9

Credit: 1.0

Course Length: Two semesters

Prerequisite: None

Graduation Requirement: English

Course Description:

Designed to provide students with communication, organization and critical thinking skills. Its main components include independent and guided reading of fiction and non-fiction texts, responses to texts, vocabulary study, research, and various modes of writing.

ENGLISH 10

Open to Grades: 10

Credit: 1.0

Course Length: Two semesters

Prerequisite: English 9

Graduation Requirement: English

Course Description:

Students will continue to build reading comprehension, writing process, and oral communication skills using a variety of texts and modes of writing, particularly argumentative and expository. The research process is emphasized.

ENGLISH 11

Open to Grades: 11

Credit: 1.0

Course Length: Two semesters

Prerequisite: English 10

Graduation Requirement: English

Course Description:

Students examine the literary heritage of the United States from past to present. Rhetorical devices, terms and techniques are evaluated in reference to the specific writing styles of great American authors. Students will refine their writing and communication skills through individual projects, papers and presentations.

AP COMPOSITION

Open to Grades: 11

Credit: 1.0

Length of course: Two semesters

Prerequisite: English 10

Graduation Requirements: English 11

Fee: AP Exam Fee (help with cost may be available)

Course Description:

Engage in critical thinking, written rhetorical analysis, the communication of ideas, and independent reading. In-depth research on a variety of topics with written and oral presentations of this research is required. This class reflects college-level expectations. Students are required to take the Advanced Placement Exam in May.

ENGLISH 12

Open to Grades: 12

Credit: 1.0

Course Length: Two Semesters

Prerequisite: English 11

Graduation Requirement: English

Course Description:

Students develop the necessary reading, writing and communication skills for post-secondary success. Students analyze literary fiction and non-fiction, present oral reports, construct essays (timed and take home).

AP LITERATURE

Open to Grades: 12

Credit: 1.0

Course Length: Two semesters

Prerequisite: English 11

Graduation Requirement: English 12

Fee: AP Exam Fee (help with cost may be available)

Course Description:

Students use critical reading, sophisticated writing and analytical thinking skills as they engage in analysis of imaginative literature. Through the close reading of selected texts, students deepen their understanding of the ways writers use language to provide both meaning and pleasure for their readers. As they read, students consider a work's structure, style and themes, as well as much smaller-scale elements such as the use of figurative language, imagery, symbolism, and tone. Students are required to take the Advanced Placement Exam in May.

FINE ARTS

There are many careers available that emphasize art both directly and indirectly. Ridgefield High School offers classes in visual and performing arts. These courses teach skills and encourage the students' creativity and will not only help them in the various areas of music, drama, and visual art, but will also help to build confidence and encourage self expression. The classes also show the influence of the arts in society and culture, both past and present.

PERFORMING ARTS

THEATER 1

Open to Grades: 9-12

Credit: 0.5

Length of Course: One or Two Semesters

Prerequisite: None

Graduation Requirement: Fine Arts or Elective

Course Description:

Basic introduction to all things theatre while learning about the history. Gain the skills and confidence needed to perform at a higher level. Perform scenes and other projects for their classmates. Improve their public speaking and presentational skills. Discover the art and craft of making theatre. Better understand human emotions and interactions through the study of dramatic interpretation.

THEATER 2

Open to Grades: 9-12

Credit: 0.5

Length of Course: One semester

Prerequisite: Theatre 1

Graduation Requirement: Fine Arts or Elective

Course Description:

Intermediate/Advanced version of Theatre 1. There will be a heavier implementation of more advanced techniques, with the end goal of gaining a greater understanding of their strengths and weaknesses in performance, preparing students for college theatre programs, developing various acting techniques and helping student understand potential career tracks using their skills built in this course.

STAGECRAFT

Open to Grades: 9-12

Credit: 0.5

Length of Course: One or two semesters

Graduation Requirement: Fine Arts or Elective

Prerequisite: none

Course Description:

Students will learn about the technical aspects of theatre. Students will work on in-class projects and technical elements for the productions at RHS as well as the design process for theatrical productions. Design and implementation of lighting, costumes, props, make-up, sets, sound, etc.

CHOIR

Open to Grades: 9-12

Credit: 0.5 or 1.0

Length of Course: One or two semesters

Prerequisite: None

Graduation Requirement: Fine Arts or Elective

Fee: ASB Membership

Course Description:

Build a strong musical foundation for students who want a general knowledge of music. Learn to sing correctly, read music by notes, learn music theory, perform three part music. Gain skills that will give the students the confidence to sing solo.

ADVANCED CHOIR

Open to Grades: 10-12

Credit: 1.0

Length of Course: One year

Prerequisite: Audition

Graduation Requirement: Fine Arts or Elective

Fee: ASB Membership

Course Description:

Study advanced voice development. Review and put into practice basic fundamentals of music. Acquaint students with all types of vocal music, emphasis on

a standard choral literature. Attend concerts and music festivals (required).

BAND/ADVANCED BAND

Open to Grades: 9-12

Credit: 1.0

Length of Course: One year

Prerequisite: Advanced Band requires audition

Graduation Requirement: Fine Arts or Elective

Fee: ASB Membership

Course Description:

Opportunity for study and performance of intermediate level wind music. Perform at all band commitments including, but not limited to: pep band engagements, concerts and festivals. Attendance at some weekend and evening events will be expected.

JAZZ BAND

Open to Grades: 9-12

Credit: 1.0

Length of Course: One year / Zero period

Prerequisite: Co-enrollment in Band or Adv Band

Graduation Requirement: Fine Arts or Elective

Fee: ASB Membership

Course Description:

Study and performance of beginning to advanced level Jazz, Swing, Latin and other jazz genres. Perform at concerts and community events. Some evening and weekend attendance required.

VOCAL JAZZ

Open to Grades: 9-12

Credit: 1.0

Length of Course: One year / Zero period

Prerequisite: Co-Enrollment in Choir or Adv Choir

Graduation Requirement: Fine Arts or Elective

Fee: ASB Membership

Course Description:

Learn to perform both Jazz and Pop music along with stage presence and performance techniques. Perform extensively including a major area tour as well as frequent gigs in the Portland/Vancouver area. Consists of 16-25 singers, bass player, drummer, guitar and keyboard.

PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE

Open to Grades: 9-12

Credit: 1.0

Length of Course: One year

Prerequisite: Previous concert band/read music

Graduation Requirement: Fine Arts or Elective

Fee: ASB Membership

Course Description:

Students in this course would be incorporated into the concert/pep bands for band performances. Percussionists would also perform just as a percussion ensemble during concerts.

VISUAL ARTS

DRAWING & PAINTING 1

Open to Grades: 9-12

Credit: 0.5

Length of Course: One Semester

Prerequisite: None

Graduation Requirement: Fine Art or Elective

Fee: \$20.00

Course Description:

Hands-on studio art class that develops drawing, painting, and 2-D design skills. Students will practice the creative process of sketching, refining, making a final product, and reflecting. Study and apply the elements and principles of design to their work and analyze the work of others using arts-specific vocabulary. In addition, student will gain exposure to artwork from a variety of time periods and cultures.

ILLUSTRATION

Open to Grades: 9-12

Credit: 0.5

Length of Course: One semester

Prerequisite: Drawing & Painting 1

Cost: \$20.00

Graduation Requirement: Fine Art or Elective

Course Description:

Students will further develop the skills learned in Drawing & Painting 1. At this level, students are expected to be self-motivated and come prepared with thematic ideas for their artwork. A focus will be made on individual style, self-expression, and voice. The creative process of sketching, refining, making a final product, and reflecting will be emphasized for individual growth. Artwork from a variety of time periods and cultures will be referenced and explored.

ADVANCED ART

Open to Grades: 10-12

Credit: 0.5

Length of Course: One Semester

Prerequisite: 2 semesters previous art classes

Cost: \$20.00

Graduation Requirement: Fine Arts or Elective

Course Description:

Designed for the more serious art student desiring to further their education after high school. Explore the concept of personal style through design choices similar to AP Studio's more autonomous curriculum. Students

are presented with the concept of a project series in portraiture, landscape, figure, & still life. Gain a greater understanding of their strengths & weaknesses while mastering major media & styles. Use art sketchbook to record their thoughts & idea development gains even greater significance, acting as the student's laboratory for the creation & exploration of new ideas.

CERAMICS I

Open to Grades: 9-12

Credit: 0.5

Length of Course: One Semester

Prerequisite: None

Cost: \$20.00

Graduation Requirement: Fine Art, CTE or Elective

Course Description:

Discover the limitless potential of shaping 3-D space! This course combines the exploration of wheel thrown, ceramic pottery with mixed media, hand-built sculpture. Focus will be on basic skills needed to design and create three-dimensional works or art that are imaginative, sometimes functional, occasionally wearable, and often whimsical. Then move into a creative process for each project that includes sketches to form ideas and develop design, research and advanced methods throughout the process of creating the final product.

CERAMICS II

Open to Grades: 9-12

Credit: 0.5

Length of Course: One Semester

Prerequisite: Ceramics I

Cost: \$20.00

Graduation Requirement: Fine Art, CTE or Elective

Course Description:

We'll build on the basic skills learned in Ceramics I to advance to large-scale pottery and mixed-media sculpture. A sense of whimsy takes over as we mix it up with conventional and unique materials. In-depth exploration of both conventional artistic wisdom and new approaches that stretch the old definitions of what forms art should and can take, and experience raku firing. Write your own personal artist's statement, engage in self-reflection, and critique of our work and that of others in order to achieve a higher level of expertise as we shape space.

GLASS/METAL ARTS

Open to Grades: 9-12

Credit: 0.5

Length of Course: One Semester

Prerequisite: None

Cost: \$30.00

Graduation Requirement: Fine Art, CTE, or Elective

Course Description:

MONSTER MAKER

Open to Grades: 9-12

Credit: 0.5

Length of Course: One Semester

Prerequisite: Ceramics I or StageCraft

Cost: \$30.00

Graduation Requirement: Fine Art, CTE or Elective

Course Description:

AP STUDIO ART: 3D CERAMICS

Open to Grades: 11-12

Credit: 1.0

Length of Course: One year

Prerequisite: Ceramics I & II

Graduation Requirement: Fine Art or Elective

Fee: \$20.00

Course Description:

Intensive one year program intended for the highly motivated Art student. Emphasis is placed upon design concepts & the students producing quality works of art through an ongoing process involving informed investigations & critical decision making. Submitting an AP Portfolio will allow students to possibly earn a college humanities credit which is applicable to any major. This portfolio consists of a minimum 18-24 original 3 dimensional works of art

YOU TUBE PRODUCTION

Open to Grades: 9-12

Credit: 0.5

Length of Course: One or two semesters

Prerequisite: None

Graduation Requirement: Fine Art or Elective

Course Description:

Students will cover film production, voiceovers, and producing music for YouTube and various social networking media.

HEALTH & FITNESS

The goal of the Health & Fitness department is to encourage physical activity in order to maintain a reasonable level of fitness. Develop an understanding of the rules and strategies of a variety of games. Provide students with opportunities for active participation in team and individual activities. Encourage positive self-image and social development through cooperative interaction.

SPORTS FITNESS

Open to Grades: 9-12

Credit: 0.5

Length of Course: One semester

Prerequisite: None

Graduation Requirement: Physical Education

Course Description:

This class is designed for students who want to get fit through intense game play combined with conditioning & other fitness related activities! Program will prepare students to participate in a variety of lifelong sports at a recreational level. Team & individual activities will be emphasized.

TOTAL BODY FITNESS

Open to Grades: 9-12

Credit: 0.5

Length of Course: One semester

Prerequisite: None

Graduation Requirement: Physical Education

Course Description:

This class is designed for students who want to get fit! We focus on health/fitness concepts combined with recreational activities/games, cardio/strength activities, and non-traditional activities such as yoga, pilates, and a variety of others. Program will advance the knowledge, confidence, skills and motivation needed to engage in a lifelong healthy active lifestyle.

WEIGHTS & CONDITIONING

Open to Grades: 9-12

Credit: 0.5

Length of Course: One semester

Prerequisite: None

Graduation Requirement: Physical Education

Course Description:

This class is aimed at the beginning to advanced strength training student who is dedicated to increasing muscular strength, endurance & health related fitness. Students will engage in various strength & fitness training programs focused on improving overall functional strength & fitness.

SPORTS DEVELOPMENT

Open to Grades: 9-12

Credit: 0.5

Length of Course: One semester

Prerequisite: Athletes Only

Graduation Requirement: Physical Education

Course Description:

This class is aimed at the beginning to advanced strength training student/athlete who is dedicated to increasing muscular strength, power and sport related fitness. Students will engage in various strength and performance training programs focused on improving overall functional strength, power, speed, agility, balance and overall fitness. Olympic lifting and sport related conditioning will be emphasized.

MATH

The Math Department offers courses to help students prepare for post-secondary education as well as real-life application. Three credits of math are required for graduation from Ridgefield High School, including Advanced Algebra. College-bound students are required to continue to take math through their senior year.

ALGEBRA I

Open to Grades: 9

Credit: 1.0

Length of Course: Two semesters

Prerequisite: None

Graduation Requirement: Math

Course Description:

Students build conceptual understanding, procedural fluency and mathematical reasoning through investigation of linear, exponential and quadratic functions.

GEOMETRY

Open to Grades: 9-10 (9th requires teacher approval)

Credit: 1.0

Length of Course: Two semesters

Prerequisite: Algebra I

Graduation Requirement: Math

Course Description:

Students build conceptual understanding, procedural fluency and mathematical reasoning through investigation of area, surface area, volume,

lines, planes, angles, triangles, transformations and proofs.

ALGEBRA II

Open to Grades: 10-12

Credit: 1.0

Length of Course: Two semesters

Prerequisite: Geometry

Graduation Requirement: Math

Course Description:

Students build conceptual understanding, procedural fluency and mathematical reasoning through investigation of polynomials, exponential, radical, rational, logarithmic and trigonometric functions.

PROBABILITY & STATISTICS

Open to Grades: 11-12

Credit: 1.0

Length of Course: Two semesters

Prerequisite: Algebra & Geometry

Graduation Requirement: Math

Course Description:

Students will learn to understand probability concepts, increase statistical literacy, and increase risk literacy. Students will be exposed to how probability factors into decision making, decision theory, risk and risk assessment. The course will combine elements of mathematical probability; real world examples; and writing, hypothesis generation, synthesis and interpretation. This class requires a 3rd year math option form as it is not recognized by 4 year universities as a 3rd year math option.

PRE-CALCULUS

Open to Grades: 11-12

Credit: 1.0

Length of Course: Two semesters

Prerequisite: Algebra II

Graduation Requirement: Math

Course Description:

Students build conceptual understanding, procedural fluency and mathematical reasoning through investigation of all previously covered functions, vectors, parametric equations, matrices and conic sections.

AP CALCULUS AB/BC

Open to Grades: 12

Credit: 1.0

Length of Course: Two semesters

Prerequisite: Pre-Calculus

Graduation Requirement: Math

Fee: AP Exam Fee (help with cost may be available)

Course Description:

Students build conceptual understanding, procedural fluency and mathematical reasoning through investigation of limits, continuity, methods of differentiation, applications of differentiation, methods of integration and applications of integration. Students must take the AP exam in May.

SCIENCE

The Science Department offers a broad selection of courses preparing students for both practical applications as well as theoretical foundations for advanced study. Three credits of science are required for graduation, including Biology.

PHYSICAL SCIENCE

Open to Grades: 9

Credit: 1.0

Length of Course: Two semesters

Prerequisite: None

Graduation Requirement: Physical Science

Course Description:

Learn how science impacts daily life around the world with introductory chemistry and physics scientific processes.

BIOLOGY

Open to Grades: 9-10 (9th requires teacher approval)

Credit: 1.0

Length of Course: One year

Prerequisite: Physical Science

Graduation Requirement: Life Science

Course Description:

Learn about the characteristics of life, inquiry, biochemistry, cells, and how they maintain homeostasis and acquire and use energy. Then cell reproduction, DNA, heredity, genetics and evolution an ecology.

CHEMISTRY

Open to Grades: 11-12

Credit: 1.0

Length of Course: Two semesters

Prerequisite: Biology

Graduation Requirement: Lab Science

Course Description:

Chemistry is an experimental science that focuses on the composition and structure of substances, the transformations they undergo, and the energy that is released and absorbed during these processes. This course will focus on the basic principles of inorganic chemistry with the themes of solids, liquids, and gases.

PHYSICS

Open to Grades: 11-12

Length of Course: Two semesters

Prerequisite: Biology

Graduation Requirement: Lab Science

Course Description:

Physics is the study of motion and energy. Using the scientific method, students will study the concepts of kinetics, force, energy, sound, light, optics, electricity and magnetism.

AP BIOLOGY

Open to Grades: 11-12

Credit: 1.0

Length of Course: Two semesters

Prerequisite: Biology

Graduation Requirement: Science

Fee: AP Exam Fee (help with cost may be available)

Course Description:

This is an introductory college-level course focusing on three major areas: Molecules & Cells; Heredity and Evolution and Organisms & Populations. Students are required to take the Advanced Placement Exam in May.

AP CHEMISTRY

Open to Grades: 11-12

Credit: 1.0

Length of Course: Two semesters

Prerequisite: Chemistry

Graduation Requirement: Science

Fee: AP Exam Fee (help with cost may be available)

Course Description:

This college-level course will emphasize structure and state of matter, reactions, and descriptive chemistry. Students will attain a depth of understanding of fundamentals and a reasonable competence in dealing with chemical problems.

Students are required to take the Advanced Placement Exam in May.

SOCIAL STUDIES

The Social Studies department is concerned with developing reflective and enlightened democratic citizens for effective participation in local, state, national, and international affairs. The global approach helps students to develop an appreciation and understanding of their own cultural heritage, including diversity and its role in contemporary society. Students will study the motives, actions, and consequences of human beings as individuals, as groups and societies in a variety of places and times. In studying this wide array of information, students will not only learn about human history in general, but also about themselves.

AP HUMAN GEOGRAPHY

Open to Grades: 9-12

Credit: 1.0

Length of Course: Two semesters

Graduation Requirement: Elective for 9-12 graders or alternative to World History.

Fee: AP Exam Fee (help with cost may be available)

Course Description:

Equivalent to an introductory college-level course in Human Geography. Learn about nature, population, cultural patterns, political organization of space, economic development and more. Students are required to take the Advanced Placement Exam in May.

WORLD HISTORY

Open to Grades: 10th only

Credit: 1.0

Length of Course: Two semesters

Prerequisite: None

Graduation Requirement: Social Studies

Course Description:

Class will focus on “true” world history looking at events in Europe, Latin America, Africa, Middle East & Asia from each of the time periods. Each of the 5 units will offer opportunities for student to grow their understanding of world history and provide them with a global perspective & help students develop social studies skills through inquiry-based tasks that engage students in the

process of exploring compelling historical questions through the analysis of multiple sources & various types.

AP WORLD HISTORY

Open to Grades: 9-12

Credit: 1.0

Length of Course: Two semesters

Prerequisite: None

Graduation Requirement: Social Studies

Course Description:

In this course students will develop a greater understanding of different societies through the last ten-thousand years with an emphasis on the causes, changes and continuities throughout world history. Students will analyze historical events and evidence. The course offers balanced global coverage with Africa, the Americas, Asia, and Europe all represented. Students considering AP courses should be prepared for a rigorous learning experience. Students are required to take the Advanced Placement Exam in May.

US HISTORY

Open to Grades: 11

Credit: 1.0

Length of Course: Two semesters

Prerequisite: World History

Graduation Requirement: Social Studies

Course Description:

Students will study the history of the United States focusing on the 20th century. Major topics include a review of the foundation of the nation, the emergence of the United States as a world power, the Progressive Era, the Great Depression and New Deal, World War II, the Cold War, and civil rights movements in the latter half of the 20th century. Students will analyze current events for similarities.

AP US HISTORY

Open to Grades: 10-12

Credit: 1.0

Length of Course: Two semesters

Prerequisite: World History

Graduation Requirement: US History

Fee: AP Exam Fee (help with cost may be available)

Course Description:

The AP course in US History is designed to provide the analytical skills and factual knowledge necessary to deal critically with the problems and materials in the United States History. Students prep

for intermediate and advanced college courses by making demands upon them equivalent to those made by full-year introductory college courses. Students are required to take the Advanced Placement Exam in May.

CWI

Open to Grades: 12

Credit: 1.0

Length of Course: Two semesters

Prerequisite: US History

Graduation Requirement: Social Studies

Course Description:

Survey course that emphasizes the foundations of American Government with an overview of the legislative, executive, and judicial branches of the federal government. Emphasizes American foreign policy and/or international issues facing American in the 21st century.

AP GOVERNMENT

Open to Grades: 12

Credit: 1.0

Length of Course: Two semesters

Prerequisite: US History

Graduation Requirement: Government

Fee: AP Exam Fee (help with cost may be available)

Course Description:

The AP course in American Government is designed to provide students with the analytical skills and factual knowledge necessary to deal critically with the problems facing American citizens today. Students are required to take the Advanced Placement Exam in May.

WORLD LANGUAGE

The knowledge of a world language is becoming more important in today's world. It is necessary not only for communicating while traveling, but also for success in today's global business community. It is also important to learn about people from other countries and other cultures. World language classes are electives and are not required for high school graduation. Most universities, however, require at least two years of world language study for admission.

SPANISH 1

Open to Grades: 9-11

Credit: 1.0

Length of Course: One year

Prerequisite: None

Graduation Requirement: Elective

Course Description:

Students learn to understand and speak the Spanish language at a beginning level. Listening comprehension, speaking, writing, and reading are emphasized through oral and written exercises. Spanish culture will be studied through activities in art, music, history and popular culture.

SPANISH 2

Open to Grades: 10-12

Credits: 1.0

Length of Course: Two semesters

Prerequisite: Spanish 1

Graduation Requirement: Elective

Course Description:

Students continue learning to understand and speak the Spanish language at an early intermediate level. Listening comprehension, speaking, writing, and reading are emphasized through oral and written exercises. Spanish culture will be studied through activities in art, music, history, and popular culture.

SPANISH 3

Open to Grades: 10-12

Credit: 1.0

Length of Course: Two semesters

Prerequisite: Spanish 2

Graduation Requirement: Elective

Course Description:

Students continue learning to understand and speak the Spanish language at an early intermediate level. Listening comprehension, speaking, writing, and reading are emphasized through oral and written exercises. Spanish culture will be studied through activities in art, music, history, and popular culture.

SPANISH 4

Open to Grades: 10-12

Credit: 1.0

Length of Course: Two semesters

Prerequisite: Spanish 3

Graduation Requirement: Elective

Course Description:

Students continue learning to understand and speak the Spanish language at an early intermediate level. Listening comprehension, speaking, writing, and reading are emphasized through oral and written

exercises. Spanish culture will be studied through activities in art, music, history, and popular culture.

FRENCH 1

Open to Grades: 9-12

Credit: 1.0

Length of Course: Two semesters

Prerequisite: none

Graduation Requirement: Elective

Course Description:

Students learn to understand and speak the French language at the beginning level. Listening comprehension, speaking, writing, and reading are emphasized through oral and written exercises. French culture will be studied through activities in art, music, history, and popular culture.

FRENCH 2

Open to Grades: 10-12

Credit: 1.0

Length of Course: Two semesters

Prerequisite: French 1

Graduation Requirement: Elective

Course Description:

Students continue learning to understand and speak the French language at an early intermediate level. Listening comprehension, speaking, writing, and reading are emphasized through oral and written exercises. French culture will be studied through activities in art, music, history, and popular culture.

ELECTIVE OPTIONS

LEADERSHIP

Open to Grades: 9-12

Credit: .5 - 1.0

Length of Course: One or two semesters

Prerequisite: None

Graduation Requirement: Elective

Course Description:

Students are involved in assembly planning, student council meetings, school improvement projects, etc. Perform tasks associated with elected office position. Students develop and strengthen their team building and leadership skills. Students will be expected to do service activities after school hours.

AP PSYCHOLOGY

Open to Grades: 10-12

Credit: 1.0

Length of Course: Two semesters

Prerequisite: None

Graduation Requirement: Elective

Course Description:

Designed to introduce students to the systematic & scientific study of the behavior & mental processes of human beings & other animals. Exposed to the psychological facts, principles, & phenomena associated with each of the major subfields within psychology. Learn about the ethics & methods psychologists use in their science & practice. Students are required to take the Advanced Placement Exam in May.

YEARBOOK

Open to Grades: 9-12

Credit: 0.5

Length of Course: One semester

Graduation Requirement: CTE or Elective

Fee: \$20

Prerequisite: None

This course uses photograph, layout design and journalistic writing skills to produce our yearbook. Students will need skills or exposure in Photography, Graphic Design or Writing to be successful. Self-directed and motivated students are a must and teacher approval is highly recommended. We are creating a real product and we need motivated and dedicated students who are serious about excelling in Journalism.

TEACHER/OFFICE ASSISTANT

Open to Grades: 11-12

Credit: 0.25

Length of Course: One Semester

Prerequisite: Teacher or Secretary Permission

Graduation Requirement: Elective

Course Description:

Students may serve as an office or teacher assistant in the main office or in a teacher's classroom with clerical duties, equipment setup or tasks assigned as needed. Must receive pre-approval for this role.

RIDGEFIELD VIRTUAL LEARNING

The Ridgefield Virtual Learning (RVL) program is a web-based educational project of the Ridgefield

School District that provides instructor-led courses to students. Instructors communicate and interact with students and monitor student progress. All instructors have valid state certification in their subject areas. RVL presents students with an interactive learning experience, not a textbook online.

ENGLISH

English 9/English 9 Honors

English 10/English 10 Honors

FITNESS AND HEALTH

Health

Intro to Fitness

Lifetime Fitness

MATHEMATICS

AP Statistics

SCIENCE

Anatomy & Physiology

SOCIAL STUDIES

AP European History

AP Comparative Government

Economics

VISUAL & PERFORMING ARTS

Music Theory

WORLD LANGUAGE

Chinese Year 1

French Years 3, 4

Japanese Years 1, 2, 3, 4

Latin Years 1, 2, 3

CAREER AND TECHNICAL

Advanced Computer Applications

Web Design

Intro to Health Careers

AP Computer Programming/Science

Intro to Digital Game Programming

RIDGEFIELD HIGH SCHOOL POLICIES

ALTERNATIVE VOCATIONAL CREDIT

1. Students who are enrolled every year (9-12) in the same fine arts curriculum and **do not** have room in their schedule to take vocational classes may apply for a graduation requirement waiver. Students must take four years (4 credits) in the same fine arts curriculum (Band, Choir, or Visual Arts)

PASS/FAIL GRADE POLICY

Students wanting to receive credit for a class but receive a Pass/Fail grade instead of the traditional letter grade must:

1. Make this decision within the first two weeks of the semester.
2. Complete the Pass/Fail form in the counseling office.

INDEPENDENT STUDY POLICY - LIMITED NUMBER AVAILABLE

Independent Study is a program for highly self-motivated students who wish to pursue long-term independent study on a topic of interest to them. Students need to work with a teacher from the department they are seeking an Independent Study from (i.e., creative writing from an English teacher)

The following guidelines need to be followed to receive an Independent Study approval:

- 1) Available mainly for Juniors and Seniors. No Freshmen.
- 2) Students requesting an Independent Study course must be enrolled in a full schedule: 5 or more classes each semester for seniors, 6 classes for juniors and sophomores. The Independent Study course is not considered a part of a full schedule.
- 3) Students can take only one independent study course per semester.
- 4) Students can take no more than four credits through Independent Study courses in their Ridgefield High School career.
- 5) Students can take Independent Study Courses for the following reasons:
 - It is not offered in the regular schedule.

- The course conflicts with a course the student is taking.
- The student is short credits to graduate.
- The student has taken the course and failed it.

- 6) Independent study enrollment forms must be completed and approved by the 2nd week of the semester.

Students must complete the Independent Study Enrollment Form with instructor for the Independent Study Course. The final approval comes from the principal.

ALTERNATIVE COURSE OF STUDY

Any courses, elective or required, taken outside of Ridgefield High School need **prior** approval from the counselor **and** the principal. Alternative Course of Study forms may be picked up in the counseling center.