# B.G.M. HIGH SCHOOL

## Course Description Guidebook

## 2026-2027



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# B.G.M. COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

## EDUCATIONAL EQUITY

1. **Equal Educational Opportunity**

Students enrolled in the B.G.M. School District shall have an equal opportunity for a quality public education without discrimination regardless of race, color, national origin, gender, disability, religion, creed, age, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity and socio economic status in compliance with Title VI, Title IX, and Section 504. Inquiries regarding compliance with equal educational opportunities shall be directed to the Superintendent of Schools, BGM School District, 1090 Jackson Street, Brooklyn, IA 52211 or by phoning 641/522-7058.

## STUDENT DUE PROCESS RIGHTS

It shall be the policy of the B.G.M. School District to provide for student due process rights. Board Policies provide legitimate and reasonable channels through which policy interpretations may be resolved.

# LEVEL-ONE ABUSE INVESTIGATOR NOTICE

It is the policy of the B.G.M. Community School District that school employees not commit acts of physical or sexual abuse, including inappropriate and intentional sexual behavior, toward students. Any school employee who commits such acts is subject to disciplinary sanctions up to and including discharge.

The B.G.M. Community School District has appointed the high school principal as level-one investigator and the elementary principal as alternate. The district will respond promptly to allegations of abuse of students by school employees by investigating or arranging for full investigation of any allegation, and to do so in a reasonable manner. The complaint or allegation will be handled confidentially to the maximum extent possible.

# GENERAL SUGGESTIONS ABOUT PROGRAM PLANNING

One of the most important duties a student and his parents have in regard to a successful high school education is making a proper choice of subjects. You should evaluate your past educational experiences to help you make decisions in regard to your future experiences. Each of you wishes to obtain an ideal education - an education which will insure you a happy and worthwhile life. Remember each of you is a different individual, and what experiences may be best for your close friends may be totally inadequate for you.

There are required subjects which must be taken by all students. These requirements are established by state law and the board of education of the B.G.M. Community School. These required subjects serve as a basic framework to build your education around. In addition many electives are offered to help round out your high school program. This booklet is primarily concerned with these electives to help give you the information necessary to make choices. Your choice of electives should be determined by your interests and aptitudes in subject matter areas as well as future plans following graduation. Don't forget to consider your needs and not just your likes or dislikes. Too often a student chooses a subject just on the basis of likes and dislikes, not considering what might be best for future needs. **The decisions you make today could be extremely important to your future life. Do not take it lightly.**

Study the course offerings carefully, and consult with the counselor, teachers, principal, and parents while making your decisions.

Every day the high school receives recommendation forms from businesses and/or schools of higher education requesting information concerning students who are in school or have graduated. The most frequent questions pertain to scholastic records, personality, behavior, attendance, and reliability as shown by your permanent record. Since your high school record can count for or against you all during your life, we strongly urge you to make certain it is the best you can possibly compile.

# DEFINITION OF TERMS

**Credits** Credits are earned and applied towards graduation for passing a subject or course. Generally one credit is earned for each semester of successful study, but there are exceptions. Example:

American History - 2 credits (2 semester course)
American Government - 1 credit (1 semester course)
Physical Education - 1/2 credit per year

**Required** Any course required for graduation by state law and board of education. Sometimes, such as in mathematics, a certain number of credits are required for graduation but the student may select from a number of courses, since specific courses are not required.

**Elective** Course other than those specifically required for graduation.

**Prerequisite** A course which must be completed before an advanced course may be selected. Example: Biology must be completed before taking Human Anatomy. It should be understood that the student must also meet the requirement for Human Anatomy which is Biology.

**Co-requisite** A course of study that at least is taken simultaneously with said selected course.

**Independent Study** Under certain circumstances a student may complete the requirements for a course outside of the regular classroom. The student receives instructions and guidance from a teacher but assumes most of the responsibility for completing the course requirements.

# GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS OVERVIEW

1. Every student in grades nine, ten, eleven, and twelve is required to carry six (6) credits each semester, plus physical education.

2. The following are required for graduation.

   A. Mathematics: (6 credits)

   B. English: (8 credits)
   English I is to be taken in the ninth grade, English II in the tenth grade, and English III in the eleventh grade. Two additional semesters from electives are required.

   C. Natural Science: (6 credits)
   Students should take Physical Science in ninth grade, Biology in tenth grade, and two semesters of an elective science course of their choice in eleventh or twelfth grade..

   D. Social Studies: (7 credits)
   All students in ninth grade must take a semester of Citizenship**.** All students in 10th grade must take American History and eleventh grade must take World History. Twelfth grade students must take one semester of American Government that is offered first semester. The additional credit must be selected from the social studies electives.

   E. Physical Education: (2 credits)
   Successful completion of four years of physical education or weight training is required for all students.

   F. Personal Finance: (1 credit)
   Each student must complete one semester of Personal Finance before graduation.

   G. Electives: (18 credits) Throughout the four years of high school, all students must complete a minimum of 18 Elective credits.

4. Every student is required to complete a minimum of 48 credits to graduate.

5. A student may receive credits by taking dual credit college courses to help meet graduation requirements. Registration and approval must be granted by the counselor and/or principal. Students must be proficient on ISASP to take college courses.

***If a student does not meet the graduation requirements at the time of graduation, a committee will evaluate their status to walk at the graduation ceremony prior to graduation.***

# EARLY GRADUATION

Students who plan to graduate early should plan carefully for credits and requirements. Any senior who wishes to graduate early must notify the high school principal no later than the end of the first nine-week period of the year in which they wish to graduate. Parental approval is required before further consideration can be given.

# BGM Graduation Requirements
# 2026-2027
# 48 Credits - Minimum Requirement

| | |
|---|---|
| **Language Arts - 8.00 credits** | **8.00** |
| *English I - 2.00 | |
| *English II - 2.00 | |
| *English III - 2.00 | |
| English Electives - 2.00 | |
| **Mathematics - 6.00 credits** | **6.00** |
| *Math Electives - 6.00 | |
| **Science - 6.00 credits** | **6.00** |
| *Physical Science - 2.00 | |
| *Biology - 2.00 | |
| Science Elective - 2.00 | |
| **Social Studies - 7.00 credits** | **7.00** |
| *Citizenship - 1.00 | |
| *American History - 2.00 | |
| *World History - 2.00 | |
| *American Government - 1.00 | |
| Social Studies Elective - 1.00 | |
| **Personal Finance - 1.00 credit** | **1.00** |
| Consumer Math - 1.00 | |
| **OR** Personal Finance - 1.00 (will count as a Elective credit) | |
| **Physical Education - 2.00 credits** | **2.00** |
| Physical Education - .25 | |
| **OR** Weight Training - .25 | |
| **OR** Cardio PE - .25 | |
| **OR** Flex PE - .25 (allowed 1 semester per year if in sports) | |
| **Electives - 18.00 credits** | **18.00** |
| **TOTAL CREDITS** | **48.00** |

**- BGM SCHOOL BOARD POLICY -**
**EVERY STUDENT MUST MAINTAIN 6.25 CREDITS PER SEMESTER.**
**(OR 12.50 CREDITS PER YEAR)**

# CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION (CTE) AT BGM HIGH SCHOOL

The State of Iowa requires that each school district offers at least four of the six vocational programs. BGM offers programs in the vocational areas of business, family and consumer science, agriculture and industrial technology.
Each program has to offer six classes (semesters) of instruction. These classes can be taken consecutively from the freshman through senior years. Some classes are prerequisites for the next class and must be taken in sequential order. Others may be taken as the student's schedule permits.

The sequential units for these programs are listed below and are explained in the following pages.

**Business**

Computer Applications - 1 semester
Intro to Business-1 semester
Accounting I – 1 semester
Accounting II - 1 semester
Entrepreneurship – 2 semesters

**Family and Consumer Sciences**

Foods I - 1 semester
Foods II - 1 semester
Baking I - 1 semester
Baking II - 1 semester
Culinary Ventures I - 1 semester
Culinary Ventures II - 1 semester
Skills for Work - 1 semester
Travel Industry Careers - 1 semester

**Industrial Technology**

Tech I - 2 semesters
Tech II - 2 semesters

**Agriculture**

Intro to Agriculture - 2 semesters
Farm Business Management - 1 semester
Ag Plant Science - 1 semester
Ag Mechanics - 1 semester (at HLV)

In addition to the above requirements, BGM also offers two work based learning courses. These courses provide students with opportunities for career exploration and skill development in real world situations. This experience adds relevancy to the classroom and helps students see the importance of their learning regardless of their future decisions.

**Work Based Learning**
iJag - 2 semesters
Work Experience

# COLLEGE ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

In making considerations about college or trade school, a student should obtain information about general and specific entrance requirements from the college website or the college admission counselor.

The following is a recommendation of adequate background for college work.

A. Graduation from an approved high school shall ordinarily precede admission to college. The student who applies for admission to an institution of higher learning shall, in general, have:

- Completed a balance of studies designed to insure a well rounded background of knowledge in basic fields.
- Developed proficiency in the use of the English language in reading, writing, and speaking.
- Acquired proficiency in basic mathematical skills.
- Developed effective study skills and work habits.
- Developed an adequate intellectual, physical, moral and social maturity.
- Developed a sincere interest in further formal education.

B. Those planning to enter college should be guided by the following standards in completing their preparatory academic work:

- English: Since the ability to write clearly and to read with understanding and appreciation are essential to success in college, it is highly desirable that the student complete at least four units in English, with strong emphasis in writing. (A unit consists of two credits).

- Mathematics: Mathematics has much to offer, not only as a tool to further learning, but also as a means of providing basic education. Three years of such study should be the minimum for those planning to attend college. Students should complete at least four units or more in high school mathematics if they are planning to enter the science or engineering fields.

- Social Studies: Social studies, such as history, government, economics, and psychology, are basic to the understanding and solution of contemporary problems in the community, in the nation and in the world. From three to four units may be devoted to this area by the prospective college student

- Foreign Language: Foreign language courses prepare students to speak the language, as well as to learn about the culture of the country. At least two units should be completed.

- Computer Literacy: All students planning to attend college should have a basic knowledge of computer skills.

# Iowa Board of Regents
# High School Course Requirements

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

| Subject Area | Iowa State University | University of Iowa | University of Northern Iowa |
|---|---|---|---|
| English/Language Arts | 4 years emphasizing writing, speaking, and reading, as well as an understanding and appreciation of literature. | 4 years, with an emphasis on the analysis and interpretation of literature, composition and speech. | 4 years, including one year of composition; may also include one year of speech, communication, or journalism. |
| Math | 3 years, including one year each of algebra, geometry, and advanced algebra. | 3 years, including two years of algebra and one year of geometry, for admission to the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.<br><br>4 years, including two years of algebra, one year each of geometry and higher math (trigonometry, analysis or calculus), for admission to the College of Engineering. | 3 years, including the equivalent of algebra, geometry and algebra II. |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Natural Science | 3 years, including at least two years of courses which emphasize elements of biology, chemistry or physics. | 3 years, including courses in physical science, biology, chemistry, environmental science and physics for admission to the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.<br><br>3 years, with at least one year each in chemistry and physics, for admission to the College of Engineering. Nursing - 3 years including one year each of biology, chemistry and physics. | 3 years, including courses in general science, biology, chemistry, earth science or physics. Laboratory experience highly recommended. |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Social Studies | 2 years for admission to the Colleges of Agriculture and Life Sciences, Business, Design, Human Sciences and Engineering.<br><br>3 years for admission to the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. | 3 years, with U.S. history and world history recommended for admission to the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.<br><br>2 years, with U.S. history and world history recommended, for admission to the College of Engineering. | 3 years, including courses in anthropology, economics, geography, government, history, psychology or sociology. |
| World Languages | 2 years of a single world language for admission to the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and the College of Engineering. | 2 years of a single world language are required for admission. For many degrees, the fourth year of proficiency is required for graduation. Nursing - Minimum second-level proficiency in one world language. | World language courses are not required for admission. However, two years of a world language in high school with a C- or above in the last term will meet the university graduation requirement. |
| Other Courses | Specific elective courses are not required for admission. | Specific elective courses are not required for admission. | 2 years of additional courses from the required subject areas, world languages or fine arts. |

# COLLEGE COURSE OPTIONS

## BGM Community School District is contracted with Iowa Valley Community College to provide concurrent enrollment college courses for high school students that are eligible and interested in obtaining college credit while in high school.

## SENIOR YEAR PLUS (SYP) LEGISLATION

The Post-Secondary Enrollment Options Act was enacted in 1987 and now is referred as Concurrent courses is to promote rigorous academic pursuits and to provide a wider variety of options to high school students by enabling Students to enroll part-time in nonsectarian courses in eligible post-secondary institutions of higher learning in Iowa.

A student enrolled in a post-secondary course will receive credit towards graduation from that course upon successful completion. There will be no charge to the student for tuition, textbooks or fees. However, a student may be required to purchase equipment that becomes property of the student. The student must provide their own transportation to and from the post-secondary institution.

Students must be proficient on the Iowa Statewide Assessment of Student Progress (ISASP) testing in the areas of Math, Reading and Science to be eligible to take college courses. Certain courses (Math and English) have test score requirements. ACT or ACCUPLACER scores are accepted to meet those requirements.

High School students wanting to pursue college courses should contact the high school counselor for more information.

Read more information about the Iowa Department of Education Senior Year Plus legislation at:
https://educate.iowa.gov/media/1184/download?inline

*For further information, please see page 44 of this document, "Dual Credit Program Agreement".*

## BGM GRADING SCALE
## 2026-2027

| Grade | GPA | Cutoff | Grade Value |
|---|---|---|---|
| A | 4 | 94 | 100 |
| A- | 3.667 | 90 | 93 |
| B+ | 3.333 | 87 | 89 |
| B | 3 | 84 | 86 |
| B- | 2.667 | 80 | 83 |
| C+ | 2.333 | 77 | 79 |
| C | 2 | 74 | 76 |
| C- | 1.667 | 70 | 73 |
| D+ | 1.333 | 67 | 69 |
| D | 1 | 64 | 66 |
| D- | 0.667 | 60 | 63 |
| F | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| I | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| NG | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| P | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | | | |

# B.G.M. HIGH SCHOOL
# PASS-FAIL OPTION

Students may take certain courses on a pass-fail basis. The following guidelines have been adopted for those students who wish to take courses on this basis:

1. The student will receive a grade of P (pass) or F (fail) upon completion of the course.

2. The student will receive credit upon the successful completion of the course, and this credit will become part of his permanent record - indicated by a (P) or an (F).

3. Students desiring to take a course on a pass-fail basis need to receive prior written approval from the teacher and the guidance counselor.

4. Students deciding to use the Pass/Fail option need to declare this at the end of the first quarter for the first semester grades. Students will need to do this at the end of the third quarter for second semester grades. Students will have one week to complete the paperwork after the designated quarter (first or third) is over in order for this to count.

# BGM HIGH SCHOOL CORE REQUIREMENT CLASSES

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**On the following pages are the current course offerings for core requirement classes.**


| | *Pages* |
|---|---|
| **English Language Arts** | **17-20** |
| **Mathematics** | **21-22** |
| **Science** | **23-24** |
| **Social Studies** | **25-26** |
| **Physical Education** | **27** |
| **Financial Literacy** | **28** |

# ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

**Requirements: 8 credits for graduation**

## English I

Required — Grade Level: 9
Credits: 2 — Semester: Full year
Prerequisite: None

The course will focus on many aspects of reading, writing, speaking, and listening, as well as basic language skills. Students will be immersed into literature, informative texts, and fictional pieces, working to analyze various aspects of the readings, such as characterization, topic connections among writers, and complex themes. Students will work to improve their writing skills, with a major focus on organizing ideas, conducting research, and showing deep analysis through their writing, with argumentative, informative, and narrative pieces.

## English II

Required — Grade Level: 10
Credits: 2 — Semester: Full year
Prerequisite: English I

In order to prepare all BGM Secondary Students for College and Career Readiness, English II aligns with Iowa Core English II Curriculum Standards and Iowa House of Representative File Number HF2197 to provide instruction in reading, writing, speaking, listening, and language. Students engage with a variety of literary texts, including both literature and literary nonfiction. Students read works of exceptional craft and thought across a variety of genres, cultures, and centuries. The course also includes an examination of the genres, writing techniques, themes, and styles associated with fictional literature. Students will be asked to analyze literature and think critically about idea development. They learn to evaluate intricate arguments and complex texts. When writing, students consider task, purpose, and audience, producing nuanced and high-quality compositions. Students will learn to develop literary analysis with support from the text, identify, reflect and analyze elements of poetry, short stories, novels, plays and literature based films. Writing assignments include narrative, expository, analytical, and argumentative essays that require students to analyze as well as interpret literary texts. Writing Skills are developed through Narrative, Argumentative, Research and Literary Analysis Essays, critical reflection paragraphs, Public Speaking Presentations, and various Literacy Projects. They also use technology strategically for writing and visual media. English II Students participate in rich, structured conversations—whole class, small groups, and with partners—around grade level content. Students will analyze and synthesize ideas, making comparisons and contrasts according to discipline-specific standards of evidence. Students learn conventions of Standard English, choosing words, syntax, and all facets of grammar effectively.

## English III

Required — Grade Level: 11
Credits: 2 — Semester: Full year
Prerequisite: English II

In order to prepare all BGM Secondary Students for College and Career Readiness, English III aligns with Iowa Core English III Curriculum Standards and Iowa House of Representative File Number HF2197 to provide instruction in reading, writing, speaking, listening, and language. English III builds on the structures of reading and writing, using a variety of materials representing different literary forms and authors. This course surveys primarily American literature in multiple styles/genres: essays, poems, short stories, novels, and plays. Students will analyze and evaluate informational and literary works in conjunction with American Historical Events beginning with the Native American Oral Tradition and continuing into the contemporary period of the present. An emphasis on American Literature through a global perspective will support critical analysis of author's style, character motivation, point of view, mood, and tone. Composition will focus on synthesizing new understandings with background knowledge and gain insight into the author's craft while adhering to conventions generally established in conventions, usage, syntax, and style. Through reading and viewing media, students will explore major questions surrounding the American Identity including literature as a reflection of society, and catalysts for social change. Students will compose in a variety of genres including narrative, expository, analytical, and argumentative essays that require students to analyze as well as interpret literary texts. Writing Skills are developed through Narrative, Argumentative, Research and Literary Analysis Essays, critical reflection paragraphs, Public Speaking Presentations, and various Literacy Projects. They also use technology strategically for writing and visual media. English II Students participate in rich, structured conversations—whole class, small groups, and with partners—around grade level content. Students will analyze and synthesize ideas, making comparisons and contrasts according to discipline specific standards of evidence. Students learn conventions of Standard English, choosing words, syntax, and all facets of grammar effectively.

## Creative Writing

Elective — Grade Level: 9-12
Credits: 1 — Semester: First or Second
Prerequisite: None

Creative Writing is a semester-long course aimed to help students improve their writing mechanics and overall writing skills. Students will be shown how to properly structure a written essay on a variety of topics. Writing in many genres will be covered including persuasive essays, letter writing, poetry, narratives, and other fiction and non-fiction writing.

## Reading Enhancement

Elective
Credits: 1 — Grade Level: 9-12
Prerequisite: None — Semester: First or Second

The goal of this class is to do exactly what the title says: Enhance the reading skills and overall reading experiences of the students who take it. During this semester-long course, students will be expected to read on their own, keep a log of what they read, and be able to craft a report on books and authors. Students will also read novels as a class and examine the historical context of these novels. In addition to this, students will be presented with activities that aim to help improve their reading comprehension such as plot elements, common character type research, and point of view analysis.

# ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS COLLEGE CLASSES

## Composition- Semester 1

Elective
Credits: 1 Grade Level: 11-12
Prerequisite: English II, Proficient score on ACT or Accuplacer Semester: First

The course will focus on gaining an understanding of the process of writing as well as the application writing strategies of description, comparison/contrast, definition, narration, exemplification, cause-effect, analysis, metaphor, and persuasion. We will learn pre-writing strategies, understand aspects of sentence structure, and build a writing relationship with the audience. At the end of the semester, students should be able to apply various writing solutions to different writing situations and understand that there may be more than one strategy to any writing problem. Students will be required to write narrative, descriptive, cause/effect, comparison/contrast and argumentative essays.

## Public Speaking- Semester 1

Elective
Credits: 1 Grade Level: 11-12
Prerequisite: English II, Proficient score on ACT or Accuplacer Semester: First

A wealth of technical reading will be analyzed, while a variety of speaking, critical reflection, and writing will also be part of the Public Speaking Curriculum. Students' learning will center on expressing complex thoughts through effective writing, speaking, research, communication analysis, and critical reflection. Students will concentrate on analyzing the elements of communication in everyday as well as business and professional settings. Writer's tools in all oral as well as written presentation genres which include oral storytelling, drama, poetry, informative speaking, persuasive speaking, and organization communication will be studied. In other words, students will study all key aspects of human communication as it occurs in various socio-politically climates so that they will have a sound basis for analyzing and reflecting on each of the other genres or forms of human communication. Students will be expected to read independently throughout the course of the semester in order to formulate enduring understandings of human communication, contemporary culture, and socio-political aspects of human communication in relation or juxtaposition to developing global culture as well as the history of human communication beginning with Greco-Roman public address through present day public communications. In addition to understanding public speaking theory, students are required to complete two informative speeches, two persuasive speeches and one small group presentation.

## Composition II- Semester 2

Elective
Credits: 1 Grade Level: 11-12
Prerequisite: Composition I Semester: Second

The course will focus on gaining an understanding of the process of writing as well as the application writing strategies of description, comparison/contrast, definition, narration, exemplification, cause-effect, analysis, metaphor, and persuasion. We will learn pre-writing strategies, understand aspects of sentence structure, and build a writing relationship with the audience. At the end of the semester, students should be able to apply various writing solutions to different writing situations and understand that there may be more than one strategy to any writing problem. Students are required to write substantial argumentative research essays. Students will also engage in essay and presentation projects that promote critical analyses of selected writings as well as literature.

## Introduction to Literature- Semester 2

Elective
Credits: 1 Grade Level: 11-12
Prerequisite: English II, Proficient score on ACT or Accuplacer Semester: Second

Introduction to Literature gives students the opportunity to survey the history of literature.. The course also gives the students a space to read a variety of literature. Two novels will be read as group projects. To help the students prepare to respond to novels in group projects as well as individually, the course curriculum will be divided into four parts. In the first part of the course, students will concentrate on recognizing the elements of fiction and the writer's tools in the short story, which will be applied to the two whole group novel projects. Short Stories Readings will be taken from authors, who are novelists or who have influenced novelists. Students will also be taken through a step-by-step process in preparation for the writing of literary analysis essays. Students will spend approximately 50 percent of the course studying the short story since success in the other areas of study depends upon mastery of the basic elements of fiction as applied to novels.
Bottom of Form

# MATHEMATICS

**Requirements: 6 credits for graduation**

## Pre-Algebra

Elective
Credits: 2 Grade Level: 9-12
Prerequisite: None Semester: Full year

Pre-algebra serves as a bridge between basic arithmetic and formal algebra. It focuses on building a solid foundation for algebraic thinking by introducing concepts like variables, equations, and inequalities, along with foundational geometry and problem-solving strategies.

## Algebra I

Elective Grade Level: 9-12
Credits: 2 Semester: Full year
Prerequisite: None

This Algebra I course introduces students to the fundamentals of algebra, including variables, expressions, equations, inequalities, and functions. Students will learn to solve linear equations and inequalities, work with polynomials, factor expressions, and explore quadratic functions. Emphasis is placed on developing problem-solving skills and understanding the connections between algebra and real-world applications. This course serves as a foundation for future mathematics courses, including Geometry and Algebra II.

## Geometry

Elective Grade Level: 9-12
Credits: 2 Semester: Full year
Prerequisite: Algebra I

This Geometry course introduces students to the foundational concepts of geometry, including points, lines, planes, angles, triangles, and circles. Students will explore congruence, similarity, transformations, and the Pythagorean Theorem, using both deductive reasoning and algebraic techniques to solve problems and prove theorems. The course emphasizes critical thinking and problem-solving skills, preparing students for advanced mathematics courses such as Algebra II and Pre-Calculus.

## Algebra II

Elective Grade Level: 10-12
Credits: 2 Semester: Full year
Prerequisite: Algebra I

This Algebra II course builds on concepts from Algebra I, introducing students to advanced algebraic topics such as complex numbers, logarithms, exponential functions, and polynomial functions. Students will also explore systems of equations, quadratic functions and radical functions. The course emphasizes problem-solving, critical thinking, and the application of algebraic concepts to real-world scenarios. Algebra II prepares students for higher-level mathematics courses, including Pre-Calculus and Calculus.

## Pre-Calculus

Elective
Credits: 2
Prerequisite: Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II

Grade Level: 11,12
Semester: Full year

This Pre-Calculus course prepares students for the study of calculus by covering advanced algebraic concepts, trigonometry, and the fundamentals of analytical geometry. Topics include polynomial, rational, exponential, and logarithmic functions, as well as trigonometric functions, identities, and equations. Students will also explore vectors and sequences and series. Emphasis is placed on developing strong analytical and problem-solving skills. This course serves as a critical bridge to Calculus and other advanced mathematics courses.

## Applied Math

Elective
Credits: 2
Prerequisites: Algebra I, Geometry

Grade Level: 11, 12
Semester: Full year

Applied Math provides the practical mathematics skills needed in a wide variety of trade, technical, and other occupational areas including plumbing, automotive, electrical and construction trades, machine technology, landscaping, HVAC, allied health, and many more. This class assists students by providing a direct, practical approach that emphasizes careful, complete explanations and actual on the job applications.

Special attention has been given to on-the-job math skills by using a wide variety of real problems and situations. Many problems parallel those that appear on professional and apprenticeship exams.

# SCIENCE

**Requirements: 6 credits for graduation**

## Physical Science

Required — Grade Level: 9
Credits: 2 — Semester: Full year
Prerequisite: None

Physical Science provides the student with the necessary groundwork for understanding the laws of physics and chemistry. The units studied are measurement and motion, classification of matter, changes in matter, and energy resources. Study emphasis is placed on understanding many phenomena that occur in everyday life. Much emphasis is placed on the development of good study habits through the frequent exercise of note taking. Written assignments are assigned each day.

## Biology

Required — Grade Level: 10
Credits: 2 — Semester: Full year
Prerequisite: Physical Science

Biology is designed to give the student a general understanding of living things through regular classroom and laboratory experiences. Student emphasis is placed on studying the animal kingdom from simple to complex. Each Biology student is given an opportunity in the laboratory to observe animal organs by dissecting a frog and turtle. The students will also be given the opportunity to observe and relate fruit fly reproduction to human genetics.

## Environmental Science

Elective — Grade Level: 11, 12
Credits: 2 — Semester: Full Year

This class will study the basic principles of ecology dealing with organisms and their interactions with living and nonliving features of their environment. Areas of focus may include populations, communities and ecosystems, evolution and biology of differing vertebrate lineages, with an emphasis on the natural history of vertebrate fauna native to the state of Iowa. This may include, but is not limited to, species identification, habitat requirements, community structure and assessment, and conservation issues.

## Anatomy

Elective — Grade Level: 11, 12
Credits: 2 — Semester: Full year
Prerequisite: Biology

The Human Anatomy student studies the structure and function of the human body and its component parts. All body systems will be covered…some in more depth than others. Students will study the effects of diseases on the human body. Lab work conducted by each student includes the dissection of a fetal pig, cat and calf brain, and pig.

## Chemistry

Elective
Credits: 2
Prerequisite: Biology
Co-requisite: Algebra II

Grade Level: 11, 12
Semester: Full year

Chemistry is the study of the chemical properties of matter and is of value whether the student plans on going to college or to a career which involves chemistry. During the course, the student studies measurements, calculating in scientific notation, the nature of matter, chemical formulas, reactions and equations, the mole, atomic and molecular structure, the periodic table, properties of elements, chemical bonding and polar molecules, the kinetic theory of matter, heat and thermodynamics, solutions, solids, liquids and gases, and organic chemistry. The class proceeds on a lecture-discussion-lab format and much emphasis is placed on problem solving. The laboratory is used to teach each student the basic chemical lab techniques, and to illustrate laws and principles discussed in class.

## Physics (This course is not being offered this year.)

Elective
Credits: 2
Prerequisite: Biology
Co-requisite: Algebra II

Grade Level: 12
Semester: Full year

In studying Physics, the student deals with the laws, properties and interactions of matter, motion and energy. The class is recommended for the student wishing to get into a science or health related field. During the course, the student covers the topics of measurement, graphical analysis of motion, kinematics, dynamics, vectors, work and energy, conservation of energy and momentum, thermodynamics, the kinetic theory of matter, electrostatics, electric circuits, and magnetism. The class format is lecture-discussion, but much of the class time involves the student in problem solving. Laboratory exercises and demonstrations are used and tests are based primarily on the mastery of vocabulary and problem solving. *(This course is offered every other year.)*

## Computer Science

Elective
Credits: 2

Grade Level: 10-12
Semester: Full year

Every 21st century student should have the opportunity to learn computer science. The basics of computer science help nurture creativity and problem-solving skills, preparing students for a future in any field or career.

Whether you're interested in the arts, engineering, culture, design, or technology, CS Discoveries shows you how to bring your ideas and interests to life—no experience necessary! Learn how to make your own website, design an app, program a game, and even create physical devices that interact with the outside world. You'll learn the computer science underlying the technology you use every day and then **get the skills** to bring your own version to life.

# SOCIAL STUDIES

**Requirements: 7 credits for graduation**

## Citizenship: U.S. and Beyond

Required — Grade Level: 9
Credits: 1 — Semester: First
Prerequisite: None

This course will look at the dynamics of being a citizen of the United States and a citizen of the world. After a foundation in the rights, responsibilities, and duties of U.S. citizenship the course will move to look at what other responsibilities we need in relation to Global Issues. A look at the Earth and the independence of ecosystems that operate regardless of political boundaries will lead to a discussion of issues at the international level. We will look at responses from world organizations (NATO, WTO, UN) to issues that move beyond political borders. In general, the course desires to educate students on citizenship in a world that is increasingly interdependent both environmentally & economically.

## American History

Required — Grade Level: 10
Credits: 2 — Semester: Full year

American History students study the history of the United States from 1850 to the present. An emphasis of the course, through various and interesting teaching methods, is to meet the needs of all students. This course will follow many themes throughout the semester including: the examination of the development of several aspects of US society and culture including: work, popular culture, racism, war etc. Women, radicals, immigrants, to go along with typical U.S. narrative. We will also look beyond social and cultural themes to often look at high politics and economic themes such as: The presidency, federal power, industry and business, foreign policy.

## World History

Required — Grade Level: 11
Credits: 2 — Semester: Full year
Prerequisite: American History

In World History students use multiple lenses to look at historical topics. An emphasis is placed on the multidisciplinary approach to doing history that might include the professions of archeology, anthropology, and other science fields as well as the historian. We look to identify and think like a historian by understanding the concepts of: cause and effect, continuity and change turning points, using the past, and empathy. We work through units that include: Historiography/Historical Skills, Early Humans, Agriculture and forming Civilizations, Expansion and Interconnection, Acceleration and the Modern World, Women's Studies, and Future predictions.

## American Government

Required
Credits: 1
Prerequisite: American History

Grade Level: 12
Semester: First

American Government has a strong focus on the Constitution and the Bill of Rights and elements of our Constitutional democracy such as voting. Units studied include: The Philosophical and Historical Roots of the American System, How the Constitution was Created?, How has the Constitution Been Changed to Further the Ideals of the Declaration of Independence?, How Have the Values of the Constitution Shaped our Institutions?, What Rights Does the Bill of Rights Protect?, and Future Challenges.

## Iowa History

Elective
Credit: 1
Prerequisite

Grade Level: 11, 12
Semester: Second

This course provides the context of Iowa's history necessary for the interpretation of Iowa's culture, and its role within local, state and national affairs. A broad look from native inhabitants to the present will give a basis to place an emphasis on key personalities and the social, cultural, economic, and political developments that have impacted the lives of Iowans. In working through materials, students will practice the methods of study of a historian. These practices will enable students to develop the necessary goals of a social studies course.

## Sociology

Elective
Credits: 1
Prerequisite: None

Grade Level: 9-12
Semester: Second

We live in a world that is changing very quickly. Sociology gives us the tools to understand our own lives and those quite remote from us. This class intends to teach the sociological perspective to learn how to ask certain basic questions. How are the things that we take to be naturally socially constructed? How do we live today? How determined is social life? Does the individual make a difference? How is social order possible? Along the way, we will study core concepts including ethnocentrism, social networks, community, unanticipated consequences, social capital, race, class, and gender.

## Modern Wars

Elective
Credits: 1
Prerequisite: American History

Grade Level: 10-12
Semester: Second

We begin with 9/11 and work back to WW 1. Study includes the role of veterans, leaders, military actions, weaponry, and geography of the area in conflict. An emphasis of the course includes why conflict began and how these conflicts ended. Also, how each of these conflicts impacted the U.S. and other countries of the world. The course ends with a field trip to the Gold Star Museum at Camp Dodge in Johnston and a stop at the Brooklyn Historical Museum, downtown, which has displays of local veteran participation and memorabilia. A good background in American History is essential for this course as we take a narrower look at what happened with conflict and the U.S.

# PHYSICAL EDUCATION

## Physical Education

Required
Credits: 1/2
Prerequisite: None

Grade Level: 9-12
Semester: Full year

This class would include such activities as: weight training, cross-fit, yoga, volleyball, archery, badminton, softball, flag football, and various other activities to improve students physical health.

## Weight Training

Required
Credits: 1/2
Prerequisite: None

Grade Level: 9-12
Semester: Full year

In weight lifting we do a variety of different lifts on a daily basis. Our core lifts are bench, deadlift and squat. With some variations of box squat and towel bench added in on different days. Additionally, we will have several opportunities to do a variety of auxiliary lifts that will supplement all of the core lifts being done daily. Furthermore, the weight room has an amazing cardio area where students can run on a treadmill, bike virtually all over the world or workout on the elliptical in many different and unique ways. Weight lifting PE is a great class for beginning weight lifters or the more experienced ones as well. All are welcome to come get bigger, faster and stronger in our weight room!

## Speed Training

Required
Credits: ½
Prerequisite: None

Grade Level: 9-12
Semester: Full year

This course focuses on developing explosive speed, agility, and quickness through targeted biomechanical drills, sprint mechanics, and plyometric training. Students will improve their stride length, frequency, acceleration, and reaction time while learning proper form to optimize athletic performance and prevent injuries. Suitable for all fitness levels looking to build faster movement patterns and overall athletic power.

## Cardio PE

Required
Credits: ½
Prerequisite: None

Grade Level: 9-12
Semester: Full year

This course is designed to improve cardiovascular health, stamina, and overall aerobic endurance through a variety of energetic movement patterns. Students will engage in high- and low-intensity cardio workouts—including interval training, circuit routines, and rhythmic movement—while learning how to monitor heart rates, set target fitness zones, and build lifelong cardiovascular wellness. Suitable for all fitness levels.

# FINANCIAL LITERACY

## Consumer Math

Elective
Credits: 1 Grade Level: 9-12
Prerequisite: None Semester: Either

Consumer Math is learning to apply basic math principles to everyday life. First half will focus on learning salary, buying food, shopping for clothes, managing a household, and buying and maintaining a car. The second half will focus on improving your home, traveling, budgeting your money, and banking and investing. If time permits, we will also look at paying taxes and preparing for careers.
This course is heavily based on the end of chapter real world application projects.

## Personal Finance

Elective
Credits: 1 Grade Level: 9-12
Prerequisite: None Semester: Either

Dave Ramsey's Foundations in Personal Finance is based on the 5 Foundations of Financial Literacy. Save $500 for an emergency fund. Get out of debt and stay out of debt. Pay cash for your car. Pay cash for college. Build wealth and be outrageously generous.You fill out a consumable workbook with notes that we will fill in together during class, online activities, and end of the chapter tests.

# BGM HIGH SCHOOL ELECTIVE COURSES

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**On the following pages are the current course offerings for core requirement classes.**


| | *Pages* |
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| **Spanish** | **30** |
| **Health** | **31** |
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| **Music** | **34** |
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| **Family Consumer Science** | **36-38** |
| **Industrial Technology** | **39** |
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| **Work Based Learning** | **42** |

# SPANISH

## Spanish I

Elective — Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12
Credits: 2 — Semester: Full year
Prerequisite: None

This course is an introduction to the Spanish language and the culture of Spanish speaking countries. Basic Spanish is presented and used in class. Students are expected to communicate in Spanish whenever possible. Emphasis is on the basics of proper grammar, listening comprehension and acquiring proper pronunciation through listening, speaking, reading, and writing activities.

## Spanish II

Elective — Grade Level: 10, 11, 12
Credits: 2 — Semester: Full year
Prerequisite: Spanish I

This course is a continuation of Spanish I with more development of reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills, along with more complex grammar and vocabulary. Students should attempt to use Spanish for the majority of the class and expect to give presentations in Spanish.

## Spanish III

Elective — Grade Level: 11, 12
Credits: 2 — Semester: Full year
Prerequisite: Spanish II

This is a continuation of Spanish II with a stronger emphasis on correct grammar and ability to comprehend and respond to information given by fluent speakers. Students should expect to use Spanish for the majority of the class and give presentations entirely in Spanish. Students should be less reliant on dictionaries or other kinds of assistance than in previous levels.

## Spanish IV

Elective — Grade Level: 12
Credits: 2 — Semester: Full year
Prerequisite: Spanish III

Spanish IV begins with a review of the past three years. Students should expect to use Spanish for all skills for the majority of the class and be able to respond in detail without relying on dictionaries or translators. Students should expect to speak, read, and write at length on various topics in the course.

# Health

## Health

Elective
Credits: 1
Prerequisite: None

Grade Level: 9-12
Semester: First

Classes are presently mixed grades 9-12. Units of focus during the semester include Health and Your Wellness, Health and Your Body, Alcohol, Tobacco, and Drugs, and Relationships.

## Health & Fitness

Elective
Credits: 1
Prerequisite: None

Grade Level: 9-12
Semester: Second

Classes are presently mixed grades 9-12. Units of focus during the semester include but are not limited to Physical Fitness, Nutrition, Reproduction, and First Aid and Safety.

# Art

## Arts Experience

Elective
Credits: 1
Grade Level: 9-12
Semester: Either
Prerequisite: Must have previously taken an art class

Arts Experience is an independent study art class that can be taken multiple times. Throughout each semester you will make 6+ projects based off of a big idea using a variety of materials of your choice while creating an online portfolio.

## 3D Sculpture 1

Elective
Credits: 1
Grade Level: 9-12
Semester: Fall

In this class you'll move beyond drawing and painting into three-dimensional form, learning to think, plan, and problem-solve using physical space. You'll explore the full range of sculptural approaches and be creatively challenged to make using subtractive, additive, relief, and constructed methods while building technical skill across clay, plaster, wire, fiber, glass, and mixed media.

## 3D Sculpture 2

Elective
Credits: 1
Grade Level: 9-12
Semester: Spring
Prerequisite: Previously taken Sculpture 1

In this class, you will build upon the sculptural foundation established in Sculpture 1, continuing to work in three-dimensional form while taking greater ownership over your creative process. You will revisit the same range of sculptural approaches--subtractive, additive, relief, and constructed methods through clay, plaster, wire, fiber, glass, and mixed media, with greater freedom to determine which methods and materials best serve your ideas. Rather than working through preset techniques, you will be challenged to plan, problem-solve, and refine your own process as you advance your technical skill and cultivate a more personal creative voice.

## Photoshop + Photography

Elective
Credits: 1
Prerequisite: None

Grade Level: 9-12
Semester: Fall

This class introduces you to the fundamentals of photo editing and photography, building a toolkit that spans both the creative and technical sides of image-making. Starting in Adobe Photoshop, you'll build core skills in digital manipulation, compositing, and design, all tools you can apply across projects, not solely photo editing. Next, you'll move on to Photography, working hands-on with DSLR cameras, beginning with their function and navigation before shooting compositions of your own. You can plan on editing your images in Photoshop the same blocks you shoot them. By the end of the course, you'll have built a portfolio of original photographic work and developed a working knowledge of the tools, techniques, and creative decision-making behind both editing and photography. Great for those considering majors in graphic design, digital media, film/video production, marketing, journalism, and or fine arts.

## Digital Art

Elective
Credits: 1
Prerequisite: None

Grade Level: 9-12
Semester: Spring

In this class, you'll be introduced to digital art-making through a range of iPad-based tools and techniques, building skills in illustration, animation, and video. You'll start with digital drawing and illustration, developing a foundation in mark-making, composition, and design before moving into more open-ended and creative forms. From there, you'll explore animation, bringing static images to life through sequence and timing, along with video, where you'll apply editing and storytelling techniques to visual narratives. By the end of the course, you'll have built a portfolio of original digital work across illustration, animation, and video, and developed a working knowledge of the creative and technical tools used across digital art fields today.

# MUSIC

## Band

Elective — Grade Level: 9-12
Credits: 1 per semester — Semester: Full Year
Prerequisite: Junior High Band or successful audition given by director.

This course includes concert band, pep band, and marching band in addition to the opportunity to participate in jazz band and chamber ensembles. Concert band is the core of the curriculum, and will expose students to music in a wide variety of styles, from various eras, and give students the necessary skills to find success in other ensembles. Enrollment in this class also includes individual biweekly lessons, and participation in concerts and contests. Performance opportunities include (but not limited to) football and basketball games, Veterans Day Concert, Christmas Concert, Fine Arts X-Travaganza, Spring Concert, Large Group Contest, and Graduation. Grading is based on participation, playing exams, and lessons.

## Choir

Elective — Grade Level: $9^{th}$-$12^{th}$
Credits: 1 per Semester — Semester: Full year
Prerequisite: None

Membership in Choir involves students in the performance of a variety of styles of choral music. The ability to read basic notes and rhythms is recommended. Sight Reading and Music Theory skills are developed on a regular basis in order to maintain the highest quality of musicianship. Music history and culture will be studied as it applies to pieces being performed. Performing opportunities include the Veteran's Day Concert, Christmas Concert, Spring Concert, Fine Arts Extravaganza, Large Group Contest, Graduation, and possible extra community performances. There are many extra activities that are optional to be involved with in choir including solo and ensemble contest, the fall musical, honor choirs, and the Acapella Choir. Choir students are required to take weekly voice lessons with the instructor. Grading is based on participation, voice lessons, music theory worksheets, and quarterly tests.

# Business

**Computer Applications I**

Required — Grade Level: 9
Credits: 1 — Semester: First or Second

Computer Applications is a required course that introduces students to a wide range of computer applications and software tools commonly used in personal, academic, and professional settings. Students will develop essential digital literacy skills, including critical thinking, problem-solving, and effective communication. Students will gain proficiency in Microsoft Word, Excel, and PowerPoint while improving their electronic communication and typing skills.

**INTRO TO BUSINESS**

Elective — Grade Level: 10-12
Credits: 1 — Semester: First

Introduction to Business is an elective course that explores different aspects of business. By taking this course, students will understand how businesses function, what their role is in the economy, how social responsibility affects business owners, and possible business-related career opportunities for them to explore.

**Accounting 1**

Elective — Grade Level: 10-12
Credits: 1 — Semester: First

Accounting is an elective course that provides a comprehensive introduction to the fundamental principles and practices of accounting. Students will develop a strong understanding of financial accounting, including the recording, classifying, summarizing, and interpreting of financial transactions.

**Accounting II**

Elective — Grade Level: 10-12
Credits: 1 — Semester: Second
PREREQUISITE: A grade of B in Accounting I or approval of the teacher.

Accounting 1 precedes Accounting 2. Accounting 2 is an elective course that builds off of the concepts learned in Accounting 1. Students will continue to build understanding of financial accounting and explore how financial records are maintained by a business run as a sole proprietorship.

**Entrepreneurship**

Elective — Grade Level: 9-12
Credits: 1 — Semester: 1st & 2nd

The students will learn how to create a startup. They will come up with a problem, analyze their customers, create a value proposition, calculate financial data on their product/business, and research some areas needed to transfer the startup to a business.

# FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCE

## Foods I

Elective — Grade Level: 10-12
Credits: 1 — Semester: First
Prerequisite: None

Foods 1 is designed to teach the basics of cooking including: food safety and sanitation, proper measuring techniques, preparation techniques, storage, and knife skills. The student will be able to use a variety of kitchen appliances correctly, display mise en place and follow a recipe to produce the desired product.

## Foods II

Elective — Grade Level: 10-12
Credits: 1 — Semester: Second
Prerequisite: Foods I

Foods II goes deeper into food preparation of various food groups. Cooking methods are applied to a variety of meat, dairy, produce, starches, casseroles, and soups. Students will explore geographical and international food preparation as well.

## Baking I

Elective — Grade Level: 10-12
Credits: 1 — Semester: First
Prerequisite: None

Baking I will discuss the role of baking in the lives of bakers and chefs. We will look at the operation of baking in the business world. This is an introductory course on the basics of baking including: food safety and sanitation, proper measuring techniques, preparation techniques, storage, and knife skills. The student will be able display mise en place and follow a recipe to produce the desired product. Students will use a variety of bakeware, decorating tools and techniques, and processing equipment. We will look at the functions of various ingredients in baking and explore the principles of baking. Students will use this knowledge to create quick breads, yeast breads, starters and sourdough, yeast breads, and laminated doughs.

## Baking II

Elective — Grade Level: 10-12
Credits: 1 — Semester: Second
Prerequisite: Baking 1

In Baking II, we delve beyond the basics of baking. Students will apply the skills learned in Baking I in making cookies, brownies, pies, and tarts from scratch. Students will bake pastries that include tarts, pies, eclairs, meringue, strudel, crepes, cakes and icings, custards, creams, and sauces.

## Skills for Work

Elective — Grade Level: 10-12
Credits: 1 — Semester: First
Prerequisite: None

Skills for Work is a class geared towards giving students the soft skills needed to be successful in the workplace. Students learn about their own strengths and weaknesses and how to manage them. Students also take multiple personality inventories to learn what their personality traits are and how to communicate with those who have different personalities and traits. We discuss how to manage healthy relationships in and outside of the workplace, traits for being successful at work, and how to deal with anger and stress in a healthy manner.

## Travel Industry Careers

Elective — Grade Level: 10-12
Credits: 1 — Semester: Second
Prerequisite: Hospitality and Tourism 1

Travel Industry Careers is a class focusing on Hospitality and Tourism Management skills that are transferable to any place in the world. Many of these positions pay higher salaries and require no college experience. Industries presented are lodging (hotels and resorts), food and beverage, and travel (cruise ships, flights, and more).

## Lifespan Development 1

Elective — Grade Level: 10-12
Credits: 1 — Semester: First
Prerequisite: None

Lifespan Development is the study of how individuals develop across their lifespan. The course begins with an introduction to the various types of development including: physical, cognitive, and socio-emotional. We look at the principles of how development should occur in individuals. Students will familiarize themselves with the theories of Freud, Erikson, Piaget, Vygotsky, Kohlberg, Pavlov, and Skinner. Once these theories are understood and analyzed by students, we will look at the diversity and concerns related to families. Once that groundwork has been laid, we will use all of this preliminary knowledge and apply it to how development occurs in pregnancy, birth, newborn, and toddler stages. This course will involve observations and/or interviews with pregnant individuals, new parents, and children at these stages of development. Students will also experience caring for a Real Care baby overnight and reflect on the challenges of being a teen parent.

## Lifespan Development 2

Elective — Grade Level: 10-12
Credits: 1 — Semester: Second
Prerequisite: Lifespan Development 1

This course follows the development of individuals from Early Childhood through Older Adulthood (over 65 years old). We will look at how the theorists we discussed in the first semester explain development at each of the developmental stages. We will look at expected development for each stage, as well as how disabilities, delays, family life changes, and societal expectations impact development. We will end the year by looking at strategies for promoting lifetime human development, and discussing career paths available and how to pursue those.

## Culinary Ventures

Elective
Credits: 5
Prerequisite: None

Grade Level: 10-12
Semester: Full Year

Culinary Ventures class is a co-curricular program with Iowa Valley Community College.
Our Culinary program prepares you to become a chef or head cook, overseeing daily food preparation in diverse settings like restaurants, resorts, and even private households. While the work can be hectic and fast-paced, the opportunities are outstanding for those who love the kitchen and embrace culinary artistry and creativity!

The college classes that are required for this Culinary Certificate are:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| HCM100 Sanitation and Safety | 2 college credits | 1 high school credit |
| HCM154 Basic Food Preparation | 2 college credits | 1 high school credit |
| HCM180 Food Fundamentals | 2 college credits | 1 high school credit |
| HCM 298 Knife Skills | 2 college credits | 1 high school credit |
| WBL200 Practicum/Field Experience | 1-3 college credits | 1 high school credit |

# INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY

## TECH I - 1st semester

Elective
Credits: 1
Prerequisite: None

Grade Level: 9-12
Semester: First

TECH I 1st Semester provides students with an understanding of the Industrial Technology Field (IT). Topics that will be covered (but not limited to) include measurement, safety, blueprint reading, mechanical drawings, jobs related to the Industrial Technology field, as well as hand and power tools. Students will reinforce their skills in measurement, shop math, layout and shop safety. Students will learn how to correctly and safely operate common machines and tools that are associated with a shop setting. Students will learn how to plan a project from start to finish. They will learn sanding and finishing techniques that are a major part of fine craftsmanship.

## TECH I - 2nd semester

Elective
Credits: 1
Prerequisite: 1st semester Tech I

Grade Level: 9-12
Semester: Second

TECH I 2nd Semester provides students with an understanding of the Industrial Technology Field (IT). Topics that will be covered (but not limited to) include blueprint reading, mechanical drawings, jobs related to the Industrial Technology field. Students will reinforce their skills in measurement, shop math, layout and shop safety.

## TECH II - 1st Semester

Elective
Credits: 1
Prerequisite: Tech I

Grade Level: 9-12
Semester: First

TECH II 1st Semester provides students the opportunity to study and experience a variety of electrical wiring principles and installation techniques commonly performed in and around the home. This class will also provide operator knowledge of outdoor power equipment, and stresses proper care, servicing, and maintenance of small engines employed on power equipment. A four-cycle engine is required for lab use and will be provided to the student.

## TECH II - 2nd Semester

Elective
Credits: 1
Prerequisite: 1st semester Tech II

Grade Level: 9-12
Semester: Second

TECH II 2nd Semester provides students the opportunity to study and experience the variety of maintenance, repair, and construction activities commonly performed in the field of drywall application. Students will also be given an opportunity to discover materials and processes used in the manufacturing environment. Students will be completing several individual lab projects during this semester.

# Agriculture

## Introduction to Agriculture

Elective
Credits: 1
Prerequisite: None

Grade Level: 9-12
Semester: Full Year

The purpose of the Introduction to Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources (AFNR) course is to introduce students to the world of agriculture. Students participating in the AFNR course will experience real-world activities, projects, and problems. Students will work independently and collaboratively to develop solutions to various problems and tasks presented to them. Topics covered in Intro to Ag include leadership development, communication, natural resources, plants, animals, agriculture careers, FFA, and Supervised Agriculture Experience. In addition, students will understand the connections between their lessons and Supervised Agriculture Experience and FFA components that are important to the development of a well informed agricultural education student. (Semesters: 2)

## Ag Plant Science

Elective
Credits: 1
Prerequisite: Intro to Ag

Grade Level: 10-12
Semester: Second

This course is designed to comprise of both horticultural and agronomic principles. Topics that students will learn include soils, weed identification and control, water and nutrients, plant parts and their function, floral arrangements, seed parts and functions, plant propagation, chemical safety, corn and soybean production, greenhouse systems, greenhouse plant marketing, and careers in plant science and related fields. (Semesters: 2)

## Ag Mechanics

Elective
Credits: 1
Prerequisite: Intro to Ag

Grade Level: 10-12
Semester: Second

This course is focused on welding. Students will learn about different types of welding and welding processes, and get the opportunity to practice making welds and independent projects. Before going into the shop, topics covered are careers, safety, and rules and procedures while in the shop. *(This course is taught at HLV.)*

## Farm Business Management

Elective
Credits: 1 Grade Level: 10-12
Prerequisite: Intro to Ag Semester: First

Business and economic principles applied to decision making and problem solving in the management of a farm business. Cash flow, partial, enterprise, and whole farm budgeting. Information systems for farm accounting, analysis, and control. Obtaining and managing land, capital, and labor resources. Alternatives for farm business organization and risk management.

# WORK BASED LEARNING

## iJag

Elective — Grade Level: 9-12
Credits: 1 — Semester: First & Second
Prerequisite: None

The iJAG (Iowa's Jobs for America's Graduates) elective course focuses on Seven Essential Constructs: Career Readiness, Character and Self Development, Communication and Technology, Critical Thinking and Productivity, Life Skills, Self Advocacy & Conflict Resolution, and Work Based Learning. Lessons and activities are student-centered using project-based learning (PBL) as the mode of instruction with a Trauma Informed Care Approach.

iJAG's interactive class has a student-led Career Association where students focus on careers, leadership, and social and civic responsibility. Students will participate in state-wide conferences with an opportunity to attend national conferences showcasing their talents in competitions involving careers and employment opportunities. iJAG students are given the opportunity to experience work based learning through job shadowing, internships, apprenticeships and on-the-job-training. The iJAG class will support young leaders to find their passion and purpose through individualized planning and then connect them with the resources they need to move into the workforce and thrive.

**Additionally, seniors will receive 12 months of school-to-work follow up services after high school.*

## Work Experience

Elective — Grade Level: 12
Credits: 1 — Semester: First & Second
Prerequisite: None

This work based learning program serves as an opportunity for our students to get real world experience in a chosen field of interest. They will have an opportunity to see applications and connections between their classwork and careers as they experience the job during controlled experiences. The objective of this work based learning program is to provide students with a valuable learning experience that will help them learn soft skills, prepare for careers, and become more employable.

# SPECIAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

The purpose of the special education is to identify and serve individuals with disabilities. The responsibility and accountability rests with personnel of Central Rivers AEA and those of BGM. Working together, in partnership with parents and students, the collaborative effort aims to implement an effective and efficient learning environment.

Iowa's Administrative Rules of Special Education enables the AEA to determine the process and procedure for identifying and assessing individuals with disabilities. BGM is responsible for designing and implementing services to those individuals entitled to services. Serving as a basis for the special education delivery system is the problem solving model utilized by Central Rivers AEA and BGM.

Fundamental to this process is the formation of the Problem Solving Team, with parental involvement a key ingredient. The team develops interventions based on a functional assessment, incorporating progress monitoring. The procedure is a series of events, designed to provide continuous information on intervention effectiveness. An Intervention Plan (I-Plan), Individualized Education Program (IEP), or the Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) are methods to document intervention strategies leading to positive results for the individual. The procedure does not require the use of a disability category or label for an individual to receive special education services.

A key feature is the flexibility BGM retains in developing and implementing a unique delivery system of instructional services. Thus, BGM is able to utilize innovative instructional services to effectively meet the needs of all students, specifically those individuals entitled to special education.

The parents of an individual who is receiving or may be entitled to receive special education has certain rights which are guaranteed by state and federal law. By regulation, agencies are required to notify the parent of his/her rights. The parent and the family are a critically important part of a child's education. Parent involvement is seen as essential for a child to reach his/her full academic and developmental potential.

## SPECIAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Special Education Programs provide appropriate educational opportunities for each student assigned to a program according to his/her identified needs. The needs fall into one or more of three primary categories: Learning Disabilities, Mental Disabilities, and/or Behavioral Disorders. Goals are set at a staffing level, and an individualized educational plan (IEP) is developed by a team that includes the parents, student, Area Education Agency personnel, an administrator, special education teacher, classroom teachers, and other support personnel as needed. Through an ongoing monitoring and reassessment process the student is provided those experiences which will lead to the full realization of each one's capability in regard to academic ability, social skills, and vocational/career interests. Registration for special education students will be conducted during individual conferences with the respective teacher.

**Learn Skill**

Credits: 2

Grade Level: 9, 10, 11, 12
Semester: Full year

Learn Skill offers specific instruction to students fully enrolled in general education or direct taught classes. Attendance is on a regularly scheduled basis. The students receive support in specific goal areas, study skills are taught, and soft-job skills are promoted. One credit per semester in Learn Skill can be earned by participating in activities related to goal areas.

## Dual Credit Agreement with Iowa Valley Community College

Students who are eligible have the opportunity to take college classes while in high school. These classes count for both High School and College Credit through Iowa Valley Community College. Students must be proficient on ISASP in Math, Reading and Science to be eligible.

The first step in taking college credit classes in high school is to talk with your counselor. They will be able to guide you in selecting and registering for the classes you are interested in. If you already know the area of education you want to major in it's important to choose the courses you need. Your high school counselor can explain how college credit classes work and what you will need. Starting your college education in high school will give you a jump start on your classes. Even better, you can save thousands of dollars! Another great benefit to starting your college education early is exploring what you are interested in. Make sure to talk with your high school counselor today to find out how YOU can become a high school student earning college credit through Iowa Valley Community College.

### 2026-2027 Drop/Withdrawal Chart Here:

2026-2027 DropWithdrawal Chart.docx

# Iowa Online Advanced Placement Academy
# Courses and Resources
# 2026-2027
# COURSES

| Course | Prerequisites | Length |
|---|---|---|
| AP Biology (includes lab) | Biology | Two Semesters |
| AP Calculus AB | Alg. II, Geometry, Pre-Calc w/ Trig | Two Semesters |
| AP Chemistry (includes lab) | Chemistry | Two Semesters |
| AP Computer Science A (Java) | Alg. I; Alg. II recommended | Two Semesters |
| AP Computer Science Principles | None | Two Semesters |
| AP English Language & Composition | Two years of HS English | Two Semesters |
| AP English Literature & Composition | Three years of HS English | Two Semesters |
| AP Environmental Science | Two years of high school laboratory science (one year of life science and one year of physical science), and one year of algebra | Two Semesters |
| AP French Language and Culture | | Two Semesters |
| AP Macroeconomics | Algebra II | One Semester |
| AP Microeconomics | Algebra I | One Semester |
| AP Psychology | Biology | One Semester |
| AP Spanish | 3-4 Years Spanish or Equivalent Native Fluency | Two Semesters |
| AP Statistics | Algebra II | Two Semesters |
| AP U.S. Government | U.S. History | One Semester |
| AP U.S. History | None | Two Semesters |

# RESOURCES

*Benefits of AP Courses https://belinblank.education.uiowa.edu/students/ioapa/docs/Benefits_of_AP.pdf

*Iowa Online AP Academy - University of Iowa's Belin-Blank Center

-Links to course catalog with each course's syllabus and FAQs are also on this page

http://www2.education.uiowa.edu/belinblank/Students/ioapa/

*IOAPA: Outcomes and Advice for High School Courses

https://belinblank.education.uiowa.edu/students/ioapa/docs/HS_Infographic.pdf

*GREAT College Board resource to learn more about AP courses:

https://apstudent.collegeboard.org/home (Important to remember all AP courses listed are not all available through IOAPA)

*Website to search college of choice and how AP course/exam scores will be accepted:
https://apstudent.collegeboard.org/creditandplacement/search- credit-policies

*Website for AP Courses and Careers

https://apstudent.collegeboard.org/exploreap/ap-and-your-future

## PLEASE NOTE:

To be eligible for Advanced Placement courses, students must be in the BGM Talented and Gifted (TAG) program or have excelling scores on ISASP. Please see the High School Counselor if interested in this opportunity.

****Please see Ms. Tesdall for additional information and to enroll in courses. You are not enrolled unless you have a signed form and confirmation from Ms. Tesdall.**