

GUIDANCE HANDBOOK



**VALMEYER HIGH
SCHOOL
(2026-27)**

Table of contents

Table of Contents.....	2
General Information.....	3-7
Schedule Changes.....	4
Graduation Requirements.....	5-6
College Visit Info.....	7
Agriculture.....	8
Business.....	9-10
Fine Arts.....	11-12
Foreign Language.....	13
Language Arts.....	14-15
Mathematics.....	16-17
Physical Education, Health, Driver Education.....	18
Science.....	19
Social Studies.....	20
Individualized Education.....	21-23
Career Center of Southern IL Vocational School...	24-27
Post-Secondary School Information.....	28

GENERAL INFORMATION

TO STUDENTS AND PARENTS

This guidance handbook is a guide to courses offered at Valmeyer High School and to the requirements necessary for graduation. It is the student's responsibility to ensure they schedule the necessary course work for graduation and/or college preparatory requirements. The purpose of this handbook is to enable students and parents to make the best educational program choices possible.

In an effort to increase parent participation in the registration process, students are requested to discuss their course and career decisions with their parents. Students are also asked to obtain parental approval of the course requests for next year before returning them to the Guidance Office.

Parents who wish to become more actively involved in their student's educational program are urged to contact the Guidance Office to schedule an appointment.

PRE-REGISTRATION PARTICULARS

The following procedures will be in effect for the registration of students:

1. Students should speak with their counselor, parents, teachers, and friends, and prepare for registration in a serious and sincere manner. Eighth grade students attending Valmeyer Junior High will meet with Mrs. Karsten during second semester of their 8th grade year and will complete their pre-registration during this time. An evening meeting will be held for parents of eighth grade students from the junior high to help parents become more informed about the high school curriculum.
2. Sometime during 3rd quarter, each high school student will have an individual conference with the guidance counselor to plan the next year's schedule.
3. After all students have had their individual conference with the counselor, they will make their course requests for the following year with the counselor. These requests will need to be signed by the student and the parents and returned to the guidance office. Because of possible schedule conflicts, not all requests may be granted and alternate classes may be assigned. Priority will be given to required classes.
4. Students will receive their schedule for the following year in early summer. The counselor will send a Google Form during summer break for

schedule change requests. ALL STUDENTS should be prepared to BEGIN CLASSES on the FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL. Students who cannot attend these scheduled days for changes should call the Guidance Office and arrange a time to complete registration.

SCHEDULE CHANGES

A change of a student's schedule is time consuming and complicated. Teachers are employed, textbooks ordered, and rooms assigned on the basis of the number of students requesting various courses. Therefore, very few schedule changes will be made at the summer registration. If schedule changes are necessary during the year, the procedure is as follows:

1. Discuss the proposed change with your counselor, your teacher and your parents.
2. Students may add a class during the first 5 days of the semester if there is room in the class and prerequisites have been met. After the 5th day of classes, no changes may be made.
3. Any class dropped after the 5th day will result in an F for the course and will appear on the student's transcript.
4. All schedule changes regarding a core course/required course will require parental approval.

STUDENT DAILY SCHEDULE

1. A student may have no more than 1 full study hall, along with a ½ study hall for those in either Band/Chorus, unless approved by the counselor/principal.
2. Students may be excused from physical education under the following guidelines in Sections I-III:
 - I. Students in Gr. 9-12 may be excused from P.E. under the following circumstances:
 - A. Involvement in interscholastic sports
 - a. Fall Sports (Cross-Country, Golf, Soccer & Volleyball) can be excused from P.E. 1st semester.
 - b. Winter Sports (Basketball & Cheerleading) can be excused from P.E. 1st & 2nd semester

- c. Spring Sports (Baseball & Softball, Track) can be excused during 2nd semester.
- * Please Note: Credit is not given for those semesters that a student chooses to opt out of P.E. This could affect overall GPA for those vying for Valedictorian/ Salutatorian.
- II. Students in Gr. 11-12 may be excused from physical education to take a course which they and the Principal agree will help in the preparation for post-secondary education.
- III. Students who are in jeopardy of not graduating on schedule may elect to take an academic class in place of physical education.
- IV. Any student enrolled in Health is exempt from P.E. for the semester in which they are enrolled in Health.
- V. Students may be excused from physical education for medical reasons. A written statement from a doctor is required. This statement, which must state the length of time of the medical excuse, will first be shown to the teacher involved and then turned in to the Guidance Office. The physical education teacher in conference with the student will determine if the student will be assigned to a study hall or be given supplemental activity in the class. If sufficient class is missed to cause a loss of credit, that credit will have to be earned with other class work.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Number of credits needed for graduation: 24

- Note: Although number of credits earned to date may be sufficient for graduation, students must meet certain graduation requirements regardless of credits earned.
- Also, remember that these are graduation requirements, not college requirements. Every college has its own requirements. See the guidance counselor for detailed information.

Classes required for graduation:

- 4 credits of English
 - English I (9th grade)
 - Public Speaking and Composition (can be taken in 10th or 11th grade)
 - 2 of the following electives: British Literature, American Literature, Journalism, Creative Writing (can be taken in 10th or 11th grade)
 - SEMO Dual Credit English IV or Applied English & Comp./Research & Technical Writing (12th grade)

- 3 credits of Social Studies (Early U.S. History/Civics -taken in Grade 9 or 10), Modern U.S. History (full year taken Junior year), and 2 of the following ½ credit courses: Contemporary World Issues, Economics, Sociology (SEMO), and Psychology (SEMO)
- 3 credits of Mathematics, which must include Algebra I or Algebra IR and a course with Geometry content.
- 2 credits in Science
- All Students must meet the State of Illinois Consumer Education Requirement by passing one of the following courses:
 1. Personal Finance
 2. 1 full year of Ag Business Management
 3. Economics
- Driver's Education (.5 credits)
- Health (.5 credits)
- ½ credit of a Business or Technology Course
- 1 credit from Music, Art, Foreign Language, Vocational, or Humanities

EARLY GRADUATION

Any student who has successfully fulfilled all the requirements for graduation will be allowed to graduate early (December of Senior Year) pending approval of the school board. The guidance counselor must be notified in writing no later than the eleventh day of attendance during the semester in which the student will be graduating. If the student is under 18, a parent or guardian must sign the notification. Students who choose early graduation may participate in the end of the year ceremony if they attend practices. It should be clearly understood that students who graduate at mid-term will be considered graduates and will not participate in student activities.

CORRESPONDENCE CREDIT

Students may have up to one credit accepted from an accredited correspondence school unless approved by administration. All costs related to the course will be the responsibility of the student. Any student taking a correspondence course to graduate must complete the work so that the school receives a copy of the student's grade ten school days prior to the scheduled graduation ceremony. Valmeyer High School uses American School for correspondence. Students can also take courses through Edgenuity courses offered through the ROE (have to meet certain qualifications). See the guidance counselor to register. Correspondence courses are intended for make-up work only and are not to be taken in place of a class offered by Valmeyer High School. Final approval or any exceptions must be granted by the principal.

DUAL ENROLLMENT

Seniors on track for graduation who have scheduled all senior required classes may enroll in a college level program and be dismissed early from school, with consent from parents and administration. Seniors choosing to exercise this option shall make a formal request in writing to the high school principal prior to the start of the semester in which they plan to enroll in the college program. Dismissal times are at the discretion of the administration in consideration of the individual needs of the students.

GRADE POINT AVERAGE (GPA)/SEMESTER GRADES/EXAMS

Valmeyer High School uses a 4.0 scale to determine GPA. (A=4, B=3, C=2, D=1, F=0). Class rank will be updated at the end of each semester. Final class rank is based on the cumulative GPA after 8 semesters. Semester examinations are given during the last week of the semester; the dates and times are set by the administration. VHS has a semester grading period with the 18 week semester grade counting for 80% of the final semester grade and the semester exam counting as 20% of the final semester-grade. Valmeyer High School is on a semester basis; passing the second semester of a yearlong course does not equal one-full credit.

Valmeyer High School will calculate honor roll for each grading quarter and semester. High Honors will designate students with a GPA of 3.5 to 4.0. Honors will designate students with a GPA of 3.0 to 3.49.

V ALEDICTORIAN/SALUTATORIAN

Valedictorian

The student with the highest GPA in the class is named the class Valedictorian. This student will have the honor of addressing his or her fellow classmates at the graduation ceremony. If there is a tie, there will be more than one valedictorian and those students will all give a graduation speech.

Salutatorian

The student with the 2nd highest GPA is named the Salutatorian. That student will have the honor of addressing his or her classmates at graduation if there is only one valedictorian. If there is more than one valedictorian, there will be no salutatorian.

COLLEGE VISIT POLICY

A "College Day" is considered a pre-arranged absence and will only be excused if a college visit form is turned in at least 2 days prior to the scheduled visit.

"College Day" request forms are available in the Main Office. Juniors & Seniors are allowed two college days per school year.

AGRICULTURE

Course	Open to:	Prerequisite/Recommended coursework	Length	Credit
Intro. to the Agricultural Industry	9-12	None	Yr.	1
Basic Agricultural Science	10-12	Introduction to Ag. Industry	Yr.	1
Ag. Mechanics & Technology	11-12	Intro. To Ag. & Ag. Science	Yr.	1
Agricultural Business Mgt.	12	Intro. To Ag., Ag. Science, Ag. Bus. Mgt.	Yr.	1
Horticulture	11-12	None	Yr.	1
Agricultural Communications	11-12		Yr.	1

18001A001 Introduction to the Agricultural Industry (CTE Course)

This course provides an opportunity for students to learn how the agricultural industry is organized; its major components; the economic influence of agriculture at state, national and international levels; and the scope and types of job opportunities in the agricultural field. Basic concepts in animal science, plant science, soil science, horticulture, natural resources, agribusiness management, and agricultural mechanics, will be presented. Improving computer and workplace skills will be a focus. Participation in FFA student organization activities and Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) projects is an integral course component for leadership development, career exploration and reinforcement of academic concepts.

18003A001 Basic Agricultural Science (CTE Course)

This course builds on basic skills and knowledge gained in the Introduction to the Agricultural Industry course. Major units of instruction include agricultural research, soil science, advanced plant science, biotechnology, advanced animal science. Applied science and math skills and concepts will be stressed throughout the course as they relate to each area. Improving computer and workplace skills will be a focus. Participation in FFA student organization activities and Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) projects is an integral course component for leadership development, career exploration and reinforcement of academic concepts.

18402A001 Agricultural Mechanics and Technology (CTE Course)

This course will concentrate on expanding student's knowledge and experiences with agricultural mechanics technologies utilized in the agricultural industry. Units of instruction included are: design, construction, fabrication, maintenance, welding, electricity/electronics, internal combustion engines, hydraulics, and employability skills. Careers of agricultural construction engineer, electrician, plumber, welder, equipment designer, parts manager, safety inspector, welder, and other related occupations will be examined. Improving workplace and computer skills will be a focus. Participation in FFA student organization activities and Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) projects is an integral course component for leadership development, career exploration and reinforcement of academic concepts.

18201A001 Agricultural Business Management (CTE Course)

This course will provide students with the basic knowledge and skills necessary to manage personal finances and develop into a successful entrepreneur and/or businessperson. Instructional units include: business ownership types, starting an agribusiness, managing and operating an agribusiness, financing an agribusiness, managing personal finances, record keeping and financial management of an agribusiness, local, state, and federal taxes, agricultural law, and developing employability skills. Student skills will be enhanced in math, reading comprehension, and writing through agribusiness applications. Improving computer and workplace skills will be a focus. Participation in FFA student organization activities and Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) projects is an integral course component for leadership development, career exploration and reinforcement of academic concepts.

18051A001 Horticultural Production & Management (CTE Course)

This course offers instruction in both the greenhouse production and landscape areas of horticulture. Units of study include plant identification, greenhouse management, growing greenhouse crops, landscape design, installation, and maintenance, horticulture mechanics, nursery management, and turf production. Agribusiness units will cover operating a horticultural business, pricing work, advertising, and sales. Improving computer and workplace skills will be a focus. Participation in FFA student organization activities and Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) projects is an integral course component for leadership development, career exploration and reinforcement of academic concepts.

18203A002 Agricultural Communications (CTE Course)

Students will analyze current agricultural issues and determine how they affect people on all sides of the issue. The students will then learn and enhance their written and oral communications skills by presenting their views and opinions in class. Students learn how to arrange and present debates, speeches, and interviews to be effective leaders in today's society. Participation in FFA student organization activities and Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) projects is an integral course component for leadership development, career exploration, and reinforcement of academic concepts.

BUSINESS

Course	Open to:	Prerequisite	Length	Credit
Computer Concepts & Soft. App.	9-12	None	Sem.	.5
Accounting I	9-12	None	Yr.	1.0
Service-Oriented Marketing	9-12	None	Yr.	1.0
Business & Tech Concepts	10-12	None	Sem.	.5
Career Exploration	9-12	None	Sem.	.5
Personal Finance	9-12	None	Sem.	.5
Entrepreneurship	11-12	Application process	Yr.	2

10004A001 Computer Concepts and Software Applications CTE Course

Computer Concepts and Software Applications is an orientation-level course designed to develop awareness and understanding of application software and equipment used by employees to perform tasks in business, marketing and management. Students will apply problem-solving skills to hands-on, real-life situations using a variety of software applications, such as word processing, spreadsheets, database management, presentation software, and desktop publishing. Students will explore topics related to computer concepts, operating systems, telecommunications and emerging technologies. The development of employability skills, as well as transition skills, will be included in the course as well as an understanding of the ethical considerations that arise in using information processing equipment and gaining access to available databases.

12104A001 Accounting I CTE Course

Accounting I is a skill level course that is of value to all students pursuing a strong background in business, marketing, and management. This course includes planned learning experiences that develop initial and basic skills used in systematically computing, classifying, recording, verifying and maintaining numerical data involved in financial and product control records including the paying and receiving of money. Instruction includes information on keeping financial records, summarizing them for convenient interpretation, and analyzing them to provide assistance to management for decision making. Accounting computer applications will be integrated throughout the course. In addition to stressing basic fundamentals and terminology of accounting, instruction will provide initial understanding of the preparation of budgets and financial reports, operation of related business machines and equipment, and career opportunities in the accounting field. Processing employee benefits may also be included. Practice sets with business papers may be used to emphasize actual business records management.

12055A001 Service-Oriented Marketing CTE Course

This course explores the basic principles of marketing such as the creation of concepts, strategies, and the development of marketing plans. Students learn about the components of the marketing mix, target marketing, sponsorship, event marketing, promotions, proposals, and execution of planning. This course emphasizes strong decision-making, critical thinking, and collaborative skills to complete group marketing projects throughout the semester. Marketing introduces students to this exciting field, which includes advertising, consumer research, product development, packaging, and selling. Students will be challenged to create new marketing ideas as they analyze current marketing trends. Students will also explore the legal aspects of these industries. Real life projects allow students to demonstrate their understanding of these areas. This course will examine the impact of marketing in our everyday lives, as well as teach many critical business concepts to ready students for a career in the area of marketing.

12053A001 Entrepreneurship (StartUP)

Entrepreneurship courses acquaint students with the knowledge and skills necessary to own and operate their own business. Topics from several fields typically form the course content: economics, marketing principles, human relations and psychology, business and labor law, legal rights and responsibilities of ownership, business and financial planning, finance and accounting, and communication. Several topics surveyed in Business Management courses may also be included.

This is a year-long course that meets for 1.5 hours each day in a variety of businesses in the community. The class is facilitated by an entrepreneur fully licensed by the Illinois State Board of Education. The class will be completely supported financially by CEO Business Investors. Students must provide their own transportation. The class will meet during 1st and 2nd hours at Valmeyer High School. There is an application process to be accepted into the program. The applications are reviewed by the Creating Entrepreneurial Opportunities (CEO) Class Board of Directors.

22210A000 Personal Finance CTE Course

Personal Finance courses provide students with an understanding of the concepts and principals involved in managing one's personal finances. Topics may include savings and investing, credit, insurance, taxes and social security, spending patterns and budget planning, contracts, and consumer protection. These courses may also provide an overview of the American economy. This course will meet the state requirement for Consumer Education.

12001A001 Business and Technology Concepts CTE Course

This orientation-level course will provide an overview of all aspects of business marketing and management, including the concepts, functions, and skills required for meeting the challenges of operating a business in a global economy. Topics covered will include the various forms of business ownership, including entrepreneurship, as well as the basic functional areas of business (finance, management, marketing, administration and production). Students will be introduced to a wide range of careers in fields such as accounting, financial services, information technology, marketing, and management. Emphasis will be placed on using the computer while studying applications in these careers along with communication skills (thinking, listening, composing, revising, editing, and speaking), math and problem solving. Business ethics as well as other workplace skills will be taught and integrated within this course. This course is not intended to meet the consumer education requirement, but rather to provide preparation for the skill level courses that make up the Business, Marketing and Management occupations programs.

22151A001 Career Exploration CTE Course

Career Exploration courses help students identify and evaluate personal goals, priorities, aptitudes, and interests with the goal of helping them make informed decisions about their careers. These courses expose students to various sources of information on career and training options and may also assist them in developing job search and employability skills.

FINE ARTS

Course	Open to:	Prerequisite	Length	Credit
Creative Art-Drawing	9-12	None	Sem.	.5
Creative Art-Painting	9-12	None	Sem.	.5
Creative Art-Sculpture	9-12	None	Sem.	.5
Ceramics/Pottery	9-12	None	Sem.	.5
Printmaking	9-12	None	Sem.	.5
Graphic Design	9-12	None	Sem.	.5
Art Portfolio	12	Approval of instructor	Yr.	1
Concert Band	9-12	None	Yr.	.5
Choir	9-12	None	Yr.	.5

05156A000 Creative Art—Drawing

Creative Art—Drawing course focuses on refining drawing technique. In keeping with this, attention focuses on two-dimensional work, students typically work with pencils, graphite sticks, charcoal, and chalk pastel.

05157A000 Creative Art—Painting

Creative Art—Painting course focuses on color theory, painting technique and different painting styles. In keeping with this, attention focuses on two-dimensional work, students work with tempera, and acrylic, watercolor and oil pastels.

05158A000 Creative Art—Sculpture

Creative Art—Sculpture course focuses on technique and method for creating three-dimensional works. Students work with wire, paper, papier mache, clay and found object materials to create sculptural works of art.

05159A000 Ceramics/Pottery

Ceramics/Pottery focuses on creating three-dimensional works out of clay and ceramic material. Particular attention is paid to the characteristics of the raw materials, their transformation under heat and kilning process and the various methods used to create and finish objects.

05161A000 Printmaking

Printmaking courses introduce students to a variety of printmaking techniques using processes such as relief printing (block and collograph methods); transfer printing (acetone method), and perigraphy (stencil and block-out methods). Lessons also include the historical development of printmaking in Western and non-Western cultures.

05162A000 Graphic Design

Graphic Design courses emphasize design elements and principles in the purposeful arrangement of images and text to communicate a message. They focus on creating art products such as advertisements, product designs, and identity symbols.

05170A000 Art Portfolio

Art Portfolio courses offer students the opportunity to create a professional body of work that reflects their personal style and talent. Students are often encouraged to display their work publicly. College-bound students are encouraged to develop a working portfolio which may be used for scholarship applications to art schools and universities.

05102A000 Concert Band

Courses in Concert Band are designed to promote students' technique for playing brass, woodwind, and percussion instruments and cover a variety of band literature styles, primarily for concert performances.

05110A000 Choir

Chorus courses provide the opportunity to sing a variety of choral literature styles for men's and/or women's voices and are designed to develop vocal techniques and the ability to sing parts.

FOREIGN LANGUAGE

Course	Open to:	Prerequisite	Length	Credit
Spanish I	9-12	None	Yr.	1
Spanish II	10-12	Spanish I	Yr.	1
Spanish III	11-12	Spanish II	Yr.	1
Spanish IV	12	Spanish III	Yr.	1

06101A000 Spanish I

Designed to introduce students to Spanish language and culture, Spanish I courses emphasize 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 within predictable areas of need, using customary courtesies and conventions. Spanish culture is introduced through the art, literature, customs, and history of Spanish-speaking people.

06102A000 Spanish II

Spanish II courses build upon skills developed in Spanish I, extending students' ability to understand and express themselves in Spanish and increasing their vocabulary. Typically, students learn how to engage in discourse for informative or social purposes, write expressions or passages that show understanding of sentence construction and the rules of grammar, and comprehend the language when spoken slowly. Students usually explore the customs, history, and art forms of Spanish-speaking people to deepen their understanding of the culture(s).

06103A000 Spanish III

Spanish III courses focus on having students express increasingly complex concepts both verbally and in writing while showing some spontaneity. Comprehension goals for students may include attaining more facility and faster understanding when listening to the language spoken at normal rates, being able to paraphrase or summarize written passages, and conversing easily within limited situations.

06104A000 Spanish IV

Spanish IV courses focus on advancing students' skills and abilities to read, write, speak, and understand the Spanish language so that they can maintain simple conversations with sufficient vocabulary and an acceptable accent, have sufficient comprehension to understand speech spoken at a normal pace, read uncomplicated but authentic prose, and write narratives that indicate a good understanding of grammar and a strong vocabulary.

LANGUAGE ARTS

Course	Open to:	Prerequisite	Length	Credit
English/Language Arts I	9	None	Yr.	1
Public Speaking	10-11	English I	Sem	.5
Composition	10-11	English I	Sem.	.5
Creative Writing	10-11	English I	Sem.	.5
Journalism	10-11	English I	Sem.	.5
American Literature	10-11	English I	Sem.	.5
British Literature	10-11	English I	Sem.	.5
Research & Technical Writing	12	Composition	Sem.	.5
Applied English & Commun.	12	Composition	Sem.	.5
English IV CP (EN100)	12	<i>Composition &</i>	Sem.	.5
English IV CP (EN140)	12	<i>Recommendation by teacher, test scores, and English grades.</i>	Sem.	.5

01001A000 English/Language Arts I (9th grade)

English/Language Arts I (9th grade) courses build upon students' prior knowledge of grammar, vocabulary, word usage, and the mechanics of writing and usually include the four aspects of language use: reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Typically, these courses introduce and define various genres of literature, with writing exercises often linked to reading selections.

01151A000 Public Speaking

Public Speaking courses enable students, through practice, to develop communication skills that can be used in a variety of speaking situations (such as small and large group discussions, delivery of lectures or speeches in front of audiences, and so on). Course topics may include (but are not limited to) research and organization, writing for verbal delivery, stylistic choices, visual and presentation skills, analysis and critique, and development of self-confidence. This is a semester course that is required for graduation.

01103A000-Composition

Composition courses focus on students' writing skills and develop their ability to compose different types of papers for a range of purposes and audiences. These courses enable students to explore and practice descriptive, narrative, persuasive, or expository styles as they write paragraphs, essays, letters, applications, formal documented papers, or technical reports. Although composition courses may present some opportunities for creative writing, their focus usually remains on nonfiction, scholarly, or formal writing. This is a semester course required for graduation.

01104A000-Creative Writing

Creative Writing courses offer students the opportunity to develop and improve their technique and individual style in poetry, short story, drama, essays, and other forms of prose. The emphasis of the courses is on writing; however, students may study exemplary representations and authors to obtain a fuller appreciation of the form and craft. Although most creative writing classes cover several expressive forms, others concentrate exclusively on one particular form (such as poetry or playwriting).

11101A000-Journalism

Journalism courses (typically associated with the production of a school newspaper, yearbook, or literary magazine) emphasize writing style and technique as well as production values and organization. Journalism courses introduce students to the concepts of newsworthiness and press responsibility; develop students' skills in writing and editing stories, headlines, and captions; and teach

students the principles of production design, layout, and printing. Photography and photojournalism skills may be included.

01054A000-American Literature

American Literature courses focus upon commonly known American authors and their work. Students improve their critical-thinking skills as they determine the underlying assumptions and values within the selected works and as they understand how the literature reflects the society of the time. Oral discussion is an integral part of literature courses, and written compositions are often required.

01056A000 - British Literature

British Literature courses may provide a survey of British literature or may focus on a selected timeframe of England's history. Students improve their critical-thinking skills as they determine the underlying assumptions and values within the selected works and as they understand how the literature reflects the society of the time. Oral discussion is an integral part of literature courses, and written compositions are often required.

01105A000 Research/Technical Writing

Research/Technical Writing classes prepare students to write research papers and/or technical reports. These classes emphasize researching (primary and secondary sources), organizing (material, thoughts, and arguments), and writing in a persuasive or technical style.

01156A000-Applied English and Communications

Applied English and Communications courses teach students communication skills-reading, writing, listening, speaking-concentrating on "real-world" applications. These courses usually emphasize the practical application of communication as a business tool-using technical reports and manuals, business letters, resumes, and applications as examples-rather than emphasize language arts skills as applied to scholarly and literary materials. This course is designed for seniors.

01004A000 English/Language Arts IV College Prep Honors (12th grade)

English/Language Arts IV (12th grade) courses blend composition and literature into a cohesive whole as students write critical and comparative analyses of selected literature, continuing to develop their language arts skills. Students will write one or more major research papers. **This course prepares students for college-level writing courses and offers college credit through Southeast Missouri State University. First semester is EN 100 and second semester is EN 140. Each course is worth 3 college credits. The cost of the course is \$95/credit hour plus book fees. Students are responsible for all tuition/fees associated with these courses.**

MATHEMATICS

Course	Open to:	Prerequisite	Length	Credit
Algebra IR	9-12	8 th grade math recomm.	Yr.	1
Algebra I	9-12	8 th grade math recomm.	Yr.	1
Informal Geometry	10-12	Algebra IR	Yr.	1
Geometry	9-12	Algebra I	Yr.	1
Algebra II	10-12	Algebra I	Yr.	1
Trigonometry (Honors)	11-12	Algebra II	Yr.	1
Calculus (Honors)	12	Trigonometry H	Yr.	1
HS Transitional Math 4	12	Algebra II/Geometry	Yr.	1

02054A000 Algebra IR

This course generally covers the same topics as the second semester of Algebra I, including the study of properties of the real number system and operations, evaluating rational algebraic expressions, solving and graphing first degree equations and inequalities, translating word problems into equations, operations with and factoring of polynomials, and solving simple quadratics.

02052A000 Algebra I

Algebra I courses include the study of properties and operations of the real number system; evaluating rational algebraic expressions; solving and graphing first degree equations and inequalities; translating word problems into equations; operations with and factoring of polynomials; and solving simple quadratic equations.

02056A000 Algebra II (Offered in 25-26 and alternates every other year)

Algebra II course topics typically include field properties and theorems; set theory; operations with rational and irrational expressions; factoring of rational expressions; in-depth study of linear equations and inequalities; quadratic equations; solving systems of linear and quadratic equations; graphing of constant, linear, and quadratic equations; properties of higher degree equations; and operations with rational and irrational exponents.

02055A000 Transition Algebra

Transition Algebra courses review and extend algebra and geometry concepts for students who have already taken Algebra I and Geometry or Informal Geometry. Transition Algebra includes a review of such topics as properties and operations of real numbers; evaluation of rational algebraic expressions; solutions and graphs of first degree equations and inequalities; translation of word problems into equations; operations with and factoring of polynomials; simple quadratics; properties of plane and solid figures; rules of congruence and similarity; coordinate geometry including lines, segments, and circles in the coordinate plane; and angle measurement in triangles including trigonometric ratios.

02071A000 Informal Geometry

Informal Geometry courses emphasize a practical approach to the study of geometry and deemphasize an abstract, formal approach. Topics typically include properties of and work with plane and solid figures; inductive methods of reasoning and use of logic; concepts of congruence, similarity, parallelism, perpendicularity, and proportion; and rules of angle measurement in triangles.

02072A000 Geometry (offered in 2024-25 then alternates every other year)

Geometry courses, emphasizing an abstract, formal approach to the study of geometry, typically include topics such as properties of plane and solid figures; deductive methods of reasoning and use of logic; geometry as an axiomatic system including the study of postulates, theorems, and formal proofs;

concepts of congruence, similarity, parallelism, perpendicularity, and proportion; and rules of angle measurement in triangles.

02055A001 - High School Transitional Math 4 (Offered if there is sufficient enrollment)

STEM Math course framework built around essential algebraic competencies designed to prepare students for college and career pathways in areas such as: Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math or STEM which require advanced algebraic skills or calculus. Course design will enable students to transition directly into credit bearing college-level algebra courses. Students will engage in deepening conceptual understanding using algebra and mathematical applications of algebra and functions and how functions naturally arise using authentic modeling situations. The function families (linear, polynomial, rational, radical, and exponential) will be emphasized. Additionally, the course shall emphasize the eight mathematical practices, particularly modeling within the setting of authentic and contextualized applications, and upon completion, the student should be able to: demonstrate and justify both orally and in writing conceptual understanding of functions combined with advanced algebraic knowledge to solve complex, contextualized, multi-step problems in authentic settings.

02103A000 Trigonometry Honors

Trigonometry courses prepare students for eventual work in calculus and typically include the following topics: trigonometric and circular functions; their inverses and graphs; relations among the parts of a triangle; trigonometric identities and equations; solutions of right and oblique triangles; and complex numbers.

02121A000 Calculus Honors

Calculus courses include the study of derivatives, differentiation, integration, the definite and indefinite integral, and applications of calculus. Typically, students have previously attained knowledge of pre-calculus topics (some combination of trigonometry, elementary functions, analytic geometry, and math analysis).

PHYSICAL EDUCATION/HEALTH/DRIVERS ED.

Course	Open to:	Prerequisite	Length	Credit
Physical Education	9-12	None	Yr.	1
Weight Training	9-12	None	Yr.	1
Health	9-12	None	Sem.	.5
Driver's Education	9-12	See course description	Sem.	.5

08001A000 Physical Education

Physical Education courses provide students with knowledge, experience, and an opportunity to develop skills in more than one of the following sports or activities: team sports, individual/dual sports, recreational sports, and fitness/conditioning activities.

08009A000 Weight Training

Weight Training courses help students develop knowledge and skills with free weights and universal stations while emphasizing safety and proper body positioning; they may include other components such as anatomy and conditioning. The early bird Athletic P.E. class is reserved for those students who participate in at least one school sport.

08051A000 Health Education

Topics covered within Health Education courses may vary widely, but typically include personal health (nutrition, mental health and stress management, drug/alcohol abuse prevention, disease prevention, and first aid) and consumer health issues. The courses may also include brief studies of environmental health, personal development, and/or community resources.

08152A000 Drivers' Education—Classroom and Laboratory

Drivers' Education—Classroom and Laboratory courses provide students with the knowledge and experience to become safe drivers on America's roadways. Topics in these courses cover legal obligations and responsibility, rules of the road and traffic procedures, safe driving strategies and practices, and the physical and mental factors affecting the driver's capability (including alcohol and other drugs). Experience in driving a vehicle is an essential component of these courses.

***All Health and PE courses follow the Illinois State Standards 19-24 and National PE Standards 1-5 and National Health Standards 1-8.**

SCIENCE

Course	Open to:	Prerequisite	Length	Credit
Earth Science	9-12	None	Yr.	1
Physical Science	9-12	None	Yr.	1
Biology	9-12	None	Yr.	1
Chemistry	10-12	Alg. II recommended	Yr.	1
Chemistry II H	11-12	Chemistry	Yr.	1
Anatomy & Physiology H	10-12	Biology	Yr.	1
Physics H	11-12	Alg. II	Yr.	1

03001A000 Earth Science

Earth Science courses offer insight into the environment on earth and the earth's environment in space. While presenting the concepts and principles essential to students' understanding of the dynamics and history of the earth, these courses usually explore oceanography, geology, astronomy, meteorology, and geography.

03159A000 Physical Science (Not currently offered)

Physical Science courses involve study of the structures and states of matter. Typically (but not always) offered as introductory survey courses, they may include such topics as forms of energy, wave phenomenon, electromagnetism, and physical and chemical interactions.

03051A000 Biology

Biology courses are designed to provide information regarding the fundamental concepts of life and life processes. These courses include (but are not restricted to) such topics as cell structure and function, general plant and animal physiology, genetics, and taxonomy.

03101A000 Chemistry

Chemistry courses involve studying the composition, properties, and reactions of substances. These courses typically explore such concepts as the behaviors of solids, liquids, and gases; acid/base and oxidation/reduction reactions; and atomic structure. Chemical formulas and equations and nuclear reactions are also studied.

03102A000 Chemistry II H (not offered every year)

Usually taken after a comprehensive initial study of chemistry, Chemistry—Advanced Studies courses cover chemical properties and interactions in more detail. Advanced chemistry topics include organic chemistry, thermodynamics, electrochemistry, macromolecules, kinetic theory, and nuclear chemistry.

03053A000 Anatomy and Physiology Honors

Usually taken after a comprehensive initial study of biology, Anatomy and Physiology courses present the human body and biological systems in more detail. In order to understand the structure of the human body and its functions, students learn anatomical terminology, study cells and tissues, explore functional systems (skeletal, muscular, circulatory, respiratory, digestive, reproductive, nervous, and so on), and may dissect mammals.

03151A000 Physics Honors

Physics courses involve the study of the forces and laws of nature affecting matter, such as equilibrium, motion, momentum, and the relationships between matter and energy. The study of physics includes examination of sound, light, and magnetic and electric phenomena.

SOCIAL STUDIES

Course	Open to:	Prerequisite	Length	Credit
Early U.S. History	9-10	None	Sem.	.5
Civics	9-10	None	Sem.	.5
Modern U.S. History	11	Taken Junior Year	Yr.	1
Economics	10-12	None	Sem.	.5
Contemporary World Issues	10-12	None	Sem.	.5
Intro to Sociology H (SO101)	12	3.0 GPA (Cumulative)	Sem.	.5
Intro to Psychology H (PY101)	12	3.0 GPA (Cumulative)	Sem.	.5

04102A000 Early U.S. History

Early U.S. History courses examine the history of the United States from the colonial period to the Civil War or Reconstruction era (some courses end after this period). Some courses include American history before European settlement, while others may begin at the formation of the new nation. These courses typically include a historical overview of political, military, scientific, and social developments.

04151A000 Civics (Government)

Comprehensive courses provide an overview of the structure and functions of the U.S. government and political institutions and examine constitutional principles, the concepts of rights and responsibilities, the role of political parties and interest groups, and the importance of civic participation in the democratic process. These courses may examine the structure and function of state and local governments and may cover certain economic and legal topics.

04103A000 Modern U.S. History

Modern U.S. History courses examine the history of the United States from the Civil War or Reconstruction era (some courses begin at a later period) through the present time. These courses typically include a historical review of political, military, scientific, and social developments.

04201A000 Economics

Economics courses provide students with an overview of economics with primary emphasis on the principles of microeconomics and the U.S. economic system. These courses may also cover topics such as principles of macroeconomics, international economics, and comparative economics. Economic principles may be presented in formal theoretical contexts, applied contexts, or both.

04064A000 Contemporary World Issues

Contemporary World Issues courses enable students to study political, economic, and social issues facing the world. These courses may focus on current issues, examine selected issues throughout the 20th century, and look at historical causes or possible solutions. **Because this course focuses on current events, students may take this course more than once.**

04258A000 Sociology H (SEMO Dual Enrollment (SO101)

Sociology courses introduce students to the study of human behavior in society. These courses provide an overview of sociology, generally including (but not limited to) topics such as social institutions and norms, socialization and social change, and the relationships among individuals and groups in society. **Dual enrollment course through SEMO. 3 college credits. The cost of the course is \$120/credit hour plus book fees. Students are responsible for all tuition/fees associated with these courses.**

04254A000 - Psychology (SEMO Dual Enrollment PY101)

Psychology courses introduce students to the study of individual human behavior. Course content typically includes (but is not limited to) an overview of the field of psychology, topics in human growth and development, personality and behavior, and abnormal psychology. **Dual Enrollment course through SEMO, 3 college credits. The cost of the course is \$120/credit hour plus book fees. Students are responsible for all tuition/fees associated with these courses.**

INDIVIDUALIZED EDUCATION

The following courses provide students who need academic support, emotional support, smaller class sizes, and/or more individualized instruction in a cross-categorical setting based on their individual education plan created annually by the IEP team in order to be successful at VHS.

Course	Open to:	Prerequisite	Length	Credit
English 1	9	IEP Placement	Yr.	1
English 2	10	IEP Placement	Yr.	1
English 3	11	IEP Placement	Yr.	1
English 4	12	IEP Placement	Yr.	1
Algebra 1R	9	IEP Placement	Yr.	1
Informal Geometry 1	10	IEP Placement	Yr.	1
Transition Alg. 1	11	IEP Placement	Yr.	1
American History I	9-10	IEP Placement	Sem	.5
American History II	11	IEP Placement	Yr.	1
Current Events	12	IEP Placement	Sem.	.5
Understanding Economics	12	IEP Placement	Sem.	.5
US Govt. & Civics	9-10	IEP Placement	Sem.	.5
Practical Biology	9-10	IEP Placement	Yr.	1
Life Skills	9-12	IEP Placement	Yr.	1

01001A000 English/Language Arts 1 (9th grade)

English 1 is a full year course offered to freshmen students who have an IEP with an area of need in the Language Arts skill set which precludes placement in a regular English course. Students will build upon students' prior knowledge of grammar, vocabulary, word usage, and the mechanics of writing and usually include the four aspects of language use: reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Typically, this course will introduce and define various genres of literature, with writing exercises often linked to reading selections.

01002A000 English/Language Arts 2 (10th grade)

English 2 is a full year course offered to sophomore students who have an IEP with an area of need in the Language Arts skill set which precludes placement in a regular English course. English/Language Arts 2 (10th grade) courses offers a balanced focus on composition and literature as well as public speaking. Typically, students learn about the alternate aims and audiences of written compositions by writing persuasive, critical, and creative multi-paragraph essays and compositions. Through the study of various genres of literature, students can improve their reading rate and comprehension and develop the skills to determine the author's intent and theme and to recognize the techniques used by the author to deliver his or her message. Students will also develop communication skills that can be used in a variety of speaking situations (such as small and large group discussions, delivery of lectures or speeches in front of audiences, and so on). Topics may include (but are not limited to) research and organization, writing for verbal delivery, stylistic choices, visual and presentation skills, analysis and critique, and development of self-confidence.

01003A000 English/Language Arts III (11th grade)

English 3 is a full year course offered to junior students who have an IEP with an area of need in the Language Arts skill set which precludes placement in a regular English course. English/Language Arts 3 (11th grade) course continues to develop students' writing skills, emphasizing clear, logical writing patterns, word choice, and usage, as students write essays and begin to learn the techniques of writing research papers. Students continue to read works of literature, which often form the backbone of the writing assignments.

01004A000 English/Language Arts IV (12th grade)

English 4 is a full year course offered to senior students who have an IEP with an area of need in the Language Arts skill set which precludes placement in a regular English course. English/Language Arts 4 (12th grade) courses blend composition and literature into a cohesive whole as students write critical and comparative analyses of selected literature, continuing to develop their language arts skills. Typically, students primarily write multi-paragraph essays, but they may also write one or more major research papers.

02054A000 Algebra 1R

Algebra 1R is a full year course offered to freshmen students who have an IEP that includes an area of need in the general math skill set which precludes placement in a regular math course. This course generally covers the same topics as the second semester of Algebra I, including the study of properties of the real number system and operations, evaluating rational algebraic expressions, solving and graphing first degree equations and inequalities, translating word problems into equations, operations with and factoring of polynomials, and solving simple quadratics.

02071A000 Informal Geometry 1

Informal Geometry 1 is a full year course offered to sophomore students who have an IEP that includes an area of need in the general math skill set which precludes placement in a regular math course. Informal Geometry 1 course emphasizes a practical approach to the study of geometry and deemphasize an abstract, formal approach. Topics typically include properties of and work with plane and solid figures; inductive methods of reasoning and use of logic; concepts of congruence, similarity, parallelism, perpendicularity, and proportion; and rules of angle measurement in triangles.

02055A000 Transition Algebra 1

Transition Algebra 1 is a full year course offered to junior students who have an IEP that includes an area of need in the general math skill set which precludes placement in a regular math course. Transition Algebra 1 course reviews and extends algebra and geometry concepts for students who have already taken Algebra 1R and Informal Geometry 1. Transition Algebra 1 includes a review of such topics as properties and operations of real numbers; evaluation of rational algebraic expressions; solutions and graphs of first degree equations and inequalities; translation of word problems into equations; operations with and factoring of polynomials; simple quadratics; properties of plane and solid figures; rules of congruence and similarity; coordinate geometry including lines, segments, and circles in the coordinate plane; and angle measurement in triangles including trigonometric ratios.

04102A000 US History I

This course is designed for students with an IEP who require a modified curriculum of the Early US History course and who have difficulty with reading and reading comprehension. US History I course examines the history of the United States from the colonial period to the Civil War or Reconstruction era. The class is thematic based developing the student's ability to identify cause and effect, comparing and contrasting historical events and leaders, learning vocabulary and being able to use history facts to form one's own opinion.

04151A000 US Govt. & Civics

This course is designed for students with an IEP who require a modified curriculum of the Civics course and who have difficulty with reading and reading comprehension. This course provides an overview of the structure and functions of the U.S. government and political institutions and examine constitutional principles, the concepts of rights and responsibilities, the role of political parties and interest groups, and the importance of civic participation in the democratic process. These courses may examine the structure and function of state and local governments and may cover certain economic and legal topics. The US and Illinois state constitution will be studied as well. The federal and state constitution tests are given in this class as well as the Flag Code test.

04103A000 US History II

This course is designed for students with an IEP who require a modified curriculum of the Modern US History course and who have difficulty with reading and reading comprehension. This course examines the history of the United States from the Civil War or Reconstruction era (some courses begin at a later period) through the present time. Course will typically include a historical review of political, military, scientific, and social developments.

04201A000 Understanding Economics

This course is designed for students with an IEP who require a modified curriculum of the Economics course and who have difficulty with reading and reading comprehension. Economics course provides students with an overview of economics with primary emphasis on the principles of microeconomics and the U.S. economic system. These courses may also cover topics such as principles of macroeconomics, international economics, and comparative economics. Economic principles may be presented in formal theoretical contexts, applied contexts, or both.

04064A000 Current Events

This course is designed for students with an IEP who require a modified curriculum of the Contemporary World Issues course and who have difficulty with reading and reading comprehension. This course enables students to study political, economic, and social issues facing the world. These courses may focus on current issues, examine selected issues throughout the 20th century, and look at historical causes or possible solutions.

03051A000 Practical Biology

This course is designed for students with an IEP who require a modified curriculum of the Biology course. This course covers basic biological life science components. Students learn about scientific classification and organization, patterns of reproduction, growth and development, systems of the human body, ecological cycles, and other basic biological building blocks.

22206A000 Life Skills

Life Skills courses provide students with information about a wide range of subjects to assist them in becoming wise consumers and productive adults. These courses often emphasize such topics as goal setting, decision-making, and setting priorities; money and time management; relationships; and the development of the self. Practical exercises regarding selecting and furnishing houses, meeting transportation needs, preparing food, selecting clothing, and building a wardrobe are often integral to these classes. In addition, specific topics such as insurance, taxation, and consumer protection may also be covered. This course will meet the state requirement for Consumer Economics/Resource Management.

CAREER CENTER OF SOUTHERN ILLINOIS

Course	Open to:	Prerequisite	Length	Credit
Auto Body I & II	11-12	None	Yr	3.0
Auto Mechanics I & II	11-12	None	Yr	3.0
Child Care I & II	11-12	None	Yr	3.0
Health Occupations I	11-12	None	Yr.	3.0
Law Enforcement I & II	11-12	None	Yr	3.0
Welding I & II	11-12	None	Yr	3.0
Optional Education Program (Full Time)	10-12	Recommendation and at least 16 years old	Yr	varies

The Career Center of Southern Illinois (formerly Beck Career Center) is located east of Hecker and students will miss 3rd-5th period at Valmeyer High School to attend vocational classes. They will be transported by the school van at the end of 2nd hour and return by 6th hour.

20116A001 Auto-Body I

CTE Course

This course provides learning experiences designed to allow students to gain knowledge and skills in repairing automotive bodies and fenders. Planned learning activities in this course are balanced to allow students to become knowledgeable in the fundamental aspects of auto body repair methods and techniques, and to develop practical skills in the basic operations required to prepare the automobile for final paint application. Instruction emphasizes safety principles and practices, hazardous materials, auto body nomenclature, function of individual components, the use of parts manuals, the identification of replacement parts, the use of auto body fillers, the use of plastic/glass fillers and special body repair tools, refinishing problems, and paint preparation procedures. Practical activities relate to experiences in writing and calculating damage estimates, removing and installing body panels, trim, and glass; straightening by using hammers, bucks, and jacks; and smoothing by filing, grinding, and using fillers. Students also learn to prime the area to be painted and prepare the surface for final paint application. These experiences and skills are related to metal, fiberglass, or urethane components.

20116A002 Auto-Body II

CTE Course

This course provides learning experiences designed to further enhance the students' skills in performing more advanced tasks related to automotive body and fender repair. Learning activities in this course emphasize the successful application of the final paint coat and the preparation that precedes it. Emphasis is also placed upon the identification and correction of imperfections and finish buffing of the final coat. Student learning activities include instruction in safety principles and practices, hazardous materials, types and qualities of paints, colors, and refinishing problems; glass standards and installation, special alignment techniques, customer relations, damage estimating, and insurance adjustments. Student practical activities relate to experiences in estimating collision damage costs, preparing customer bills, removing and replacing glass surfaces, selecting paints, repainting minor and major damages, repainting total car body, drying or baking painted surfaces, post-paint cleanup, and post-paint polishing.

20104A001 Automotive Technician I**CTE Course**

This course introduces students to the basic skills needed to inspect, maintain, and repair automobiles and light trucks that run on gasoline, electricity, or alternative fuels.

Instructional units include engine performance, automotive electrical system, integrated computer systems, lubrication, exhaust and emission control, steering and suspension, fuel systems, cooling system, braking, and power train.

20104A002 Automotive Technician II**CTE Course**

This course is a continuation of and builds on the skills and concepts introduced in Automotive Technician I. This course includes instructional units in alternative fuel systems, computerized diagnostics, new vehicle servicing, automotive heating and air conditioning, transmissions, testing and diagnostics, drive train and overall automobile performance.

19054A001 Care and Learning Services Occupations**CTE Course**

This course provides students with information and practical experiences needed for the development of competencies related to child/adult care, day care, and other education services occupations. Laboratory experiences, either in a school-based or worksite learning facility, are included throughout the class. Students meet standards in developing programs and assisting with children's and/or adult's activities. Classroom study includes the philosophy and management of care centers and the state and local regulations governing care-giving operations. The learning experiences will involve working with children/adults simulating those found in business and industry, as well as preparation for developing and facilitating these activities.

19055A001 Care and Learning Services Management**CTE Course**

This course emphasizes the skills associated with the administration of the infant, child and adult care facilities and education centers. Skills, strategies and issues related to caring for infants and special needs children and adults, where applicable, are included. Emphasis is placed on career opportunities, communication skills, human relations and the service needs of clients in the occupational area. The major learning experiences will involve actual work with children and/or adults in facilities simulating those found in the workplace/industry, and discussion of the situations and problems that arise during the learning experiences. State licensing and certification requirements and regulations related to all-aspects of care and education are stressed throughout the course. Careers in the occupational area will be investigated, including entrepreneurship.

14051A001 Nursing Assistant**CTE Course**

The course is composed of a combination of subject matter and experiences designed to perform tasks of individuals receiving nursing services. The student learns those competencies needed to perform as a nurse assistant under the direction of the registered nurse. The units of instruction should include the role of the nurse assistant while covering general health care topics; medical terminology; patients/clients and their environment; special feeding techniques; psychological support and, in long term and terminal illness, death and dying (e.g., chronically ill, children, new mothers, and so on); and all other basic nursing skills. Topics covered typically include normal growth and development; feeding, transporting patients, hygiene, and disease prevention; basic pharmacology; first aid and CPR; observing and reporting; care of equipment and supplies; doctor, nurse, and patient relationships and roles; procedure policies; medical and professional ethics; and care of various kinds of patients. In order to have an approved nurse assistant program (one in which the students are eligible to sit for the certifying exam) the program must be approved by the Illinois Department of Public Health.

14002A003 Health Occupations Skill Development**CTE Course**

The course provides a sequence of organized learning experiences and skills to prepare a person to recognize the signs and symptoms of illness and injury; to begin the approved and appropriate life-support procedures, such as cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR); to operate emergency vehicles and communications equipment as patients/clients are moved to a hospital, emergency room; and to fill out the required records and reports after a call. This course should include identified skills to prepare the student for working in the emergency medical arena. The course should include skills to prepare the student for a specific health occupation or cluster of closely related occupations. Health occupations allow for instruction in multiple occupations. The student must be 18 years of age to sit for the national exam.

15051A003 Law Enforcement I**CTE Course**

This course is designed to prepare students to enter the fields of law enforcement and the criminal justice system. Instruction includes the history of law enforcement and the legal system, report writing and recordkeeping, criminal investigation techniques, and routine police procedures. Students learn how to use communications and dispatch equipment, perform proper search and seizure techniques, conduct basic criminal investigations, and execute correct pursuit and arrest procedures. Instruction also includes patrolling techniques, private security operations, traffic investigations, and community relations.

15051A004 Law Enforcement II**CTE Course**

This course provides experiences for students in basic investigative techniques for crimes against people and property. Learning activities emphasize the development of more advanced knowledge and skill than those provided in Law Enforcement I. Units of instruction include how to conduct a preliminary investigation and protect a crime scene, collect and preserve physical evidence including dusting latent prints, casting, fingerprint classification, and the use of portable crime laboratory equipment. Students learn how to conduct interviews, complete police reports, use police equipment, and testify in court. Instruction also includes traffic control, personal security, and law enforcement administration.

13207A001 Welding Technology I**CTE Course**

This course assists students in gaining the knowledge and developing the basic skills needed to be successful in welding technology. Units of instruction include arc, TIG and MIG welding, metallurgy, cutting metal using arc, plasma, and oxy-gas. In addition, students learn the basics of blueprint reading, precision measuring, layout, and production process planning.

13207A002 Welding Technology II**CTE Course**

This course builds on the skills and concepts introduced in Welding Technology I and provides more in-depth skill development in various types of welding including horizontal, vertical, overhead, and circular techniques. Students also explore the use of robotic and automated production welding.

OPTIONAL EDUCATION PROGRAM

Students who are 16 years of age or older who are experiencing academic difficulties at VHS may apply to attend The Career Center of Southern Illinois full time. The administration will make the final decision whether to refer a student to the Optional Education Program. Students are enrolled in one vocational/technical class and four

academic classes each semester. Students may re-enroll at VHS at the beginning of any semester. Mid-semester transfers are not permitted unless approved by the superintendent or principal. If optional education students have never attended Valmeyer High School, they must attend VHS for their final semester if they are to receive a VHS diploma.

PREPARING FOR POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION

The courses you take in high school can have a marked impact on your chances for success in life after high school. Colleges and universities in recent years have put increasing emphasis on the “core curriculum” for students pursuing a “college prep” type course of study. These courses include math, English, social studies, science, and foreign language and other electives.

Vocational and technical schools, in an effort to have their students better prepared to do the course work in their schools, are also recommending a “core curriculum”. This “tech prep” curriculum includes math and science courses beyond regular graduation requirements in addition to traditional vocational classes. Some “tech prep” programs will actually grant college credit for a high school course in order to further encourage students to take some of these more challenging classes.

COLLEGE PREP

The Illinois State Board of Higher Education, following this trend, has established minimum course requirements for all state universities and colleges. The requirements listed below are the ones implemented by all public two and four year colleges in Illinois. Since they vary slightly from school to school, it is necessary to check a school's requirements individually to find its exact course requirements.

- | | |
|---|--|
| 4 | English (Emphasizing written and oral communication and literature) |
| 3 | Social Studies (Emphasizing history and government) |
| 3 | Mathematics (Algebra, Algebra II, Geometry, Trigonometry, Calculus) |
| 3 | Science (Must be laboratory sciences) |
| 2 | Electives in Foreign Language, Music, Drama, Vocational Class or Art |

Some universities will excuse students from their foreign language requirements when they have 3 or 4 years of high school foreign language. Some universities also have fine art requirements and additional math requirements.

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 | Visual or Performing Arts (Many colleges in neighboring states are now requiring one credit of band, chorus, art, art appreciation or drama). |
|---|---|

**IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE STUDENT TO MAKE SURE
THEY HAVE TAKEN THE APPROPRIATE HIGH SCHOOL COURSES
REQUIRED BY THEIR SPECIFIC COLLEGE PROGRAM OR
TECHNICAL SCHOOL**