

**Attleboro High School
Class of 2028
9th Grade Course Offerings**



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Blue Pride Lives Here!

Dear AHS Class of 2028:

The purpose of this *Program of Studies* (POS) is to provide you with both general academic information and specific course descriptions so you can successfully complete the course registration process for the 2023-24 academic year.

The mission of the Attleboro Public Schools is to develop and deliver relevant learning experiences that engage, challenge, and inspire all students to maximize their unique potential and improve our world. Our POS aligns with this mission. Courses are designed to allow students to acquire the content knowledge and skills necessary to be college and career ready, to participate in school activities and community service, and to ultimately prepare students to become contributing members of the global community.

Our academic offerings consist of core courses, which are required of all students, and electives, which allow students to explore particular interests. Please let this booklet be a guide to your course requests.

Students and families are strongly encouraged to become familiar with the information in Part I of this document: requirements, promotion criteria, prerequisites, and various procedures related to course requests. Scheduling is a complex endeavor and many steps must occur to be ready for the next school year. Thus, all deadlines and requirements are strictly observed. Students will have the opportunity to request their own courses; those students who do not make their requests by the deadline will have their selections made for them. It is also important to be mindful that students are making **requests**, and making a request does not guarantee placement in a course. Every effort will be made to honor your requests; however, scheduling nearly 2,000 students and teachers is always subject to budgetary constraints and staffing considerations, so not all requests can always be met.

Students and families are strongly encouraged to review this POS to ensure students make appropriate course requests. Students are also encouraged to seek advice from teachers, administrators, support staff, Guidance Counselors, and family members. Again, if 8th grade students do not submit course requests on their own, the AHS Guidance Counselors will submit them on their behalf.

Sincerely,

Kate Campbell
Principal
kcampbell@attleboroschools.com

Helpful and Important Information

This document is designed with the purpose of facilitating the course selection process of grade 8 students. This document is not the all-inclusive Program of Studies (POS). The POS will be electronically distributed to students and families at a later date. The information below is an abridged version of important details that will be fully outlined in the POS.

AHS Graduation Requirements

Students in the Class of 2028 will need the following to graduate:

- 4 years of English, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies.
 - In Mathematics, students must take Algebra I, II, and Geometry.
 - In Science, students must take three lab-based science courses including Physics and Biology.
 - In Social Studies, students must take United States and World history.
- Students must take 4 years of Health/Physical Education.
- Students must take 2 years of a World Language.
- Students must take the equivalent of 1 year of Visual/Performing arts.

Students are eligible to earn 48 credits per year. *Students must attain 170 credits to graduate and 30 to be promoted to grade 10.*

Course Requests

As noted in the introductory letter and stated again here for emphasis, students are making requests in this process; there is no guarantee of placement in a course because a request is made. In addition, please note that some classes listed in this document may not be running. As a school, AHS can only offer so many sections of courses and what is offered is based on a combination of overall student requests, graduation requirements, and available staff. Niche courses may not run due to a number of factors including student interest and staffing. As such, it is imperative to request alternate courses.

Advanced Level Coursework

Students moving from 8th to 9th grade may request advanced level coursework. To be placed in an honors course, students must be recommended by their middle school teacher(s). This recommendation will be based on factors such as MCAS scores, District Common Assessments, attendance, grades, discipline records, work habits, and other factors. Students from outside the Attleboro Public Schools will be subject to these prerequisites where applicable. If students do not receive a recommendation and would still like to enroll in an honors class, then they can submit an appeal. More information about appeals will be available in the POS.

Honors Diploma

AHS offers an honors diploma for students who take and excel in our most rigorous courses. The only 4 year requirement is to maintain a GPA of 93 or its equivalent. Other requirements for this diploma start in grade 10 and are fully outlined in the POS.

Grade 9 Course Offerings

Course	# of Tris	Credits
English I	3	6
English I Honors	3	6
Algebra I	3	6
Geometry	3	6
Geometry Honors	3	6
Introductory Physics	3	6
Introductory Physics Honors	3	6
US History I	3	6
US History I Honors	3	6
Health Education	1	2
High School 101	1	2
Technical Exploratory	6	12
Band	6	12
Mixed Chorus	6	12
Grade 9 Portfolio Art	3	6
Elective Offerings in Core Subjects		
Spanish I	3	6
*French I	3	6

Available <i>Elective</i> Tracks**
Art
Music
Physical Ed. and Wellness
Computer Science

**The administration cannot guarantee that French I or II will be offered. Those interested in taking French may have the opportunity to request it when entering grade 10.*

***Every effort will be made to place students in elective courses according to availability. Examples of previously offered courses in respective categories include:*

- *Art: Drawing, Painting, Freshmen Pottery*
- *Music: History of Rock & Roll, Music Appreciation, Intro to Guitar and Hand-drumming*
- *Phys. Ed: PE 9/10, Health and Wellness 9/10*
- *Computer Sci: Intro to Computer Programing*

ENGLISH OFFERINGS

English I

This English/Language Arts I (9th grade) course builds upon students' prior knowledge of grammar, vocabulary, word usage, and the mechanics of writing and includes the four aspects of language use: reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Typically, this course introduces and defines various genres of literature, with writing exercises often linked to reading selections. English I (C) is a full-year course.

English I Honors

This course is intended as a Pre-AP class for freshmen who are highly motivated and show an aptitude for skill acquisition in reading, writing, language, speaking, and listening.

Students will cover the same curriculum as English I (C) but at a quicker pace and in more depth. English I (H) is a full-year course.

MATHEMATICS OFFERINGS

Algebra I

This course formalizes and extends the mathematics learned in the middle grades. Students study one and two variable statistics; contrast linear and exponential relationships; model, graph, and solve linear, exponential, and quadratic equations/inequalities/functions including systems; and students extend the laws of exponents to square and cube roots.

Geometry

This course focuses on six critical areas: (1) establishing criteria for congruence of triangles based on rigid transformations; (2) establishing criteria for similarity of triangles based on dilations and proportional reasoning; (3) informally developing explanations of circumference, area, and volume formulas; (4) applying the Pythagorean Theorem to the coordinate plane; (5) proving basic geometric theorems; and (6) extending work with probability.

Geometry Honors

This course utilizes the same curriculum as Geometry but explores topics in greater depth.

SCIENCE OFFERINGS

Introductory Physics

This full-year course is designed to meet the State Framework requirements for Grades 9-10 science, specifically the principles of introductory physics. Concepts to be covered include linear motion, forces and Newton's Laws, momentum and energy, heat, waves, light and electromagnetism. An emphasis will be placed on cooperative learning techniques, scientific writing, and problem solving. Skills that will be stressed will be the scientific methods of inquiry and investigation, and the use of technology to obtain measurement data. Projects will integrate physics and technology concepts. Successful completion of the course will prepare students for study in upper level science courses.

Introductory Physics Honors

This more in depth year-long course is designed for the highly motivated, science-oriented student covering the same concepts as the full-year Introductory Physics course but including an increased number of research based labs and student designed experiments. Concepts explored include linear motion, forces and Newton's Laws, momentum, heat, waves, light and electromagnetism. More emphasis will be placed on students developing independent study skills, deeper problem-solving skills, and data analysis skills. Successful completion of this course will prepare students for study in upper level Honors and Advanced Placement courses, including AP Physics in their junior or senior years.

SOCIAL STUDIES OFFERINGS

US History I Grade 9

Students examine the historical and intellectual origins of the United States during the Revolution and Constitutional eras and the nation's development through the present day. Students study the framework of American democracy and the concepts of American government, as well as America's economic, political, social, and cultural changes and development from before the American Revolution to the present. The course will focus heavily on developing historical thinking and literacy skills.

US History I Honors Grade 9

This course utilizes the same curriculum as US History I, but explores topics in greater depth and at a faster pace. Skill development emphasizes the core areas of reading, writing and historical analysis. Students are expected to possess the motivation and work habits necessary for success in this rigorous academic class.

WORLD LANGUAGE OFFERINGS

Spanish I

To introduce Spanish language and Hispanic culture, Spanish 1 will emphasize basic grammar and syntax, simple vocabulary, and the spoken accent so that students can read, write, speak and understand the language at the basic level within predictable areas of need, using customary courtesies and conventions. The cultures of Spain and Latin America are introduced through the geography, art, literature, customs and history of Spanish-speaking peoples.

French I

French I emphasizes basic grammar and syntax, simple vocabulary, and the spoken accent so that students can read, write, speak, and understand the language at a basic level. French culture is introduced through the art, customs, and history of the French speaking people. ***Given declining enrollment in French courses, the administration cannot guarantee that French I or II will be offered. Those interested in taking French may have the opportunity to request it when entering grade 10.***

ART & MUSIC OFFERINGS

Band

The Band is a performing organization designed to give students musical training through rehearsal and performance. Students are required to practice every day, and private lessons are encouraged. Special rehearsals are held after school and occasionally in the evening. Participation in special rehearsals and all performances (football games, concerts and parades) is required. A band camp is held during the summer to prepare for fall activities. No prior experience is needed to participate in Band. Space permitting, students are able to take both Band and Mixed Chorus.

Mixed Chorus

Mixed Chorus (SATB) is for students in all grades. This course teaches skills necessary for the performance of representative choral literature. Students must be able to match pitch. Chorus is a performing organization. Participation in special rehearsals and at all concerts is required. No prior experience is needed to participate. Space permitting, students are able to take both Band and Mixed Chorus.

Grade 9 Portfolio Art

Freshman Portfolio Art is designed for the dedicated student artist who loves making art. This year-long advanced art course will build upon students' existing art skills and challenge them to further grow as a visual artist. Assignments will range from skill and technique-based work such as observational drawing to those which push creative thinking skills and visual problem solving. A variety of 2D and 3D materials will be used throughout the year. Students are expected to keep an active sketchbook and spend time on assignments outside of class. This class is intended for students who would like to pursue a visual arts course of study or career after high school; enrollment is limited and reserved for the most serious art students.

CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION OFFERING

Technical Exploratory

This course provides an opportunity for all freshman students to explore the various Career and Technical Education Programs. Students will spend approximately six days in all CTE programs, being introduced to the three-year program of study. The Exploratory experience allows students to participate in hands-on activities representative of each technical area. In addition, students will investigate postsecondary and career opportunities in each career area. The activities are designed to serve a variety of interests. Completion of Technical Exploratory is not a prerequisite for acceptance into a Career and Technical Education program of study, although many participants do decide to enroll as a result of their experience. The CTE programs are: **Automotive Technology, Carpentry, Computer Information Systems, Cosmetology, Criminal Justice, Culinary Arts, Dental Assisting, Early Education and Care, Electrical Technology, Engineering, Graphic Design & Communication, HVAC, Marketing, Medical Assisting, Metal Fabrication, Plumbing Technology, Radio and Television Broadcasting, and Robotics and Automation Technology.**

HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND OTHER ELECTIVE OFFERINGS

Health Education

Students will acquire the knowledge and skills necessary to assess risk, communicate health information and make healthy decisions. Topics covered in grade 9 Health Education include violence and substance abuse prevention, human sexuality and relationships, family life, mental health and stress management. All topics align with MA Comprehensive Health Curriculum Framework.

High School 101

Want to be successful in high school? Take this class! Course topics include practicing a variety of skills students will need in their high school careers including but not limited to organization, problem solving, critical thinking, and collaboration.

2024-2025 **Sample** Course Request Worksheet: 8th to 9th Grade

Please Print

Name: J Student

Email: jstudent@attleborops.net

Instructions: Please indicate the courses you are requesting by writing the corresponding number of credits in the appropriate box. Students must choose one Core class each in English, Math, Science, and Social Studies. Next, students must choose one choice between: 1) Tech Exploratory, 2) Band, and 3) Mixed Chorus. Health and High School 101 **must** be selected. Your combined Core credits should total 40 credits minimum. World Language is optional for incoming 9th graders.

Core Courses Please note that these are requests.	# of credits		
English I	6	6	
English I H	6		
Algebra I	6	6	
Geometry	6		
Geometry H	6		
Intro to Physics	6	6	
Intro to Physics H	6		
US History I	6	6	
US History I H	6		
Health Education	2	2	
High School 101	2	2	
Tech Exploratory	12	12	
Band	12		
Mixed Chorus	12		
Grade 9 Portfolio Art	6		
Spanish I	6		
French I*	6		
*French I is on a rotating schedule and may not be offered in 2024-25.			
Core Subtotal=		40	

Elective Pathways The rest of your credits will come from these areas. Please rank from 1 to 4 (1 being top choice) your preference for elective courses.	
Art	2
Music	4
Physical Education and Wellness	3
Computer Science	1

2024-2025 Course Request Worksheet: 8th to 9th Grade

Please Print

Name:

Email:

Instructions: Please indicate the courses you are requesting by writing the corresponding number of credits in the appropriate box. Students must choose one Core class each in English, Math, Science, and Social Studies. Next, students must choose one choice between: 1) Tech Exploratory, 2) Band, and 3) Mixed Chorus. Health and High School 101 **must** be selected. Your combined Core credits should total 40 credits minimum. World Language is optional for incoming 9th graders.

Core Courses Please note that these are requests.	# of credits		
English I	6		
English I H	6		
Algebra I	6		
Geometry	6		
Geometry H	6		
Intro to Physics	6		
Intro to Physics H	6		
US History I	6		
US History I H	6		
Health Education	2	2	
High School 101	2	2	
Tech Exploratory	12		
Band	12		
Mixed Chorus	12		
Grade 9 Portfolio Art	6		
Spanish I	6		
French I*	6		
*French I is on a rotating schedule and may not be offered in 2024-25.			
Core Subtotal=			

Elective Pathways The rest of your credits will come from these areas. Please rank from 1 to 4 (1 being top choice) your preference for elective courses.	
Art	
Music	
Physical Education and Wellness	
Computer Science	