

**VAN ALSTYNE HIGH  
SCHOOL  
Course Guide  
2009 – 2010**



***Dedicated to education...  
Committed to excellence...***

**Van Alstyne High School  
2001 North Waco  
Van Alstyne, Texas 75495  
(903) 482-8803  
Spring, 2009**

Dear Students and Parents:

The Van Alstyne High School administration and staff hope that the information presented in this booklet will assist you in making course selections that will meet high school graduation requirements, as well as the needs for the future of your child. All of the VAHS courses listed in this guide will not necessarily be offered each semester. Course offerings are dependent on a sufficient number of students being enrolled in each course to warrant scheduling. The location and availability of Grayson County College dual credit courses also depend on the number of students who enroll.

The information included in this booklet will give you a source of reference for all the opportunities and choices currently available to your child at VAHS. Students planning to attend a four-year college are strongly encouraged to follow the Recommended or Distinguished Achievement graduation plan.

Students are strongly encouraged to discuss their course choices with their parents prior to the completion of the course request sheet. **A parent signature is required on the Course Request Sheet.** Students who want to participate in athletics are required to obtain the signature of the athletic director.

Be sure to examine page 6 entitled "ADVANCED COURSES-Weighted Grading Scale." Pre-AP, AP, and/or dual credit college courses are not required to graduate on the Recommended Plan. However, more demanding courses are weighted more heavily which does affect grade point average (GPA) and rank in class. Please make your choices thoughtfully. *Class sections are set and teacher assignments are made based on student schedule requests. **Schedule changes will be made only in the event of error or if a student has already received credit for a class.***

Please call the high school office at 903-482-8803 if you have any questions concerning courses, graduation requirements, or scheduling. Leaving both a day and evening number and a brief note about your question will enable us to return your call as quickly as possible. The staff and administration of Van Alstyne High School are anticipating a wonderful year in 2009-2010.

Sincerely,

Duke Sparks, Principal

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

## HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Minimum Program .....	1
Recommended Program (graduation dates 2009-2010) .....	2
Distinguished Achievement Program (graduation dates 2009-2010) .....	2
Recommended Program (graduation dates 2011 - ) .....	3
Distinguished Achievement Program (graduation dates 2011 - ) .....	3
Concurrent Enrollment/Dual Credit.....	4

## HIGH SCHOOL SPECIAL PROGRAMS

Gifted and Talented.....	5
Pre-Advanced Placement/Advanced Placement.....	6
Special Education.....	6

## CLASS RANKING/COURSE WEIGHTING

Class Ranking .....	6
Advanced Courses/Weighted Grading Scale .....	7

## COURSE SELECTIONS

English Language Arts .....	8
English Language Arts Electives .....	9
Speech .....	9
Social Science Electives.....	10
Other Languages.....	11
Mathematics .....	12
Science.....	13
Social Studies.....	15
Technology .....	15
Business.....	16
Fine Arts .....	16
Family & Consumer Science .....	17
Vocational Education.....	18
Agricultural Science & Technology .....	19
Trade & Industrial Education .....	20
Health & Physical Education .....	20
Other Electives .....	21

## GRADE CLASSIFICATION

Freshman	0 - 4.5 credits
Sophomore	5 - 9.5 credits
Junior	10 - 14.5 credits
Senior	15+ credits

## GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Since entrance requirements vary greatly from college to college, students should carefully consider and investigate college entrance requirements prior to selecting their graduation plans.

**Students planning to attend a four-year college are strongly encouraged to follow the Recommended or Distinguished Achievement graduation plan. TEA grants for colleges are currently available for students with financial need who follow these plans. Awards will be made through the financial aid office of the college. Persons interested in the program should contact the financial aid office to find out about deadlines and procedures.**

### *Minimum Program*

English .....	4 units
Mathematics (including Algebra 1 and Geometry) .....	3 units
Science (including Biology and IPC*) .....	3 units
Social Studies .....	4 units
World Geography .....	1 unit
World History .....	1 unit
US History .....	1 unit
Government.....	½ unit
Economics.....	½ unit
Physical Education.....	1 ½ units
Health.....	½ unit
Technology Applications (Computer Course).....	1 unit
Communication Applications (Speech) .....	½ unit
Electives.....	4 ½ units
Total .....	22 units

\*Chemistry and Physics (both classes together) may substitute for IPC

**Recommended Program**  
**For students graduating in 2009 or 2010**

English .....	4 units
Mathematics.....	3 units
(Algebra I, Algebra II, and Geometry)	
Science .....	3 units
(Biology and two of the following IPC, Chemistry, and Physics)	
Social Studies .....	4 units
World Geography .....	1 unit
World History.....	1 unit
US History .....	1 unit
Government .....	½ unit
Economics.....	½ unit
Physical Education.....	1 ½ units
Health .....	½ unit
Other Language .....	2 units
Fine Arts.....	1 unit
Technology Applications (Computer Course).....	1 unit
Communication Applications (Speech) .....	½ unit
Electives.....	3 ½ units
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>24 units</b>

**Distinguished Achievement Program**  
**For students graduating in 2009 or 2010**

The requirements are the same as the Recommended High School Program with the addition that students must **take three consecutive years of the same language other than English, and any combination of four advanced measures** (that meet TEA standards). VAHS advanced measures that will reflect student performance at the college or professional level are as follows:

1. Test data
    - a score of 3 or above on the College Board Advanced Placement (AP) examinations
    - a score on the PSAT that qualifies a student for recognition as:
      - A commended scholar or higher by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation
      - Part of the National Hispanic Scholar Program
      - Part of the National Achievement Scholarship Program for Outstanding Negro students of the National Merit Scholarship Corporation
- \*\*\* *The PSAT score may count as only one advanced measure.*
2. College Courses
    - a grade of 3.0 (B) or higher on courses that count for college credit (dual and/or concurrent enrollment), including tech prep programs.
  3. Original Research/Project
    - Judged by a panel of professionals in the field that is the focus of the project
    - Conducted under the direction of mentor(s) and reported to an appropriate audience
    - Related to the required curriculum set forth in 19 TAC 74.1
    - May not be used for more than two of the four advanced measures.

### **Recommended Program**

**For students who entered the ninth grade during the 2007-2008 school year and thereafter**

English .....	4 units
Mathematics .....	4 units
(Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II , and Pre-Calculus) or (Algebra I, Geometry, Math Models with Applications, and Algebra II)	
Science .....	4 units
(Biology, at least two courses from the following: IPC (not during your senior year), Chemistry, and Physics, and if you only choose two from the previous list you may choose the fourth science from Earth and Space Science*, Environmental Science*, AP Biology or AP Chemistry)	
Social Studies .....	4 units
World Geography .....	1 unit
World History.....	1 unit
US History .....	1 unit
Government .....	½ unit
Economics.....	½ unit
Physical Education.....	1 ½ units
Health .....	½ unit
Other Language.....	2 units
Fine Arts .....	1 unit
Technology Applications (Computer Course).....	1 unit
Communication Applications (Speech).....	½ unit
Electives .....	3 ½ units
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>26 units</b>

\* These Science courses will not be offered during the 2009-2010 school year.

### **Distinguished Achievement Program**

**For students who entered the ninth grade during the 2007-2008 school year and thereafter**

**Students graduating on the distinguished plan must meet the following requirements and any combination of four advanced measures (that meet TEA standards).**

English .....	4 units
Mathematics .....	4 units
(Algebra I, Algebra II, Geometry, Pre-Calculus, and Calculus) (A fourth math course must be taken during the senior year. Math Models with Application will not count toward the Distinguished Graduation Plan.)	
Science .....	4 units
(Biology, Chemistry, Physics and one of the following: Earth and Space Science*, Environmental Science*, AP Biology or AP Chemistry. IPC will not count toward the Distinguished Graduation Plan)	
Social Studies .....	4 units
World Geography .....	1 unit
World History.....	1 unit
US History .....	1 unit
Government .....	½ unit
Economics.....	½ unit
Physical Education.....	1 ½ units
Health .....	½ unit
Other Language.....	3 units
Fine Arts .....	1 unit
Technology Applications (Computer Course).....	1 unit
Communication Applications (Speech).....	½ unit
Electives .....	2 ½ units
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>26 units</b>

VAHS advanced measures that will reflect student performance at the college or professional level are as follows:

1. Test data
    - a score of 3 or above on the College Board Advanced Placement (AP) examinations
    - a score on the PSAT that qualifies a student for recognition as:
      - A commended scholar or higher by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation
      - Part of the National Hispanic Scholar Program
      - Part of the National Achievement Scholarship Program for Outstanding Negro students of the National Merit Scholarship Corporation
- \*\*\* *The PSAT score may count as only one advanced measure.*
2. College Courses
    - a grade of 3.0 (B) or higher on courses that count for college credit (dual and/or concurrent enrollment), including tech prep programs.
  3. Original Research/Project
    - Judged by a panel of professionals in the field that is the focus of the project
    - Conducted under the direction of mentor(s) and reported to an appropriate audience
    - Related to the required curriculum set forth in 19 TAC 74.1
    - May not be used for more than two of the four advanced measures.

## DUAL CREDIT COURSES

Requirements for enrolling in college while in high school:

- Must have passed the section of the THEA relating to the course requested. Students can be exempted from the THEA by TAKS scores or SAT/ACT scores.
- Must receive approval from counselor/administrator to take the course.

College courses from Grayson County College which receive both high school and college credit are listed below. Students who are interested in courses not listed should see the counselor.

HIGH SCHOOL COURSE	COLLEGE COURSE
	<b>GCC</b>
English IV	ENGL 1301& 1302
U. S. Government	GOVT 2305
Economics	ECON 2301
Calculus	MATH 2413 & 2414
Art Appreciation	ARTS 1301
College Algebra	MATH 1314
General Psychology	PSYC 2301
Intro Sociology	SOCI 1301
World Geography	GEOG 1303

Please see the counselor for additional Technical Courses available through Grayson County College.

## NUMERICAL VALUE

The following numerical values shall be used for letter grades transferred to the school:

A+ = 97	B+ = 88	C+ = 79	D+ = 74
A = 94	B = 84	C = 77	D = 72
A- = 91	B- = 80	C- = 75	D- = 70

## HIGH SCHOOL SPECIAL PROGRAMS

2008-2009

### GIFTED AND TALENTED

In the high school, the identified gifted student is presently served through curriculum differentiated in AP classes and Pre-AP classes taught by GT certified teachers in math, science, and English. Students, parents, and/or teachers may request that a Gifted and Talented Identification Profile be compiled for a student who enters or is enrolled in high school and has not formerly been identified as GT.

In order to complete student profiles for fall scheduling, the profile process for the upcoming year will be initiated in March for students enrolled in VAISD. For each initial request, the high school counselor will complete a Gifted and Talented Identification Profile. The profile will include the following criteria:

1. Mental abilities test; example / OLSAT
2. Norm-referenced achievement test; example / MAT 8
3. Renzulli faculty evaluation forms from four core subject teachers in the categories of leadership, motivation, intellectual ability, and creativity
4. Transcript grades for the four most recent semesters in the core subjects.
5. Creative Index Score on the Torrance Test of Creative Thinking; verbal and non-verbal

Each category of the profile is scored on a scale of one to five for a maximum profile score of 25 points. A total of 17 points is required for identification as a GT student on the VAHS Gifted and Talented Identification Profile. Students and parents will be notified of profile results by letter when the Gifted and Talented Identification Profile is complete.

### Exiting Procedures/Furlough

If a student is not profiting fully from his/her educational program in the gifted program, a meeting to review the placement will be called. The meeting will include the parent, a teacher, the counselor, an administrator, and upon request the student. In the event that two of the three adults agree that the program is not meeting the student's needs, the student may be exited from the program. Students participating in the G/T program may request a furlough for one school year if scheduling or other concerns arise; however, the student must meet with the counselor and G/T instructor prior to making arrangements for the furlough. If additional time away from the program is requested, the student may choose to pursue exiting procedures, but a new nomination and selection process must be followed to reenter the program with no guarantee of readmission.

*The following classes are recognized as GT placement for the GT identified student:*

<i>GT/Pre-AP English 9 &amp; 10</i>	<i>GT/AP English Composition</i>
<i>GT/Pre-AP Biology</i>	<i>GT/AP English Literature</i>
<i>GT/Pre-AP Chemistry</i>	<i>GT/AP Biology</i>
<i>GT/Pre-AP Physics</i>	<i>GT/AP Chemistry</i>
<i>GT/Pre-AP Geometry</i>	<i>GT/AP Calculus</i>
<i>GT/Pre-AP Algebra II</i>	
<i>GT/Pre-AP Pre-Calculus</i>	

## **Pre-AP and AP**

AP and Pre-AP classes are available to both GT identified and non-identified students. Pre-AP classes are taught at a college preparatory level. AP classes are college level courses in which a student may be awarded college credit if he or she scores high enough on AP testing. Students are required to sign a contract to enter Pre-AP courses and teacher recommendation is highly encouraged. Students and parents are encouraged to discuss placement with his or her current teacher to decide the appropriate courses.

## **SPECIAL EDUCATION**

The special education program provides a comprehensive program for each student who has been identified as having special needs. Placement is by recommendation of ARD committee only.

When the instruction is provided entirely in special education or combined with regular education and the content or mastery level of the essential knowledge and skills of the course has been modified, the transcript will be coded with a "V" to indicate special education credit.

## **RANK IN CLASS**

### **CLASS RANKING**

The weighted grading scale on page 7 of this course guide determines class ranking. Please see the counselor for additional information.

### **CLASS RANKING/PROCEDURE FOR GRADUATES**

The weighted numerical grade point average of each student will be computed using the high school grades the student has accumulated through the end of the senior year. Grades in all subjects are counted toward determining class rank and senior awards. The student with the highest weighted numerical grade point average will be the top-ranked student. In case of a tie, the weighted numerical grade point average for the senior year still determines ranking. If a tie still exists, the weighted numerical grade point average for the junior, then sophomore and finally the freshman year will be considered.

Fifth year students, homebound students, foreign exchange students, and students transferring from non-accredited high schools will not be ranked.

### **CLASS RANKING/VALEDICTORIAN AND SALUTATORIAN (EIC Local)**

The valedictorian and salutatorian shall be the highest ranking and second highest-ranking seniors respectively. Only the students who attend the district high school during their junior and senior years, four consecutive semesters, shall be eligible for these honors. For ranking and GPA calculation purposes, students entering the district from other districts will be given weighted credit only in courses that Van Alstyne High School makes available to Van Alstyne students.

## ADVANCED COURSES Weighted Grading Scale

### ADVANCED COURSES

Art III & IV  
Band III & IV  
Pre-AP Biology  
Pre-AP Chemistry I  
Pre-AP English I & II  
Pre-AP Physics  
Pre-AP Geometry  
Pre-AP Algebra II  
Pre-AP Pre-calculus

### HONORS COURSES

AP English III & IV  
Foreign languages--levels III, IV, & V  
AP Biology  
AP Chemistry  
AP Calculus  
Core Academic College credit  
courses taken for dual credit

Non-Core Academic College  
Credit courses taken for dual credit

<u>GRADE</u>	<u>HONORS</u>	<u>ADVANCED</u>	<u>REGULAR</u>
100	6.0	5.0	4.0
99	5.9	4.9	3.9
98	5.8	4.8	3.8
97	5.7	4.7	3.7
96	5.6	4.6	3.6
95	5.5	4.5	3.5
94	5.4	4.4	3.4
93	5.3	4.3	3.3
92	5.2	4.2	3.2
91	5.1	4.1	3.1
90	5.0	4.0	3.0
89	4.9	3.9	2.9
88	4.8	3.8	2.8
87	4.7	3.7	2.7
86	4.6	3.6	2.6
85	4.5	3.5	2.5
84	4.4	3.4	2.4
83	4.3	3.3	2.3
82	4.2	3.2	2.2
81	4.1	3.1	2.1
80	4.0	3.0	2.0
79	3.9	2.9	1.9
78	3.8	2.8	1.8
77	3.7	2.7	1.7
76	3.6	2.6	1.6
75	3.5	2.5	1.5
74	3.4	2.4	1.4
73	3.3	2.3	1.3
72	3.2	2.2	1.2
71	3.1	2.1	1.1
70	3.0	2.0	1.0
69	0	0	0

### GPA CALCULATIONS

A student's GPA is calculated based on the above points according to the weight of the course they are taking. The semester grades are used for these calculations. Juniors and seniors may request an updated GPA four weeks after the beginning of the semester.

## ENGLISH

### ENGLISH I

ENG I Weight: Reg.  
Grade: 9 Credit: 1  
Prerequisite: none  
Content for English I is designed to provide development in grammar and usage, process writing, analysis of various literary genre, vocabulary, reading, and using resources.

### ENGLISH II

ENG 2 Weight: Reg.  
Grade: 10 Credit: 1  
Prerequisite: English I  
Content for English II is designed to provide a broad survey of world literature with special emphasis upon short fiction. Material relevant to the TAAS is presented, as well as extensive work in grammar and writing.

### ENGLISH III

ENG 3 Weight: Reg.  
Grade: 11 Credit: 1  
Prerequisite: English II  
Course content is designed to provide a survey of American literature from the Colonial period to the present. All literary genres are presented, as well as reinforcement of types of reading, writing, and language concepts. The research process, culminating in a formal research paper, is required.

### ENGLISH IV

ENG 4 Weight: Reg.  
Grade: 12 Credit: 1  
Prerequisite: English III  
Course is designed to provide a survey of British literature from the Anglo-Saxon period through the 20th century. The research process, culminating in a formal research paper, is required.

#### Pre-AP and AP Guidelines

**A student who wishes to enroll in an AP or Pre-AP course may do so with the required signatures on the Course Request form. Students must complete a Course Expectations contract which has been signed by the parent and the teacher working with the student.**

*Pre-AP English I and II are college preparatory courses which are taught at an accelerated rate. A strong work ethic, a desire to learn, and a love of reading are the key ingredients to excel in these classes.*

Students will be assigned summer reading which includes a project over the material.

## PRE-AP ENGLISH I

ENG I Weight: Adv.  
Grade: 9 Credit: 1  
Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation and signed contract  
Pre-AP English I is designed as a foundational course. The course will emphasize critical reading skills, an awareness of style and rhetoric in a variety of literary genres. Vocabulary development is an essential part of Pre-AP English I. Written work will include literary analysis, timed writings, research papers, as well as reflection papers. Selected novels will be read, annotated, and discussed. Papers dealing with these novels will also be assigned. Thirty to forty-five minutes of homework may be needed nightly for this class.

Eighth grade students considering application for the Pre-AP classes as a freshman need to consider the **purpose** of the Advanced Placement classes. The Advanced Placement Program, sponsored by the College Board, is an intensive program of college-level curricula and examinations that provides high school students with an opportunity to earn advanced placement, college credit, or both at nearly 3,000 universities and colleges across the country. This course of study is for the voracious reader! It is important that the students who wish to enroll in Pre-AP/AP courses be aware of the **increased workload** and be committed to meeting those increased expectations.

## PRE-AP ENGLISH II

ENG 2 Weight: Adv.  
Grade: 10 Credit: 1  
Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation and signed contract  
Pre-AP English II will build on the foundation established in Pre-AP English I. Selected genres of world literature are read, annotated, discussed, and written about in analytical essays as well as timed writings. The course also includes systematic vocabulary, grammar, the research process, skills for the TAKS exit exam, and outside projects. Thirty to forty-five minutes of homework may be needed nightly for this class.

## AP ENGLISH III (AP Language)

APENG3 H Weight: Honors  
Grade: 11 Credit: 1  
Prerequisite: Honors criteria-Teacher recommendation and signed contract.

The Advanced Placement English III course is designed to develop a student's awareness of language and to sharpen his/her skills in effective writing, critical thinking, and reading.

The readings will be based upon American literary works, but the course will also have a strong composition component. Because of the extensive outside reading and intensive language analysis demanded by the AP format, this course is intended for very capable English students. If the student derives the maximum benefit from the program, he/she should be prepared to take the AP examination in English Language and Composition in May.

**AP ENGLISH IV (AP LITERATURE)**

APENG4 H Weight: Honors  
 Grade: 12 Credit: 1  
 Prerequisite: Honors criteria-Teacher recommendation

Advanced Placement English IV is a rigorous course designed to engage the student in active reading and writing. Students who take this course should be good readers, for the course requires both extensive and deliberate reading of selected works of British literature from the Anglo-Saxon period to the twentieth century. The writing component of the class focuses on critical analysis of literature and includes expository, analytical, and argumentative essays. Practice will be provided to prepare the student for the AP examination in English Literature and Composition given in May. Completion of a summer reading list is required prior to the fall semester.

**ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS ELECTIVES**

**YEARBOOK PRODUCTION**

YRBKDSK PUB Weight: Reg.  
 Grade: 9 - 12 Credit: 1  
 YRBKMAG 1 Weight: Reg.  
 Grade: 10 – 12 Credit: 1  
 YRBKMAG 2 Weight: Adv  
 Grade: 11 - 12 Credit: 1  
 YRBKMAG 3 Weight: Adv.  
 Grade: 12 Credit: 1  
 Prerequisite: Sponsor and incoming editor approval

Students accepted into the yearbook class will plan the book; sell advertising; select a theme for the book; take pictures using a 35mm camera; crop pictures; interview students for picture captions; and work to become a section editor, editor of the elementary book, or editor of the secondary book. Students will compete in UIL journalism competition and attend a 3 1/2 day summer workshop. (New students are encouraged to attend, with the workshop costs paid by the student.) Students must complete

an application process with the yearbook sponsor.

**SPEECH**

**COMMUNICATION APPLICATIONS**

COMMAPPL Weight: Reg.  
 Grade: 9 - 12 Credit: ½  
 Prerequisite: none

This course investigates a variety of aspects of communication. Some of the areas studied are interpersonal communication, business communication, intracultural communication, group dynamics, leadership, and presentation styles. **This course is required for graduation.**

**PUBLIC SPEAKING**

PUBSPKG1 Weight: Reg.  
 Grade: 10 –12 Credit: ½ -1  
 Prerequisite: Communication Application

PUBSPKG2 Weight: Reg.  
 Grade: 11 –12 Credit 1  
 Prerequisite: PUBSPKG1

PUBSPKG3 Weight: Reg.  
 Grade 12 Credit 1  
 Prerequisite: PUBSPKG2

This course will cover concepts and skills related to preparing and presenting public messages and to analyzing and evaluating the messages of others. Rhetoric, organization, style, speech forms, memory, delivery, and evaluations, including debate, will be the areas of study for this course.

**DEBATE**

DEBATE1 Weight: Reg.  
 Grade: 10 –12 Credit: 1  
 Prerequisite: Communication Application  
 DEBATE2 Weight: Adv  
 Grade: 10 –12 Credit: 1  
 Prerequisite: DEBATE1  
 DEBATE3 Weight: Adv  
 Grade: 11 – 12 Credit:1  
 Prerequisite: DEBATE2

Students will learn to research significant social and political questions and to organize research into a meaningful persuasive presentation. Students will learn to defend a presentation against the attack of a well-trained opponent through critical listening and thinking.

## SOCIAL SCIENCE ELECTIVES

### SOCIOLOGY

SOC  
Grade: 10-12  
Prerequisite: none  
Sociology is the study of human relationships. The course covers personal understanding, male-female relationships, parent-child relationships, and the efforts of society on individuals and groups.

Weight: Reg.  
Credit: ½

## OTHER LANGUAGES

### LATIN I

LATIN 1  
Grade: 9 - 12  
Prerequisite: none

Weight: Reg.  
Credit: 1

Latin I serves as the introduction to the language and culture of Ancient Rome. Students will become familiar with the basic morphology of the language, acquire a fundamental Latin vocabulary, practice classical pronunciation, and learn translation skills. The cultural and historical content of the course includes the archaeology of Pompeii, origins of the city of Rome, basic classical mythology, Roman daily life, and aspects of Roman Britain.

### LATIN II

LATIN 2  
Grade: 10 - 12  
Prerequisite: Latin I

Weight: Reg.  
Credit: 1

Latin II assumes a solid grounding in the basic structures of the Latin language and builds from that foundation. Passages for comprehension and translation are of increased length and complexity. Increasingly sophisticated passive and subjunctive constructions are introduced as preparation for the reading of authentic Latin texts. The cultural component includes the intrigues of Roman political life in the first century AD

### LATIN III

LATIN 3 H  
Grade: 11 – 12  
Prerequisite: Latin II

Weight: Honors  
Credit: 1

Latin III is intended to prepare students for the transition from adapted, modern Latin readings from their textbooks to authentic Latin texts. This course presumes a level of grammatical knowledge and vocabulary suitable to making this transition. Students will find themselves engaged in translating and reading increasingly sophisticated passages. Later portions of the Latin III year will find students reading either the

poetry of Catullus or selections from Cicero's *Pro Archia* in preparation for the Advanced Placement Latin Literature syllabus of Latin IV.

### HONORS LATIN IV

LATIN 4 H  
Grade: 12  
Prerequisite: Latin III

Weight: Honors  
Credit: 1

This course provides students with opportunities to read, discuss, and examine Latin literary works by working through the syllabus and course requirements for the Advanced Placement Latin Literature program. To that end, we will be reading selections from the works of either Catullus and Cicero or Catullus and Horace. Catullus and Horace offer students the change to study Latin poetry and its accompanying scansion patterns and literary strategies. The selections from Cicero, which include the entirety of the *Pro Archia* and selections from the *De Amicitia*, address the intricacies of Latin prose style and Roman rhetorical strategies. The course is intended to prepare students for advanced Latin studies in an undergraduate program. Also, students who are successful and derive all the benefits of the class should be prepared to take the AP Latin Literature examination in May.

### SPANISH I

SPAN 1  
Grade: 9 - 12  
Prerequisite: none

Weight: Reg.  
Credit: 1

Spanish I is a course for beginners. The course will establish basic vocabulary and elementary conversation skills. Listening and reading comprehension skills will be taught. Cultural points of interest will be covered. Oral, aural, and composition proficiency will be tested throughout the year.

### SPANISH II

SPAN 2  
Grade: 10 - 12  
Prerequisite: Spanish I

Weight: Reg.  
Credit: 1

Spanish II will cover 5 of the 7 simple tenses with regular and irregular verbs. Points of cultural interest will be presented, as well as situations with opportunities for broadening vocabulary and concepts of the language. Oral, aural, and composition proficiency will be tested throughout the year.



## PRECALCULUS

PRE CALC Weight: Adv.  
Grade: 11 - 12 Credit: 1  
Prerequisite: Algebra II

This course mirrors similar courses offered at the college level, and is specifically designed to prepare students for success in college-level advanced math courses. Topics covered include in-depth study of quadratic relations and functions, polynomials, exponential and logarithmic functions, trigonometric and polar functions, probability and statistics, vectors, sequences and series, and introduction to limits.

## APCALCULUS (AB)

APCALCAB Weight: Honors  
Grade: 12 Credit: 1  
Prerequisite: Pre-Calculus; Instructor Approval

This course covers the topics normally included in the first semester of college calculus, and its requirements are defined by the College Board. Subjects include limits, continuity, study of the derivative and its applications, and introduction to the Fundamental Theorem of Calculus, Parts 1 and II (integrals), and includes differential equations and slope fields.

## APCALCULUS (BC)

APCALCBC Weight: Honors  
Grade: 12 Credit: 1  
Prerequisite: AP Calculus AB; Instructor Approval

This course covers the topics normally included in the second semester of college calculus, and its requirements are defined by the College Board. Subjects include advanced integrals, and their applications, the calculus of polar curves, series and sequences, and vectors.

## SCIENCE

### BIOLOGY I

BIO 1 Weight: Reg.  
Grade: 9 - 12 Credit: 1  
Prerequisite: none

Biology I includes using manipulative laboratory materials and equipment, acquiring data through senses, classifying plants, animals, protists and viruses, communicating data, plotting data on graphs, comparing organisms, identifying variables, clarifying operational terms, analyzing use of organisms, and evaluating research.

### INTEGRATED PHYSICS AND CHEMISTRY

IPC Weight: Reg.  
Grade: 10 - 12 Credit: 1  
Prerequisite: Biology

Integrated physics and chemistry is an introductory level course covering the fundamental principles of chemistry and physics. Topics included from chemistry are matter and

its structure, properties, and reactions. Topics included from physics are work, energy, force, motion, waves, electricity, and magnetism. Students will discover these topics in a laboratory setting using the scientific process.

### CHEMISTRY

CHEM 1 Weight: Reg.  
Grade: 10 Credit: 1  
Prerequisite: Biology

Chemistry is the study of the composition, structure, and properties of substances and the changes they undergo. Chemistry includes acquiring data, communication of data, manipulative laboratory skills, concepts and skills of measurement, drawing logical inferences, predicting outcomes and forming generalized statements, applying defined terms based on observations, identifying and manipulating the conditions of investigations, and applications of chemistry in daily life. Topics include the organization of matter, chemical equations and stoichiometry, phases of matter, solutions, chemical reactions, and acid/base chemistry.

### PHYSICS

PHYSICS Weight: Reg.  
Grade: 11 – 12 Credit: 1  
Prerequisite: Biology, Chemistry or IPC, and Algebra II (may be concurrently enrolled)

Physics is the study of matter and energy and their interactions. Students are introduced to fundamental concepts in the areas of mechanics, light, sound, heat, electricity, magnetism, and atomic and nuclear physics. Student investigations emphasize accurate observations, collection and analysis of data, and safe use of laboratory materials. Additional topics include vector representations and relativity theories. Research work may be assigned.

### Pre-AP and AP Guidelines

**A student who wishes to enroll in an AP or Pre-AP course may do so with the required signatures on the Course Request form: principal or asst. principal, and/or department chairperson. Students must complete a Course Expectations contract which has been signed by the parent and the teacher working with the student.**

*Pre-AP biology, chemistry, and physics are college preparatory courses which are taught at an accelerated rate. A strong work ethic and a desire to learn are the key ingredients to excel in these classes.*













## **EQUINE SCIENCE**

EQUINESC

Weight: Reg.

Grade: 10 - 12

Credit: ½

Prerequisite: none

A technical course designed to develop knowledge and skills pertaining to the selection, nutrition, reproduction, health, and management of horses.

## **AGRICULTURAL MECHANICS**

### **AGRICULTURAL MECHANICS 2**

AGMECH

Weight: Reg.

Grade: 10 - 12

Credit: 1-2

AGMECHII

Weight: Reg.

Grade: 11 - 12

Credit: 1-2

Prerequisite: none

A laboratory-oriented course designed to introduce the scientific principles, concepts, and skill development necessary in agricultural mechanics. The course emphasizes soil and water conservation, electrification, concrete and masonry construction, building planning and construction, small engine and agricultural equipment maintenance and repair, and oxyfuel and electric cutting and welding. Instruction will include information on career opportunities, leadership activities, and record keeping practices related to the industry.

## **AGRICULTURAL STRUCTURES**

### **TECHNOLOGY**

AGSTTECH

Weight: Reg.

Grade: 10 - 12

Credit: ½

Prerequisite: none

This is a technical course preparing students to maintain, evaluate, design, and build agricultural structures using approved construction techniques.

## **TRADE AND INDUSTRIAL EDUCATIONS**

### **TECHNICAL INTRODUCTION TO**

#### **COMPUTER-AIDED DRAFTING**

TICAD

Weight: Reg.

Grade: 11-12

Credit: 1

Prerequisite: Instructor Approval

This is a beginning technical laboratory course designed to provide an academically stimulating environment for students interested in and desiring to begin computer-aided drafting. Instruction includes computer hardware, CAD software, and technical drawings and problems generated and solved by using CAD. Students will design projects to be built by students in Ag Mechanics, Ag Structures, and Metal Fab technology.

## **HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

### **HEALTH EDUCATION**

HLTHED

Weight: Reg.

Grade: 9 - 12

Credit: ½

Prerequisite: none

Students study the physical dimensions of health education as they related to the study of body systems and the senses of the body. Proper care of one's body, including appropriate exercise, nutrition, and personal hygiene are integral aspects of the course. Emphasis is also placed on the effects of drug abuse, first aid practices, and communicable diseases, as well as good decision-making as related to health issues.

### **PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

*One and one-half units of physical education credit are required for graduation by the state of Texas; however, a student may earn up to two units of PE credit toward the credits required for graduation. All physical education credits beyond these two credits will receive local credit only and will not count toward state graduation requirements.*

### **FOUNDATIONS OF PERSONAL FITNESS**

PE 1A

Weight: Reg.

Grade: 9 - 12

Credit: ½

Prerequisite: none; this course is the recommended prerequisite for all other physical education courses; offered in fall semester. The basic purpose of the course is to motivate students to strive for lifetime personal fitness with an emphasis on the health-related components of physical fitness. The knowledge and skills taught in this course include teaching students about the process of becoming fit as well as achieving some degree of fitness within the class. The concept of wellness, or striving to reach optimal levels of health, is the cornerstone of this course and is exemplified by one of the course objectives -- students designing their own personal fitness programs.

### **TEAM SPORTS**

PE TS

Weight: Reg.

Grade: 9 - 12

Credit: ½

Prerequisite: Foundations of Personal Fitness; offered in spring semester

Students enrolled in Team Sports are expected to develop health-related fitness and an appreciation for team work and fair play. Like the other high school physical education courses, Team Sports is less concerned with the



