



BOCES
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CANVAS RISE Course Catalog

2025-2026

Department of Programs and Professional Development



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Dear Education Colleagues,

We are excited to inform you about CANVAS RISE, an extension of a grant that we have been continuing. This program allows students from districts to participate in virtual classes taught by teachers from other surrounding districts. Students in rural districts often face the disadvantage of limited access to teachers within their school, but CANVAS RISE provides them with access to a wider range of educators.

CANVAS is the platform utilized by teachers to deliver their classes with all classes being asynchronous. The home district for enrolled students will provide any textbooks or course materials as necessary, the technology to access the courses, and will also determine a student's course schedule for the school year.

A requirement of ten students enrolled is required and each class will close at an enrollment of thirty students. Course availability will be determined by enrollment.

We are eager to collaborate with you and further enhance the educational opportunities for all students.

Best Regards,

The Department of Programs and Professional Development

Agriculture Courses

Natural Resources and Ecology

Teacher: Matt Greene

District: Alexandria Central School

Course Timeline: FULL YEAR COURSE

Course Description:

Natural Resources and Ecology is an entry-level CASE course providing students with various experiences in natural resources and ecology.

Students will explore hands-on projects and activities while studying the natural world, including biomes, land, air, water, energy, use, and care, as well as a focus on issues surrounding man's interaction with the Earth will be addressed in this course.

Students will select a National Park Ecosystem to study throughout the course and apply principles of natural resources and ecology from each unit of study to that ecosystem.

English Language Arts Courses

Creative Writing

Teacher: Meredith Sullivan

District: LaFargeville Central School

Course Timeline: 20 WEEK COURSE - FALL SEMESTER OR SPRING SEMESTER

Course Description:

Learn to express your thoughts, opinions, and dreams through creative writing. Strengthen the impact your words will have by using strong vocabulary, proper grammar, and clear sentence structure.

Explore your creativity and imagination to create a writing portfolio to include:

- Journal Entries
- Personal Memoir
- Poetry

Sports Writing

Teacher: Mikaela Benny

District: LaFargeville Central School

Course Timeline: 20 WEEK COURSE FALL SEMESTER OR SPRING SEMESTER

Do you have a passion for sports? This course is designed to help enhance your writing skills while combining your passion for sports. In this course, we will examine how sports are connected to our culture. We will give voices to the athletes and objects that fuel our favorite sports and keep us on the edge of our seats.

Students should expect to:

- Write weekly sports features.
- Answer discussion prompts.
- Write and design social media posts.
- Create a final portfolio.

Music Courses

Music In History - Part I

Teacher: Patrick Sullivan

District: LaFargeville Central School

Course Timeline: 20 WEEK COURSE - FALL SEMESTER

Course Description:

History and music are deeply connected, each shaping the other in powerful ways. This course explores how historical events have inspired music and how music, in turn, has influenced history. Through the study of composers, historical contexts, and the impact of significant songs, students will gain a deeper appreciation for the relationship between music and the past.

The course is offered as two independent half-year sessions, allowing students to take either one or both.

- Part 1 (Fall 20 Weeks): Covers music from the colonial era through the 19th century, including the Revolutionary War, Civil War, and early American folk traditions.

Students may take either session independently or as a full-year course. No prerequisites, though an understanding of American history is helpful.

Music In History - Part II

Teacher: Patrick Sullivan

District: LaFargeville Central School

Course Timeline: Spring - 20 WEEK COURSE - SPRING SEMESTER

Course Description:

History and music are deeply connected, each shaping the other in powerful ways. This course explores how historical events have inspired music and how music, in turn, has influenced history. Through the study of composers, historical contexts, and the impact of significant songs, students will gain a deeper appreciation for the relationship between music and the past.

The course is offered as two independent half-year sessions, allowing students to take either one or both.

- Part 2: (Spring 20 Weeks): Examines music from the 20th century to today, exploring the influence of jazz, rock, protest songs, and modern genres on historical and cultural movements.

Students may take either session independently or as a full-year course. No prerequisites, though an understanding of American history is helpful.

Science Courses

Anatomy and Physiology (Human Anatomy)

Teacher: Karlie Maloney

District: Lyme Central School

Course Timeline: FULL YEAR COURSE

Course Description:

Human Anatomy and Physiology is a class that focuses on human biological processes. We will be looking at multiple body systems including integumentary, cardiac, nervous, endocrine, immune, skeletal, muscular, reproductive, excretory, and digestive systems. Other topics that will be discussed include cytology, microscopy, and biochemistry. This class is beneficial to students looking to enter the medical field or any other science-based work field. Professions include Medical Doctor (MD), Doctorate of Philosophy (PhD), Physician Assistant (PA), Nurse Practitioner (NP), Lab Technician, Physical Therapist, Nurse, X-Ray Technician, CT Scan Technician, MRI Technician, Ultrasound Technician, Phlebotomist, Research Professional, Exercise Physiologist, Exercise Science, Personal Trainer, Sports Trainer, Kineshiologist, Biology Teacher or an Athletic Coach.

Prerequisite: Living Environment/Biology completion or concurrent enrollment

Bioethics

Teacher: Nadine Britton

District: Sackets Harbor Central School

Course Timeline: 20 WEEK COURSE - FALL SEMESTER

Course Description:

When was the last time you were talking with your friends and family and said: “Hey, can we chat about ethics?”

Most people either cannot define what they think ethics is, or they think of it as an abstract topic of debate based on religion, politics, or philosophy. However, you do engage in ethical discussions every day, whether you know it or not. The most common goal of ethics is to discover universal moral rules, or the nature of right and wrong actions..

Now let's apply ethics to the study of living things (Biology). This course is an introduction to BioEthics, focusing on ethical questions arising at the beginning and end of life. Topics will include the creation of offspring and the scope and limits of parental rights and responsibilities, the question of wrongful life, and prenatal moral status as well as legal questions related to markets for sperm, eggs, and gestation. We will also study and discuss dilemmas at the end of life, including the authority of advance directives, euthanasia, the use of life-saving therapies, and controversial violations of human rights.

Throughout this course, you will:

- Explore literature that focuses on BioEthical conversations and studies
- Participate in discussions about these pieces of literature, and the bioethical effects
- Research topics introduced during this course, and those of interest to you
- Participate in debates about different BioEthical topics
- Utilize technology to create sharable resources that investigate topics that are of interest

Pre-requisites:

- Students must have completed their HS Biology (for some may still be calling Living Environment) course
- Students should be in 11th, or 12th grade, due to the content level discussed throughout the course.

Summer Health

Teacher: Isabella Soluri

District: Alexandria Central

Course Timeline: SIX WEEK - **SUMMER SEMESTER** - JULY AND AUGUST

Course Description:

Summer Health is 6 weeks long, and students have 6 modules to complete. Essentially one module per week, however, they can move faster than that if they would like. They have weekly discussion posts, a big project at the end of each module, videos to watch, questions to answer, etc. It is a self-driven course requiring good time management to complete the work. This is the same course as Fall Health.

Topics covered may include:

- Decision-making and goal-setting
- Mental health
- Relationships
- Tobacco and Alcohol
- Illegal Drugs
- Reproductive Health

Fall Health

Teacher: Shane Countryman

District: LaFargeville Central

Course Timeline: SIX WEEK - **FALL SEMESTER**

Course Description:

Fall Health is 6 weeks long course and students have 6 modules to complete. Essentially one module per week, however, they can move faster than that if they would like. They have weekly discussion posts, a big project at the end of each module, videos to watch, questions to answer, etc. It is a self-driven course requiring good time management to complete the work. This is the same course as Summer Health.

Topics covered may include:

- Decision-making and goal-setting
- Mental health
- Relationships
- Tobacco and Alcohol
- Illegal Drugs
- Reproductive Health

Astronomy

Teacher: Deborah Wilkinson

District: Lyme Central School

Course Timeline: 20 WEEK COURSE - SPRING SEMESTER

Course Description:

Looking for an out-of-this-world adventure? This Introduction to Astronomy course will explore the mysteries of the universe! From the birth of stars to the discovery of exoplanets, you'll discover the wonders of the cosmos and expand your understanding of the vast universe we call home. With interactive simulations of the nighttime sky, captivating visuals, and hands-on activities, this course will ignite your curiosity and leave you starry-eyed.

In this course, you will:

- Interact with a simulation to manipulate the nighttime sky
- Learn about the stories of the sky-how civilizations used constellations to tell their stories
- Follow the study of Astronomy through history-what they knew then vs. what we know now
- Get outside and look at the nighttime sky as it changes throughout the semester
- Research the cycles of celestial objects and find them overhead (planets, ISS, Moon, etc.)

Introduction to Climatology

Teacher: Deborah Wilkinson

District: Lyme Central School

Course Timeline: 20 WEEK COURSE - FALL SEMESTER

Course Description:

Ready to unlock the secrets of our planet's climate? This climatology course is your chance to dive into the fascinating science of weather patterns, atmospheric phenomena, and causes of climate change. Discover how the Earth's systems work together to create the conditions we experience and explore the latest theories and models used to predict the future of our planet's climate. With a focus on real-world

applications and interactive learning, this course is the perfect way to develop the skills and knowledge you need to make a difference in the fight against climate change.

In this course, you will:

- Review weather patterns and air mass movement
- Investigate natural and human causes of climate change
- Analyze data related to heat loss and the greenhouse effect
- Discuss and correct misconceptions regarding Global Climate Change
- Research and plan ways you can make a difference

Social Studies Courses

Our Neighbor to the North: An Introduction to Canada

Teacher: John Cain

District: Copenhagen Central School

Course Timeline: FULL YEAR COURSE

Course Description:

It is the United State's 2nd largest trading partner, accounting for \$761 billion dollars of commerce in 2024. It contains a full one-third of all of the forested land in the world and is the second-largest country on the planet. Its people eat Beaver Tails and poutine, and despite its name, it is the birthplace of Hawaiian Pizza. Even though we live in a region that shares a part of the 5,525-mile border between the United States and Canada (8,891 kilometers if you are Canadian), the vast majority of people living in northern New York will never venture across that border. Though 13 U.S. States share that border with Canada, the longest unmilitarized border found anywhere in the world, there is no requirement in any U.S. state for Canadian history or Canadian studies classes to be taught to students.

This course will be a multidisciplinary look at the basics of Canadian geography, history, economics, politics, and culture. At the same time, it will examine contemporary events and issues that have influenced the development of Canada. Canada has a complex and rich history all its own, one that is sometimes, but not always, intertwined with the events happening in the United States. Special attention will be paid to that important relationship between the two nations

Early 20th Century Warfare (1900-1949)

Teacher: Daniel Lawson

District: Lyme Central School

Course Timeline: 20 WEEK COURSE - FALL SEMESTER

Course Description:

This course will focus on the major wars and conflicts of the early 20th century, and the impacts they had on people, culture, and society around the world. Each week students will examine one conflict, as we work our way through the early 20th century. By studying the mistakes and conflicts of the past, we may learn some lessons on how to create a more peaceful future.

Throughout this course, you will:

- Research the battles, people, and technology of various conflicts
- Make connections between conflicts that span different periods.
- Interact with primary and secondary sources

Late 20th Century Warfare (1950-1999)

Teacher: Daniel Lawson

District: Lyme Central School

Course Timeline: 20 COURSE - SPRING SEMESTER

Course Description:

This course will focus on the major wars and conflicts of the late 20th century, and the impacts they had on people, culture, and society around the world. Each week students will examine one conflict, as we work our way through the late 20th century. By studying the mistakes and conflicts of the past, we may learn some lessons on how to create a more peaceful future.

Throughout this course, you will:

- Research the battles, people, and technology of various conflicts
- Make connections between conflicts that span different periods.
- Interact with primary and secondary sources

Genocide Studies

Teacher: Zachary Makuch

District: Copenhagen Central School

Course Timeline: 20 WEEK COURSE - SPRING SEMESTER

In Genocide Studies you will learn about various genocides that occurred throughout the 20th century, which includes the following genocides: Armenian, the Holocaust, Cambodian, Rwandan, Bosnian, etc. You will read first-hand accounts, watch films, and analyze other forms of media to gain a greater understanding of why humans commit genocide. We will watch *The Promise* and *Schindler's List* during this course. The course will conclude with a research paper on various acts of genocide throughout history.

History on the St. Lawrence River and Lake Ontario

Teacher: Patrick Sullivan

District: LaFargeville Central School

Course Timeline: 20 WEEK COURSE - FALL SEMESTER

A history class focusing on events from Northern New York focused on the St. Lawrence River and Lake Ontario. The course examines momentous events in local history, especially those with national

implications. Many online resources are used to consider the major role the waterways of Jefferson County have played in North American History.

Specific events or topics include: Native America, the French and Indian War, the War of 1812, the Underground Railroad, the Thousand Islands Bridge, and fugitives from Justice Pirate William Johnston and Yippie Abbie Hoffman.

Personal Historical Preservation

Teacher: Zachary Makuch

District: Copenhagen Central School

Course Timeline: 20 WEEK COURSE - FALL SEMESTER

This course will teach you how to preserve your family history. You will conduct interviews with family members, and conduct other research to learn more about your family history. Everything you discover throughout the course will be published for you to keep and share with your family. It is important to preserve history for future generations, and your history is just as important.

Technology Courses

Introduction to Web Page Design: HTML & CSS

Teacher: Adam Staab

District: Copenhagen Central School

Course Timeline: FULL YEAR COURSE

Course Description:

Introduction to Web Page Design will teach students how to utilize HTML and CSS to construct websites from scratch. Students will also be shown the process of purchasing a domain name, acquiring domain space, and utilizing an FTP client to update their site. After this course, students will have the ability to create and post a static website (like Newzjunky) to the web.

Computer Science Principles

Teacher: Angela Schermerhorn

District: Carthage Central School

Course Timeline: FULL YEAR COURSE

Course Description:

CSP is an introductory-level course meant for all students. In this course, you'll learn how computers and technology impact our daily lives from the apps we use, to how our data is collected, to how AI can have positive and negative consequences. You will use a coding language to create multiple apps.

Prerequisite: You don't need an advanced understanding of coding to succeed, but you are recommended to complete one year of introductory Algebra.