

Bennington High School

Curriculum Guide



2025-2026

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Director of Student Services, 11620 North 156th Street, P.O. Box 309, Bennington, NE 68007 (402) 238-3044 (dbombeck@bennps.org). Employees and Others: Dr. Matt Blomenkamp, Assistant Superintendent 11620 North 156th Street, P.O. Box 309, Bennington, NE 68007 (402) 238-3044 (mblomenkamp@bennps.org). Complaints or concerns involving discrimination or needs for accommodation or access should be addressed to the appropriate Coordinator. For further information about anti-discrimination laws and regulations, or to file a complaint of discrimination with the Office for Civil Rights in the U.S. Department of Education (OCR), please contact the OCR at 601 East 12th Street, Room 353, Kansas City, MO 64106, (800) 368-1019 (voice), Fax (816) 426-3686, (800) 537-7697 (telecommunications device for the deaf), or ocr.kansascity@ed.gov. TITLE IX The Bennington Public School District is committed to offering employment and educational opportunity to its employees and students in a climate free of discrimination. Accordingly, unlawful discrimination, harassment, and retaliation of any kind, by District employees, including, co-workers, non-employees (such as volunteers), third parties and others is strictly prohibited and will not be tolerated. The Bennington School District hereby gives this statement of compliance and intends to comply with all state and federal laws prohibiting discrimination. This school district intends to take any necessary measures to assure compliance with such laws against any prohibited form of discrimination.

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Table of Contents

The purpose of this curriculum guide is to inform the students, parents/guardians, patrons, and teachers in the Bennington Public School District of offerings at our school, and additional information about continuing their education after high school. The 2024-2025 Curriculum is under review by the Board of Education, Administration, and the Curriculum Committee.

Bennington High School Overview	4
Academic Graduation Requirements	5
Additional Graduation Requirements	6
Grading Procedures	7
GPA Policy	
Weighted Courses	
Credit Recovery	
Recognition and Honors	8
AP and Dual Enrollment Courses	9
Registration/Drop and Add Procedures	10
Course Offerings:	
Art	11
Business	13
English Language Arts	17
Family and Consumer Sciences	20
Instrumental and Vocal Music	23
Mathematics	26
Physical Education and Health	30
Science	33
Skilled and Technical Sciences	36
Social Sciences	40
World Languages	43
Special Education	46
Additional BHS Programs	49
Four Year Plan	50
UNL, UNO, and UNK Admission Requirements	54
Early Entry College Opportunities	55
NCAA/NAIA Information	56

Bennington High School

Bennington is an independent suburban school system in north central Douglas County, outside of Omaha. It is organized in a 6 – 3 – 4 plan. This implies that a student has six years of Elementary (K-5) school training, three years of Middle School (6-8) school training, and four years of High School (9-12). Bennington is fully accredited by the Nebraska Department of Education and the Cognia Global Commission which includes the North Central Association of Schools.

School Day:

The high school day begins at 8:10 a.m. and concludes at 3:17 p.m. Bennington has a closed campus which means students may not leave the building at any time during the school day without the direct permission of the administration and/or parents. Students shall be present in a minimum of five of the eight periods of the school day in order to participate in school events unless excused by the administration.

Standardized Testing:

The following standardized testing is available for students at Bennington High School. Each test will be administered on a designated time and day.

- All 9th grade students take the Pre-ACT during the school day
- All 10th grade students take the Pre-ACT during the school day
- All 11th grade students take the ACT during the school day
- Interested 11th grade students have the option to take the ASVAB and PSAT

Daily Class Periods:

Bennington's school year is divided into two semesters that allow for a total of 176 instructional days. The high school schedule operates on eight periods per day, and each period is 41-45 minutes. Freshmen, sophomores, and juniors are required to carry seven credited subjects per semester. Juniors may take fewer than seven subjects providing they have shown documentation that they are enrolled in a post-secondary institution. This includes taking online post-secondary classes at Bennington High School or traveling to a post-secondary institution. Seniors may take as few as four credited classes per semester. Students taking less than four classes at Bennington High School are ineligible for Nebraska State Activities Association (NSAA) activities as mandated by the NSAA policy. Special situations may apply for part-time students who are also attending Home School. Families should consult with the Athletic Director if there are questions. Two days per week BHS holds a 20-minute advisory period where students can request/receive direct assistance for a teacher. The advisory period occurs between 3rd and 4th hour.

Juniors and Seniors: Early Leave and Late Arrival

Eligible juniors and seniors may qualify for early leave or late arrival (or both) from school, with permission from home and the school. Juniors must be enrolled in seven classes each semester and seniors must be enrolled in a minimum of four classes each semester. The release for students will be valid as long as the student is "on track" for graduation. The administration has the right to revoke a student's release from school at any time. Students must pass 4 classes the previous semester in order to be eligible for NSAA activities.

Academic Graduation Requirements

Bennington High School students are required to successfully complete 50 credit hours to graduate. The high school offers both a college preparatory and a general secondary education program. Classes are offered in Business, English, Family & Consumer Sciences, Fine Arts, World Language, Skilled & Technical Science, Mathematics, Physical Education, Science, and Social Studies. Transfer students will have their academic records reviewed by the administration to determine their accepted credits toward graduation. Credits are assigned to classes at one credit hour per course per semester. Students wishing to graduate after the first semester of their senior year need to make a request in writing to the Principal or School Counselor no later than November 15th of their junior year. The request must be supported in writing by the parent(s)/guardian(s) of the student. Students must complete the following required classes or their honors equivalent:

Department	Minimum Required Classes	Total Credits Needed
English	English 9 English 10 English 11 English 12	8
Math	Algebra	6
Social Studies	World Geography World History American History Government	8
Science	Physical Science Biology	6
Physical Education/Health	Health 9	4
Other required courses	Computer Science Personal Finance	2
Electives		16
Total credits		50

Progress Toward High School Graduation - "ON TRACK" for Graduation

9th grade	1st year	0-12 credits recommended
10th grade	2nd year	13-24 credits recommended
11th grade	3rd year	25-36 credits recommended
12th grade	4th year	37+ credits

Additional Graduation Requirements

In addition to the academic graduation requirements listed on the previous page, students must participate in the following activities in order to graduate from Bennington High School:

1. Complete one of the 3 C's (Career, Community, Communication)	Complete 50 documented hours of volunteer service. This program recognizes students for their community service during high school. Guidelines for this requirement include: • The volunteer work must be an unpaid activity. • Volunteering for family members does not count towards the hours. • Volunteer work cannot occur during a student's academic day. • A maximum of eight volunteer hours are allowed per day. • Tutoring at BPS schools can account for up to 16 hours of the 50 service hours. • Concession service at BHS events can account for up to 15 hours of the 50 required service hours. Concession hours must be hours completed through Booster Club assignment and <i>not</i> through a BHS club/group/activity session. Volunteer service hours may be designated and assigned to students by the administration. Students that move into our district may bring in volunteer hours from their district if they have a similar requirement. The volunteer hours will be evaluated by the administration to see how they meet this requirement. Contact Nikki Guynan at 402-238-2447 or nguynan@bennps.org for more information. OR - Successfully complete one semester of Professional Communications (Speech) class. OR - Participate in an Omaha area Exploring Post. Exploring Posts are career education programs designed to allow students to meet and interact with professionals in various careers at their place of employment. Most programs include hands-on activities, speakers & tours. They usually meet once a week for several weeks. There is often a small fee to cover the cost of materials. Students will NOT be reimbursed by the school for fees associated with completing an exploring post.
2. Complete the LB399 Nebraska Citizenship requirement.	Students must attend a public meeting of elected officials. They will complete and submit a meeting organizer to document their involvement. This form must be turned in to Ms. Guynan within one month of attending the meeting. Students may pick up the form from Ms. Guynan, or print it out from the website. Meeting dates and paperwork can be found at the following link: https://bhs.benningtonschools.org/students/graduation_requirements/civics_requirement
3. Complete the FAFSA or turn in an opt-out form.	Beginning in the school year 2024-2025, each public high school senior student must complete and submit to the United States Department of Education a FAFSA prior to graduating from high school. A student will not be required to submit a FAFSA if an opt-out form is filled out and signed by a parent or guardian, the student themselves if 19 years old, or by the school principal or principal's designee. (Neb. Rev. Stat. § 79-729) Opt-out forms are available through the counseling office.

Grading Procedures

Grade Point Average (GPA) Policy

The grade point average is determined for grades 9 through 12 by using the grading scale shown below. It starts in August of a student's 9th-grade year and concludes in May of their 12th-grade year. The number of regular or weighted points a student has earned is divided by the number of credits they have earned. It is recalculated and updated at the end of every semester. Classes that are awarded a Pass grade will not be figured into GPA.

Grading Scale

Regular Courses	Weighted Courses	
A = 100-93 (4.0)	A = 100-93 (5.0)	Superior achievement
B = 92-86 (3.0)	B = 92-86 (4.0)	Above average
C = 85-77 (2.0)	C = 85-77 (3.0)	Average
D = 76-70 (1.0)	D = 76-70 (2.0)	Below average
F = 69-0 (0.0)	F = 69-0 (0.0)	Failing
P = Passing		
NP = Not passing		

Weighted High School Courses

**Pending board approval for the 2025-26 school year, AP courses could move from a .5 to 1.0 weight. (1/24/25)*

AP Biology	AP Chemistry	AP English Literature	AP English Language
AP French	AP Spanish	AP Computer Science	AP Calculus
AP PreCalculus	AP Statistics	AP US History	AP Human Geo.
AP US Government			

Note: Students do not need to take the Advanced Placement (AP) examinations in May in order to get the weighted credit for the two semesters of class.

Credit Recovery

Bennington High School offers a credit recovery program for students who have had considerable difficulty acquiring typical academic skills and credits needed to graduate from high school. The goal of Credit Recovery is to give high school students the opportunity to graduate in a timely manner. This program has policies and procedures that allow students who have failed core courses required for graduation an opportunity to make up coursework for credit. Bennington High School students may be eligible to participate in Credit Recovery if accepted and by adhering to the guidelines. Guidelines will be provided upon request.

Recognition and Honors

Class Rank Policy

Bennington High school uses the Laude Recognition Model. This will eliminate Valedictorian and Salutatorian at graduation. There will not be a reported class rank for the student on their transcript.

Summa Cum Laude (*with the highest honor*)

This is the highest recognition awarded at graduation. A student must achieve a 4.00 grade point average or higher on a 4.00 weighted scale.

Magna Cum Laude (*with great honor*)

This is the second-highest recognition awarded at graduation. A student must achieve a grade point average of 3.95 or less than 4.00 on a 4.00 weighted scale.

Cum Laude (*with honor*)

This is the third highest recognition awarded at graduation. A student must achieve a grade point average of 3.90 or less than 3.95 on a 4.00 weighted scale.

Honor Roll

President's List (Top Academic Honor Roll)

GPA: 4.0 - 3.75

Grades 9-11 must have at least seven classes at Bennington High School.

Grade 12 must have at least six classes at Bennington High School.

Dean's List (Regular Honor Roll)

GPA: 3.749 - 3.5

Grades 9-11 must have at least seven classes at Bennington High School.

Grade 12 must have at least four classes at Bennington High School.

Academic Lettering

Bennington High School will offer a letter to students in grades 9 -12 for cumulative Grade Point Averages (GPA) of 3.5 or higher. The student's GPA is computed after each semester and the student's GPA in January will be used as the criteria for the academic letter. A student may earn multiple academic letters in high school.

AP and Dual Enrollment Courses

Dual Enrollment Courses

Dual enrollment allows students to earn college credit while they are still earning high school credit. Families may want to review the Nebraska Transfer Articulation Guide to see how courses transfer to different post-secondary institutions. These courses are available to juniors and seniors. It is recommended that sophomores have earned 28 credits and juniors have earned 42 credits by the end of the spring semester. Students must provide their own transportation if the course is not offered at Bennington High School. Students are responsible for all fees, tuition, and other costs for each class they take outside of BHS.

Dual Enrollment Courses	
<i>Students register for the class with the appropriate post-secondary institution (listed below) in the fall of the current school year.</i>	
University of Nebraska at Omaha (UNO) courses taught at Bennington High School	AP Biology
	AP English Literature
	Introduction to Education
	AP Human Geography
	Psychology
	AP Statistics
	AP Spanish
	AP Government
	AP US History
Metro Community College (MCC) courses taught at Bennington High School	Modular Math
	Web Design
	Foundations of Healthcare

AP and Dual Enrollment Courses

Advanced Placement (AP) Examinations

AP courses can help students to be better prepared for college. Studies have shown students who take AP courses and exams are much more likely than their peers to complete a bachelor's degree in four years or less. After taking an AP course, students have the opportunity to take the corresponding AP Exam, which, depending on their score and the college they ultimately attend, could earn them college credit and save them (and you!) time and money. Students earn a score from one to five on the AP exams. Many post-secondary institutions grant credit to students earning a three or higher. The AP examinations are national examinations and are held during the first two weeks of May, at Bennington High School. Currently, each AP examination is paid for by the school district. The following AP courses are offered at Bennington High School:

AP Chemistry	AP English Literature	AP Computer Science
AP US History	AP English Language	AP US Government
AP Spanish	AP Human Geography	AP Calculus
AP French	AP Statistics	
AP Biology	AP Precalculus	

Registration and Drop/Add Procedures

Registration

Course registration for incoming 9th graders and for current 9th, 10th, and 11th graders will be completed each spring. Counselors will guide students to select courses that fulfill remaining graduation requirements and align with each student's future goals. Parents are encouraged to do the same.

Schedule Changes and Drop/Add Procedures

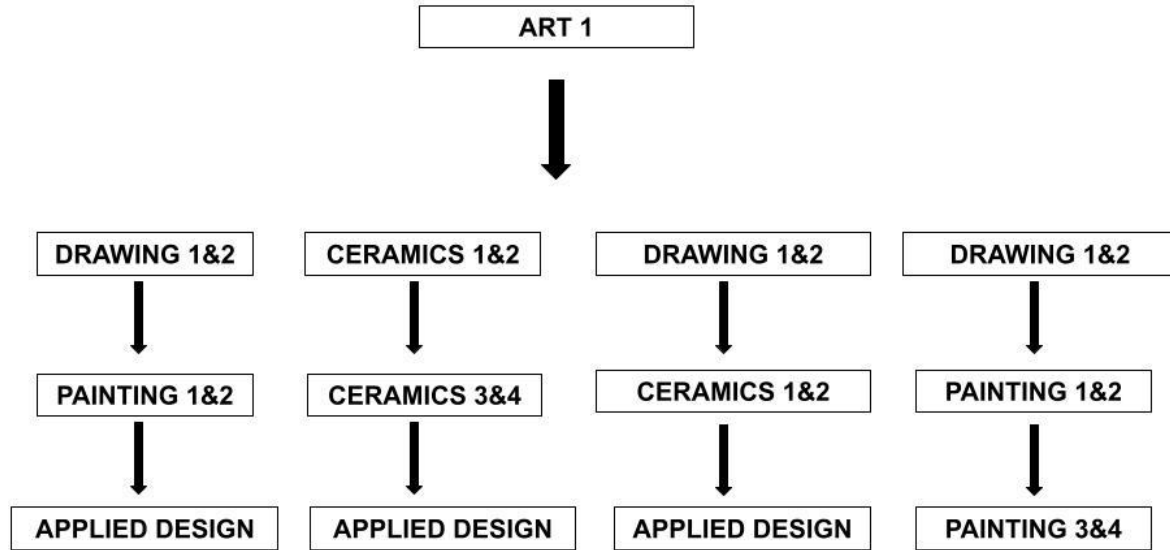
Course offerings and staffing decisions are based on the course choices students make during the registration process each spring, and because of this, choices students make during the registration process are considered to be final. However, schedule changes may be requested during the Drop and Add Period in the first three days of the semester. **Courses are subject to change based on registration numbers and teacher certification.**

It is important for students to thoughtfully choose and review course selections made during the registration process in the spring. Schedule changes requested during the Drop/Add Period are *requests*; **they are not guaranteed**. Schedule changes *may* be granted during this time for the following reasons:

- a graduation requirement is needed
- pre-requisites for a particular course have not been met
- duplicate classes
- incomplete schedule

When determining if a schedule change will be granted, class size and fulfillment of graduation requirements are considered. Schedule changes will not be made to change lunch periods, to be with friends, or teacher preference.

Art Courses



Art Courses

Art I

Type: Elective

Prerequisites: None

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

Credits: 2 (full year, 1 credit each semester)

In this course, students will study the Elements and Principles of Art. They will gain technical experience in drawing, painting, printmaking, and ceramics. This class provides the foundation of skills and knowledge to prepare students for advanced study in Drawing I & II.

Drawing I-IV

Type: Elective

Prerequisites: Art I

Grades: 10, 11, 12

Credits: 1 (semester, 1 credit each semester)

This course provides more in-depth study and practice of traditional and contemporary artists, drawing techniques, and media exploration. This class prepares students for advanced study in Painting I & II.

Ceramics I-IV

Type: Elective

Prerequisites: Art I

Grades: 10, 11, 12

Credits: 1 (semester, 1 credit each semester)

Fee/Materials: \$20 - This fee covers the cost of the glaze and clay for each student.

This course provides a comprehensive study in methods of sculpture and hand-build construction. Students will explore three-dimensional design while developing both functional and sculptural forms. Creativity and quality craftsmanship are emphasized.

Painting I-IV

Type: Elective

Prerequisites: Art I and Drawing

Grades: 10, 11, 12

Credits: 1 (semester, 1 credit each semester)

This course provides historical perspective and technical practice in areas of watercolor, ink, acrylic, and oil painting.

Applied Design I-IV

Type: Elective

Prerequisites: Three years of art classes

Grades: 12

Credits: 1 (semester, 1 credit each semester)

This course focuses on conceptual art and the creation of individual portfolio work. Advanced techniques will be practiced in sculpture, printmaking, illustration, and painting. With instructor approval, this course may be taken two years in a row.

Business and Computer Sciences Courses

Course Name	Pre-Requisites	Grade Level(s)
Computer Science and Technology*	None	9
Introduction to Business	None	9, 10, 11, 12
Marketing	None	9, 10, 11, 12
Business Law	Introduction to Business or Marketing	10, 11, 12
Business Economics	Introduction to Business or Marketing	10, 11, 12
Accounting I	Introduction to Business & Marketing	10, 11, 12
Accounting II	Accounting I	11, 12
Web Design - Dual Enrollment Option (MCC)	Computer Science and Technology	10, 11, 12
Introduction to Digital Design	Computer Science and Technology	10, 11, 12
Digital Design	Computer Science and Technology	10, 11, 12
Introduction to Programming	Computer Science and Technology	10, 11, 12
Entrepreneurship	Introduction to Business or Marketing	10, 11, 12
AP Computer Science	Introduction to Programming	11, 12
Personal Finance*	None	11, 12

*Graduation Requirement

Business and Computer Sciences Courses

Computer Science and Technology

Type: Graduation Requirement

Prerequisites: None

Grades: 9

Credits: 1 (semester, 1 credit each semester)

Students will explore emerging technologies as it applies to their success for high school, college, and career. Topics covered include knowledge and skills regarding computer literacy, educational technology, digital citizenship, information technology and computer science.

Introduction to Business

Type: Elective

Prerequisites: None

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

Credits: 1 (semester, 1 credit each semester)

This semester course is designed as an introductory overview of the Business, Marketing, and Management Career field. Units of study include economic systems, forms of business ownership, management, marketing, and accounting. Career opportunities will also be explored.

Marketing

Type: Elective

Prerequisites: None

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

Credits: 1 (semester, 1 credit each semester)

Students will explore the basic functions of marketing: pricing, promotion, product planning, and place/distribution: the marketing mix. The curriculum provides foundational skills and knowledge in economics, communications, interpersonal skills, professional career development, business, management, and entrepreneurship. Application of academic concepts and technology are integrated throughout the curriculum.

Business Law

Type: Elective

Prerequisites: Introduction to Business or Marketing

Grades: 10, 11, 12

Credits: 1 (semester, 1 credit each semester)

Business law is a one-semester course designed to present the study of the legal rights and responsibilities necessary to be informed and productive citizens. Key concepts include contracts and torts, the role of courts, litigation, and constitutional issues including civil and criminal law.

Business Economics

Type: Elective

Prerequisites: Introduction to Business or Marketing

Grades: 10, 11, 12

Credits: 1 (semester, 1 credit each semester)

Business Economics is a course designed to help students make decisions and understand economic principles as applied to current events and issues. Emphasis includes the allocation of resources, economic systems, economic institutions and incentives, markets and prices, market structures, productivity, the role of government, global economic concepts, and economic indicators.

Accounting I

Type: Elective

Prerequisites: Introduction to Business and Marketing

Grades: 10, 11, 12

Credits: 2 (full year, 1 credit each semester)

This two-semester course covers sole proprietorship accounting principles involved in the preparation and maintenance of financial records concerned with business management and operations. It is a comprehensive introduction to basic accounting including recording, summarizing, and reporting, principles of income measurement and asset valuation, accounting systems, and controls. Students are exposed to careers in the accounting field and are given the opportunity to perform accounting applications using the computer. An introduction to partnerships and corporations may be included.

Business and Computer Sciences Courses

Accounting II

Type: Elective

Prerequisites: Accounting I

Grades: 11, 12

Credits: 2 (full year, 1 credit each semester)

This is a two-semester course that includes partnership and corporate accounting, an adjustment in inventory control systems, budgetary control systems, and further enhancement of accounting skills.

Web Design - Dual Enrollment Option (MCC)

Type: Elective

Prerequisites: Computer Science I

Grades: 10, 11, 12

Credits: 1 (semester, 1 credit each semester)

Students will demonstrate knowledge of web design and languages, including Hyper-Text Markup Language (HTML) and Cascading Style Sheets (CSS) to create a content-rich and visually pleasing website that captures and keeps visitors' interests. The focus will be given to effective page layout, image creation and manipulation, interactivity, content creation, and project management. This course may be available for articulated or dual credit at a postsecondary institution.

Introduction to Digital Design

Type: Elective

Prerequisites: Computer Science & Technology

Grades: 10, 11, 12

Credits: 1 (semester, 1 credit each semester)

This course will introduce students to the technical tools and processes used in digital design. Students will be introduced to the design process model which includes typography, color, and imagery. In addition, design software will be utilized to create graphics, animation, web pages, and videos. Students will demonstrate proper use of fair use guidelines. Career opportunities in digital design will be explored.

Digital Design

Type: Elective

Prerequisites: None

Grades: 10, 11, 12

Credits: 1 (semester, 1 credit each semester)

This course will build on the technical tools and processes used in digital design. Career opportunities in digital design will be explored.

Introduction to Programming

Type: Elective

Prerequisites: Computer Science I

Grades: 10, 11, 12

Credits: 1 (semester, 1 credit each semester)

This class will cover the first main topics of Java programming (primitive types, using objects, if statements, iteration/loops, writing classes, and arrays). This will be a prerequisite to taking the AP Computer Science A class.

Entrepreneurship

Type: Elective

Prerequisites: Marketing, Introduction to Business, OR instructor approval

Grades: 10, 11, 12

Credits: 1 (semester, 1 credit each semester)

The Entrepreneurship course is designed for students to explore and create a business venture of their choice. Students will learn how to generate business ideas; create a business plan, mission and vision; and promote and market a company. Topics include exploring factors of business success and failure, core business concepts, funding options, competition, production, organizational structure, and business laws.

AP Computer Science A

Type: Elective

Prerequisites: Introduction to Programming

Grades: 11, 12

Credits: 2 (full year, 1 credit each semester)

Students will utilize object-oriented programming methodology for problem-solving and algorithm development. This course also includes the study of data structures, design, and abstraction. This course uses the Java language to study advanced computer programming concepts and will cover arrays, matrices, algorithms, searches and sorts, classes, inheritance, and recursion. The student will also be able to recognize the ethical and social implications of computer use.

Business and Computer Sciences Courses

Personal Finance

Type: Graduation Requirement

Prerequisites: None

Grades: 11, 12

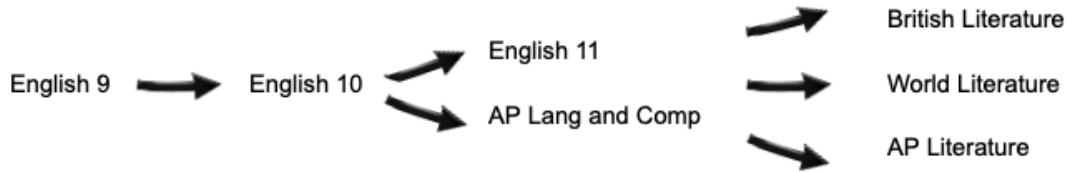
Credits: 1 (semester, 1 credit each semester)

The goal of personal finance is to help students become financially responsible, conscientious members of society. Knowledge and skills regarding budget and financial record keeping; banking; taxes; establishing, building, maintaining, and monitoring credit; debt; savings; risk management; insurance; and investment strategies will be covered in the course. Application of academic concepts, technology, and career planning are integrated throughout the curriculum.

English Language Arts Courses

English Progression Map

Core



Electives



Professional Communications

English Language Arts Courses

English 9

Type: Graduation Requirement

Prerequisites: None

Grades: 9

Credits: 2 (full year, 1 credit each semester)

This is a course designed to develop students' composition skills and to enhance students' understanding of literary texts. The writing for this class focuses on completing several literary analysis essays on characterization, setting, plot, and theme. The development of basic grammar skills, enhancement of vocabulary language through Greek and Latin roots, and improvement on reading comprehension are all important aspects to this course. Reading topics will include studying the genres of short stories, a novel, and a Shakespearean drama. In addition, students will develop and foster the skills in creating a research paper by addressing research techniques, citing sources within a literary paper, and understanding the concept of plagiarism.

English 10

Type: Graduation Requirement

Prerequisites: None

Grades: 10

Credits: 2 (full year, 1 credit each semester)

This course is designed to develop student skills in composition, speaking, and reading. The course will focus on developing composition skills through grammar, literature, and writing instruction. It also includes direct instruction on Greek and Latin vocabulary. One quarter will emphasize oral communication through exposure to informative and persuasive speaking techniques. The texts from World Literature will also allow students to study an array of cultures to develop an appreciation for diversity and empathy toward others.

English 11: American Literature

Type: Graduation Requirement

Prerequisites: None

Grades: 11

Credits: 2 (full year, 1 credit each semester)

This course will focus on developing an awareness of and appreciation for American Literature from the colonial period to the present day. Representative writers and genres of each period will be studied with regard to their influence on literature and thought. A secondary component of the class will be mastery of the process of scholarly research and the completion of two research papers.

British Literature

Type: Graduation Requirement Alternative

Prerequisites: None

Grades: 12

Credits: 2 (full year, 1 credit each semester)

Through the voices of a diverse group of authors, thinkers, and prominent political and cultural figures, British Literature surveys the history of the English Language from the Old English period up to the contemporary writers of today. Through the careful study of various literary genres such as poetry, prose, essay, and drama, students refine the skills of critical thinking and through thought provoking personal response writing, essay writing, and analytical assignments.

World Literature: Emerging Voices and Global Connections

Type: Graduation Requirement Alternative

Prerequisites: None

Grades: 12

Credits: 2 (full year, 1 credit each semester)

This senior-level English course will delve into the diverse and challenging world of literature written after the 1800s, exploring its key characteristics, major authors, and global impact. We will examine how these texts emerged as a reaction to industrialization, challenging convention through poetry, short stories, drama, novels and scholarly essays. This course aims to provide a challenging and engaging learning experience for senior English students, equipping them with the critical thinking, analytical, and communication skills necessary for success in college and beyond.

AP English Language

Type: Graduation Requirement Alternative

Prerequisites: English 9 & 10

Grades: 11

Credits: 2 (full year, 1 credit each semester)

This course aligns with an introductory college-level rhetoric and writing curriculum, which requires students to develop evidence-based analytic and argumentative essays that proceed through several stages or drafts. Students evaluate, synthesize, and cite research to support their arguments. Throughout the course, students develop a personal style by making appropriate grammatical choices. Additionally, students read and analyze the rhetorical elements and their effects in non-fiction texts, including graphic images forms of text, from many disciplines and historical periods.

English Language Arts Courses

AP Literature and Composition

Type: Graduation Requirement Alternative; Dual Enrollment (UNO)

Prerequisites: English 9, 10, & 11/AP Language Composition

Grades: 12

Credits: 2 (full year, 1 credit each semester)

This course requires high-level thinking skills, reading, and writing abilities. AP Literature & Composition is recommended to the college-bound student who is intellectually curious and wishes to be challenged by the ideas presented in excellent literature and who wishes to learn more about themselves. The students will complete two longer polished literary essays each semester. This class will help prepare students to take the AP exam in English Literature and Composition. The readings assigned are written by a diverse group of both classic and contemporary authors.

Professional Communication

Type: Graduation Requirement Alternative, 3 C's

Prerequisites: None

Grades: 10, 11, 12

Credits: 1 (1 semester)

Students will develop the effective communication skills necessary for successful participation in professional life by identifying, analyzing, developing, and evaluating communication skills. They will explore the process of group and interpersonal communication in professional and social contexts as well as make and evaluate formal and informal presentations. This course qualifies as one of the 3 C's a student could utilize as a graduation requirement from Bennington High School.

Introduction to Journalism

Type: Elective

Prerequisites: None

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

Credits: 1 (semester, 1 credit each semester)

Students will develop journalistic skills in the areas of news writing, interviewing, editing, photography, publishing, article design, video production, and structural writing.

Journalism I

Type: Elective

Prerequisites: Successful completion of Introduction to Journalism or teacher approval

Grades: 10, 11, 12

Credits: 2 (full year, 1 credit each semester)

The newspaper journalism class is responsible for the publication of the Blue Streak student newspaper. Students study the basic principles of print and online journalism. They learn investigative skills, responsible reporting, and journalistic writing techniques as they read, respond to, and write their own news and feature articles. Students conduct interviews, research, write, and design their own publications. Participants gain useful, real-world skills in time management, marketing, teamwork, and design principles.

Yearbook I

Type: Elective

Prerequisites: Successful completion of Introduction to Journalism or teacher approval

Grades: 10, 11, 12

Credits: 2 (full year, 1 credit each semester)

In this course students will gain skills in the following areas: page design, advanced publishing techniques, interviewing, copywriting, editing, and photography while producing a creative, innovative yearbook that records school memories and events. There is an emphasis on journalism skills in this class including the use of AP style, ethics, and the First Amendment. Participants gain useful, real-world skills in time management, marketing, teamwork, and design principles. Students taking this course must be committed to producing quality work products, able to work together in groups, able to handle deadlines, and should expect to spend additional time outside of the class working on the publication. As a member of the yearbook staff, you will be able to take pride in a product that will capture memories for you and your classmates to treasure for years to come.

Family and Consumer Sciences Courses

Course Name	Pre-Requisites	Grade Level(s)
Comprehensive Family and Consumer Sciences	None	9, 10, 11, 12
Foods I	None	9, 10, 11, 12
Cultural Foods	Foods I	10, 11, 12
Foundations of Health Care Dual Enrollment (MCC)	Comprehensive Family and Consumer Sciences	10, 11, 12
Introduction to Education - Dual Enrollment (UNO)	Comprehensive Family and Consumer Sciences	10, 11, 12
Hospitality and Tourism	Comprehensive Family and Consumer Sciences	10, 11, 12
Housing and Interior Design	Comprehensive Family and Consumer Sciences	10, 11, 12
Adult Living	Comprehensive Family and Consumer Sciences	11, 12
Child Care	Comprehensive Family and Consumer Sciences	11, 12
Teacher Cadet	Introduction to Education - Dual Enrollment (UNO)	11, 12
Teacher Cadet 9	Introduction to Education - Dual Enrollment (UNO)	11, 12

Family and Consumer Sciences Courses

Comprehensive Family and Consumer Sciences

Type: Elective

Prerequisites: None

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

Credits: 1 (semester, 1 credit each semester)

Fees/Materials: Not to exceed \$10 for project supplies

This semester-long, comprehensive course covers the following areas of Family and Consumer Science: human development, relationships, careers, finances and budgeting, clothing and textiles, housing and home furnishings, management, organization, and decision making. Students will learn key concepts essential for becoming competent, well-informed individuals. Decision-making and management skills are emphasized in each area.

Foods I

Type: Elective

Prerequisites: None

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

Credits: 1 (semester, 1 credit each semester)

This semester course introduces nutrition—planning, managing, and evaluating dietary needs—as well as wellness. Students will develop food preparation skills with grains, proteins, eggs, dairy, fruits, and vegetables. The course will equip students with essential cooking techniques and the knowledge needed to become smart, informed consumers, setting them on a lifelong path of practical kitchen proficiency. Class size is limited.

Cultural Foods

Type: Elective

Prerequisites: Foods I

Grades: 10, 11, 12

Credits: 1 (semester, 1 credit each semester)

This one-semester course focuses on the historical and cultural aspects of food. Students will explore the food customs of various regions in the United States, including

New England, Pennsylvania Dutch, Southern, Creole, Southwest, and Hawaii (Polynesian), as well as international cuisines from Spain/Mexico, France, Italy, the British Isles, the Orient, Germany, Russia, Scandinavia, and the Middle East. The course includes brief research and exposure to each culture's customs, along with hands-on practice of their cuisines

Foundations of Health Care - Dual Enrollment (MCC)

Type: Elective

Prerequisites: Family & Consumer Sciences

Grades: 10, 11, 12

Credits: 1 (semester, 1 credit each semester)

Foundations of Health Care is a semester-long course that provides an overview of the therapeutic, diagnostic, support services, biotechnology and research, and health informatics pathways. The course covers health careers, leadership development, medical terminology, ethical and legal responsibilities, the history of health care, and the economics of health care. Students will engage in frequent research and presentations throughout the semester.

Hospitality and Tourism

Type: Elective

Prerequisites: Family & Consumer Sciences

Grades: 10, 11, 12

Credits: 1 (semester, 1 credit each semester)

This course will cover a broad range of topics related to travel experiences, event planning, event management, along with lodging, food service, recreation, human resources, security, marketing, and entrepreneurship. Key elements of the hospitality service industry and opportunities for employment, growth, and advancement within this industry.

Family and Consumer Sciences Courses

this class does not cover food-related topics or meal preparation.

Introduction to Education - Dual Enrollment (UNO)

Type: Elective

Prerequisites: Family & Consumer Sciences OR Teacher approval

Grades: 10, 11, 12

Credits: 1 (semester, 1 credit each semester)

This semester course provides an introduction to the foundation and history of education in American society, designed for students interested in a career in teaching or working with young people. It serves as a prerequisite for students planning to enter the Teacher Cadets program, preparing them to assist in elementary or middle school classrooms. The course emphasizes planning for instruction, classroom management, and understanding and teaching diverse learning styles. Class size is limited.

Housing and Interior Design

Type: Elective

Prerequisites: Family & Consumer Sciences

Grades: 10, 11, 12

Credits: 1 (semester, 1 credit each semester)

This course provides instruction and exploration of physical, physiological, and social influences leading to housing and interior design selection. Topics explored will be related to the fundamentals of design in interior and architectural design as well as exposure to careers in housing, building, and planning.

Adult Living

Type: Elective

Prerequisites: Family Consumer Sciences

Grades: 11, 12

Credits: 1 (semester, 1 credit each semester)

This one-semester course explores various aspects of adult life, focusing on key challenges students will face after graduating from high school. Topics include male and female reproduction, dating and relationships, young marriage, marriage preparations, marriage customs and laws, credit, insurance, home management, and addressing major life challenges. Decision-making skills relevant to the adult world are emphasized throughout the course. Please note that

Child Care

Type: Elective

Prerequisites: Family Consumer Sciences

Grades: 11, 12

Credits: 1 (semester, 1 credit each semester)

This one-semester course is designed to help students develop skills for future careers and/or parenting. The course covers child development from before birth through pregnancy, birth, and up to ages 5 or 6. Discussions on newborns, infants, toddlers, and preschoolers will address their physical, emotional, social, and mental growth. Major projects include caring for a computerized baby and participating in a local preschool or kindergarten setting. By studying child development, students also gain deeper self-understanding. Class size is limited.

Teacher Cadet

Type: Elective

Prerequisites: Completion of Introduction to Education with a grade of B or higher, written teacher recommendation

Grades: 11, 12

Credits: 2 (full year, 1 credit each semester)

This course allows students to work with younger children in a school setting, ideal for those interested in pursuing careers involving children. Grading will be based on attendance, weekly assignments, dependability, and interaction with the students. Students are responsible for providing their own transportation to an elementary or middle school within the Bennington Public Schools district.

Teacher Cadet 9

Type: Elective

Prerequisites: Introduction to Education, minimum 3.0 GPA, written teacher recommendation

Grades: 11, 12

Credits: 2 (full year, 1 credit each semester)

This full-year course involves tutoring and mentoring 9th-grade students in a study hall setting. To participate, students must have a cumulative 3.0 GPA and a written teacher recommendation. Grading will be based on attendance, weekly assignments, mid-quarter and quarter check-ins with the corresponding teacher, dependability, creativity in curriculum tools, and interaction with the students.

Instrumental and Vocal Music Courses

Course Name	Pre-Requisites	Grade Level(s)
Theatre & Stagecraft	None	10, 11, 12
Treble Choir	None	9, 10, 11, 12
Bass Choir	None	9, 10, 11, 12
Concert Choir	Audition	9, 10, 11, 12
Music Theory	Band or Choir enrollment	9, 10, 11, 12
Unified Music	None	9, 10, 11, 12
Freshman Band	Previous experience in BPS Band and/or permission of the band director	9
High School Band	Freshman Band or previous experience in BPS Band	10, 11, 12

Instrumental and Vocal Music Courses

Treble Choir

Type: Elective

Prerequisites: None

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

Credits: 2 (full year, 1 credit each semester)

Treble Choir is a non-auditioned, elective class for treble voices in grades 9-12. The class will focus on building vocal technique, musicianship skills, and rehearsal etiquette while working on traditional choral literature. This ensemble will perform at least twice a year in public, with other extra-curricular opportunities available.

Bass Choir

Type: Elective

Prerequisites: None

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

Credits: 2 (full year, 1 credit each semester)

Bass Choir is a non-auditioned, elective class for bass voices in grades 9-12. The class will focus on building vocal technique, musicianship skills, and rehearsal etiquette while working on traditional choral literature. This ensemble will perform at least twice a year in public, with other extra-curricular opportunities available.

Concert Choir

Type: Elective

Prerequisites: By audition only

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

Credits: 2 (full year, 1 credit each semester)

Concert Choir is an auditioned, large ensemble of mixed students in grades 9-12. It is our premier large ensemble and students keep an active schedule throughout the year. Performances are often in the evenings and we travel to away concerts as well. This is an advanced, vocal ensemble and requires students to understand the choral concepts being taught in Treble and Bass Choir.

Music Theory

Type: Elective

Prerequisites: Band or Choir enrollment or instructor's permission

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

Credits: 2 (full year, 1 credit each semester)

Music theory dives deeper into music mechanics. This class is for students who anticipate studying or playing in a collegiate program, students who desire to improve music literacy, or musicianship skills for their high school large ensembles, or develop musicianship to aid in college auditions, solo contests, or All-State Band and Choir auditions.

Unified Music

Type: Elective

Prerequisites: None

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

Credits: 1 (semester, 1 credit each semester)

Unified music is a unique opportunity for students of varying ability levels and backgrounds to come together on equal terms through vocal, instrumental, and general music activities that will focus on the musical and social growth of all participants.

Theatre and Stagecraft

Type: Elective

Prerequisites: None

Grades: 10, 11, 12

Credits: 2 (full year, 1 credit each semester)

This class is the technical aspects of theater which includes audio mixing, set construction, lighting design, scenery rigging, and stage management. It will provide an opportunity to be involved with the programming and designing of productions. It will provide technical training and practical applications. Students are allowed to take the class in both years.

Instrumental and Vocal Music Courses

Freshman Band*

Type: Elective

Prerequisites: Previous experience in BPS Band program and/or permission of director

Grades: 9

Credits: 2 (full year, 1 credit each semester)

This band is open to all brass, woodwind, and percussion 9th grade students. Students taking this course are provided with a balanced comprehensive study of music through the concert band, marching band, and pep band format. Appropriate wind band literature and method studies that encourage the development of instrumental technique required for high school level performance is rehearsed and performed.

Time outside the school day is scheduled for rehearsals and performances in marching band, concert band, and pep band. Students are required to participate in performances outside of the school day, which support and extend learning in the classroom. Solo/ensemble and honor band opportunities are also available for all students taking this course. Topics covered will include instrumental technique, equipment care, music theory, marching and playing fundamentals, rehearsal etiquette, advanced marching and playing techniques, and musicianship.

High School Band

Type: Elective

Prerequisites: Previous experience in the BHS Band program, completion of Freshman Band and/or permission from director

Grades: 10, 11, 12

Credits: 2 (full year, 1 credit each semester)

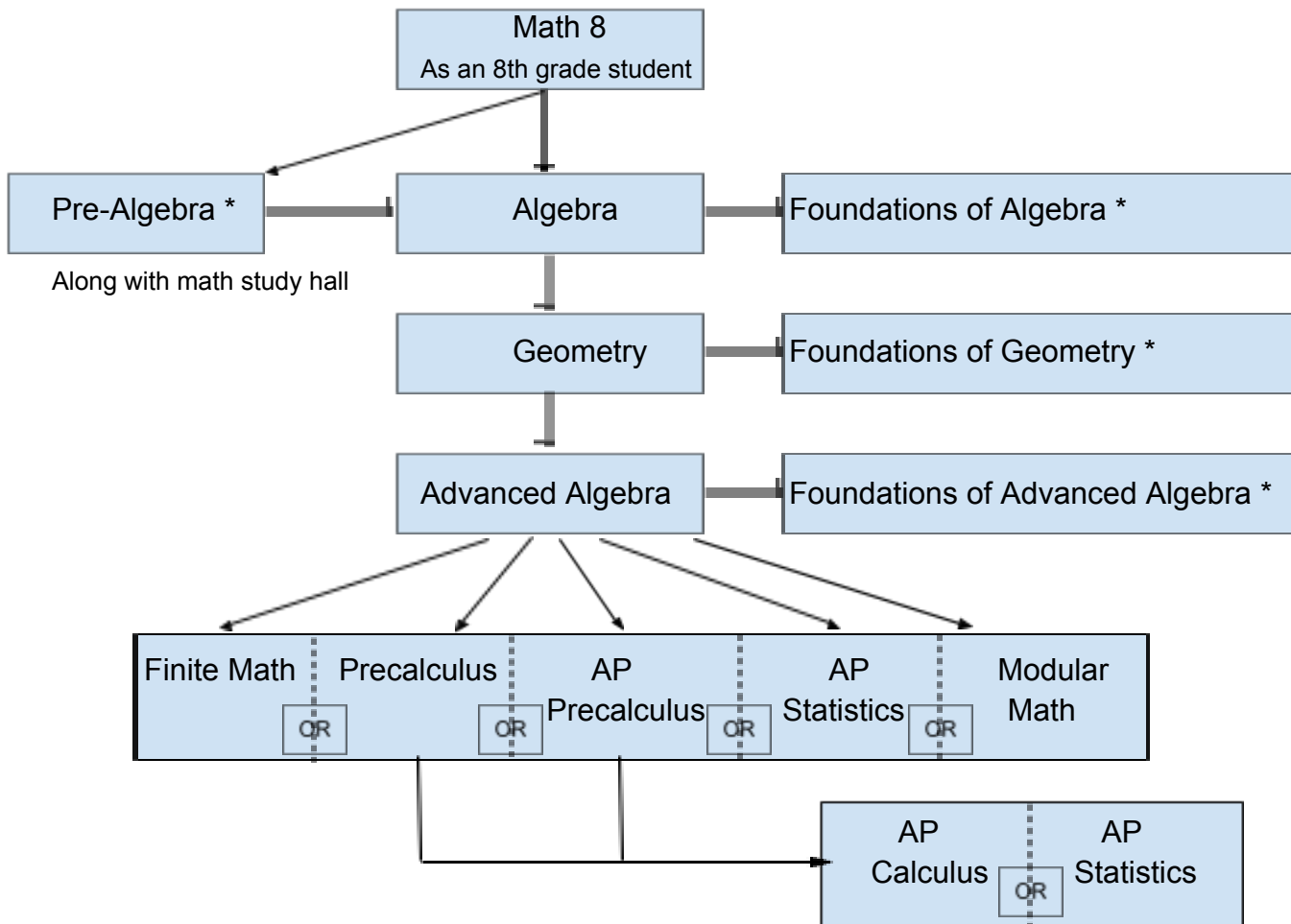
This course is considered to be the principle performing band of the high school instrumental music curriculum. Students will rehearse and perform intermediate to advanced wind band literature designed to strengthen basic musicianship, instrumental technique, and emphasize individual performance. Musical and performance expectations are high. It is also the course's goal to create an atmosphere of thoughtful reflection and critical thinking and to foster a community in which students respect the music, the ensemble, and each other.

Time outside the school day is scheduled for rehearsals and performances in marching band, concert band, and pep band. Students are required to participate in performances outside of the school day, which support and extend learning in the classroom. Solo/ensemble and honor band opportunities are also available for all students taking this course. Topics covered will include instrumental technique, equipment care, music theory, marching and playing fundamentals, rehearsal etiquette, advanced marching and playing techniques, and musicianship.

Mathematics Courses

Students enter the BHS math curriculum based on the performance/completion of math at the middle school. BHS requires 3 years (6 credits) of math regardless of where a student enters the high school curriculum. Students who complete Algebra or Geometry at the middle school level ARE NOT awarded high school credit.

Advanced Placement (AP) Statistics or Dual Enrolled Modular Math can be taken any time after successful completion of Advanced Algebra.



***Building administrators / teacher recommendations are required for Pre-Algebra and Foundations placement**

Mathematics Courses

Pre-Algebra

Type: Math credit

Prerequisites: Teacher and/or administration recommendation

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

Credits: 2 (full year, 1 credit each semester)

This class will be offered to 9th grade students who have previously failed Algebra, multiple hexters of Math 8, and/or, have below average NSCAS scores in Math. The class will explore topics such as integers, rational numbers, algebraic expressions, equations, inequalities, ratios, proportions, percentages, probabilities, geometry, linear equations, real numbers, exponents, and scientific notation. The students will also develop problem solving skills.

Algebra

Type: Math - Graduation Requirement

Prerequisites: None

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

Credits: 2 (full year, 1 credit each semester)

Algebra I is the first year of studying Algebra. It continues and expands the concepts of Pre-Algebra. We will be solving linear equations and inequalities, graphing linear equations and inequalities, working with proportions, solving systems of linear equations and inequalities, and working with polynomials and quadratic equations. The student will develop problem solving skills. Upon successful completion of this class, the student may move on to Geometry.

Geometry

Type: Math credit

Prerequisites: Teacher and/or administration recommendation. 8th grade students are recommended to have earned an A or B in Algebra.

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

Credits: 2 (full year, 1 credit each semester)

Geometry is used to study shapes and logical processes. It continues and expands the concepts of Algebra I. Students will work with proofs, geometric shapes, find perimeter, area, surface area, and volume for different shapes, and discuss congruence and similarity. It will help the student develop problem-solving skills. Upon successful completion of this course, the student may move on to Advanced Algebra.

Advanced Algebra

Type: Math or Elective credit

Prerequisites: Successful completion of Algebra I. Teacher and/or administration recommendation

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

Credits: 2 (full year, 1 credit each semester)

Advanced Algebra is the continuation of Algebra. We will be working on solving systems of equations and inequalities, solving quadratic and radical equations, graphing various equations and inequalities, working with probability, data analysis, and logarithms. We will also be applying these advanced algebraic concepts on problem solving. Upon successful completion of this course, the student may move on to Finite Math, Modular Math, Pre-Calculus, AP Precalculus, or AP Statistics..

Pre-Calculus/Trigonometry

Type: Math or Elective credit

Prerequisites: Successful completion of Advanced Algebra

Grade(s): 10, 11, 12

Credits: 2 (full year, 1 credit each semester)

Pre-Calculus is a continuation of advanced algebra concepts and an introduction into calculus. Students will learn about functions, systems of linear equations and inequalities, the nature of graphs, trigonometric concepts, complex numbers, logarithms, sequences and series, and conic sections. It will help the student develop better problem-solving skills.

AP Precalculus

Type: Math or Elective credit

Prerequisites: Grade of 90% or higher in Advanced Algebra or recommendation by teacher, counselor or administrator.

Grades: 10-12

Credits: 2 (full year, 1 credit per semester)

Lab Fee/Materials: TI-84 calculator

AP Precalculus will focus on three major units; Polynomial and Rational Functions, Exponential and Logarithmic Functions, and Trigonometric and Polar Functions. Through these units, students will gain a deep understanding of functions and their graphs. This course will require algebraically manipulating functions, equations, and expressions; translating mathematical information between representations; and communicating reasoning and rationales for conclusions. Students cannot take this course if they have already successfully completed Pre-Calculus.

Mathematics Courses

AP Calculus AB

Type: Math or Elective credit

Prerequisites: Successful completion of Pre-Calculus

Grade(s): 11, 12

Credits: 2 (full year, 1 credit each semester)

This course includes prerequisite topics for calculus and topics in differential and integral calculus that are the focus of the AP Exam questions. Students in this course should have a mastery of algebra, geometry, coordinate geometry, and trigonometry and should have taken a pre-calculus course devoted to algebra, trigonometry, analytic geometry, and elementary functions. Emphasis is placed on a multi-representational approach to calculus: graphical, numerical, analytical, and verbal solutions to the various aspects of solutions.

AP Statistics – Dual Enrollment Option (UNO)

Type: Math or Elective credit; Dual Enrollment UNO

Prerequisites: Successful completion of Advanced Algebra, Pre-Calculus, or currently enrolled in Pre-Calculus

Grade(s): 11, 12

Credits: 2 (full year, 1 credit each semester)

Lab Fee/Materials: TI-84 calculator

The AP Statistics course is equivalent to a one-semester, introductory, non-calculus-based college course in statistics. The course introduces students to the major concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing, and drawing conclusions from data. There are four themes in the AP Statistics course: exploring data, sampling and experimentation, anticipating patterns, and statistical inference. Students use technology, investigations, problem-solving, and writing as they build conceptual understanding.

Finite Math

Type: Math or Elective credit

Prerequisites: Successful completion of Advanced Algebra

Grade(s): 12

Credits: 2 (full year, 1 credit each semester)

Topics covered will be a review of Algebra I and II, matrices and their operations, systems of linear equations involving graphing and matrices, linear programming involving the Simplex Method, mathematics of finance and its applications, introduction to logic, Venn diagrams, probability basic concepts, conditional and independent events, combinatorics, binomial situations, measures of central tendency, variation measures, normal distribution, Markov Chains, and Game Theory.

Foundations of Algebra

Type: Elective

Prerequisites: Teacher and/or administration recommendation

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

Credits: 2 (full year, 1 credit each semester)

This class will be offered to Algebra students who struggle with their math classes. Students are placed in this class by the administration. This class is intended to give additional support and extended time to help them understand and practice the concepts they learn in their regular math class. The students will work in small group situations. Students will be selected based on their MAP testing from 8th or 9th grade, and past performance on district assessments in Math tests.

Foundations of Geometry

Type: Elective

Prerequisites: Teacher and/or administration recommendation

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

Credits: 2 (full year, 1 credit each semester)

This class will be offered to Geometry students who struggle with their math classes. Students are placed in this class by the administration. This class is intended to provide additional support and extended work time to help them understand and practice the concepts they learn in their regular math class. The students will work in small group situations. Students will be selected based on their math experiences, and past performance on district assessments in math tests.

Mathematics Courses

Foundations of Advanced Algebra

Type: Elective

Prerequisites: Teacher and/or administration recommendation

Grade(s): 9, 10, 11, 12

Credits: 2 (full year, 1 credit each semester)

This class will be offered to Advanced Algebra students who struggle with their math classes. Students are placed in this class by the administration. This class is intended to give additional support and extended time to help them understand and practice the concepts they learn in their regular math class. The students will work in small group situations. Students will be selected based on their math experiences, and past performance on district Math assessments.

Foundations of Pre-Algebra

Type: Elective

Prerequisites: Teacher and/or administration recommendation.

Grades: 9, 10.

Credits: 2 (full year, 1 credit each semester). This class will be offered to Pre-Algebra students who need additional support in math. Students are placed in the course by the administration and/or the math teachers. Students work on the concepts, calculations, and equations presented in the regular math class. There are no assessments in this class. Credit is earned by participating and completing the tasks assigned in class.

Modular Math

Type: Elective

Prerequisites: Successful completion of Advanced Algebra

Grade(s): 12

Credits: Up to 2 credits* (enrollment in 1st semester)

This class is offered through Metropolitan Community College and is designed for seniors who desire to improve their math skills to a level needed to enter a college-level math class. It is an online, self-paced class with a math teacher in the room to supervise and monitor the schoolwork. Students will start the class by taking the MCC Pre-Algebra class (MATH 0910) and then move to one of two tracks:

- Trades/Business Track:

Students take either *Technical Math* (MATH 1240) **or** *Business Math* (MATH 1220). This track will help students complete required math courses at Metropolitan Community College.

- Academic Track (MA 29):

Students take Beginning Algebra (MATH 0960), Intermediate Algebra (MATH 1312), **and** College Pre-Calculus/Algebra (MATH 1425). There may be a cost to the student for taking the Academic track. **Students earn credit at BHS by completing one of the two (or both) graded tracks.**

Physical Education and Health Courses

2 years of PE is required to graduate

- Health counts as .5
- Three (3) additional performance-based courses are required to fulfill remaining credit need

9th Grade

Health
Required Course

Intro to PE
9th Graders Only

Strength & Conditioning (S&C)
Minimum summer participation required

**9th graders can only take 1 Performance-Based PE course at a time*

10th Grade

Team Sports

Lifetime Activities

Fitness

S&C

**10th Graders can only take 1 Performance-Based PE Course at a time*

11th & 12th Grade

Team Sports

Lifetime Activities

Fitness

S&C

Unified PE
Teacher Approval Required

**11th Graders can only take 1 Performance-Based PE Course at a time*

***If "C" standing or better is earned in a Performance-Based PE courses, that same course can be taken again multiple times**

Physical Education and Health Courses

Health

Type: Physical Education - Graduation Requirement

Prerequisites: None

Grades: 9

Credits: 1 (semester, 1 credit each semester)

Health is an academic, classroom-based Physical Education course. Topics covered in Health will be: mental and emotional health, nutrition, body image, vaping & tobacco, alcohol, medications & drugs, male & female reproductive systems, STDs, and Red Cross First Aid/CPR/AED training.

Intro to PE

Type: Physical Education or Elective credit

Prerequisites: None

Grades: 9, 10

Credits: 1 (semester, 1 credit each semester)

Introduction to Physical Education is a foundational course designed to improve each student's personal level of physical fitness and to continue to emphasize the importance of establishing and maintaining lifelong goals regarding health and fitness. You cannot take this course if you have taken any other activity-based HS PE Course. This class cannot be repeated.

Team Sports

Type: Physical Education or Elective credit

Prerequisites: None

Grades: 10, 11, 12

Credits: 2 (full year, 1 credit each semester)

This course is designed to incorporate a full complement of team and lifelong sports, with cardiovascular, strength training, and flexibility exercises being a part of all activities. Team sports will include flag football, softball, volleyball, handball, ultimate frisbee, soccer, speedball, basketball, and floor hockey. Lifelong sports will include badminton, pickleball, frisbee golf, archery, and table tennis. Students will be evaluated by demonstrating acknowledgment of the rules and strategies of the activities through written exams (rules of play), skills testing, personal fitness assessment, and teacher observations. This class can only be taken for 1 year in high school.

Lifetime Activities

Type: Physical Education or Elective credit

Prerequisites: None

Grades: 10, 11, 12

Credits: 2 (full year, 1 credit each semester)

Lifetime Activities will emphasize the importance of living an active lifestyle after high school. It will provide students the opportunity to gain insight into ways to stay active and be fit after high school sports/activities are over. The class will also allow students to participate in activities specifically appropriate for leisure. The units include golf, volleyball, badminton, pickleball, fishing, tennis, floor hockey, Yoga, dance, basketball, soccer, table tennis, slow-pitch softball, Frisbee Golf, and other fitness-related activities. This class may be repeated.

Fitness

Type: Physical Education or Elective credit

Prerequisites: None

Grades: 10, 11, 12

Credits: 1 (semester, 1 credit each semester)

Fitness is a foundational course designed to create an innovative and fun fitness regime for students that would blend cardiorespiratory, strength and flexibility exercises. Activities to be included are dance, Yoga, Pilates, strength training, running workouts, boot camps, plyometrics, and individual exercise routines. This class may be taken more than one time in high school.

Strength and Conditioning

Type: Physical Education or Elective credit

Prerequisites: 9th grade - Completion of Intro to PE or Summer Athletic Strength & Conditioning (80% attendance)

Grades: 10, 11, 12

Credits: 2 (full year, 1 credit each semester)

This course will provide students with the opportunity to continue to develop their understanding and comfort level in the weight room as introduced during Freshmen Physical Education. Students will be provided, and expected to follow, an 8-week lifting program designed to increase strength, explosiveness, and overall body awareness. This course provides an opportunity to achieve results that would be beneficial for all physical activities, both in and out of the school environment. This class may be repeated.

Physical Education and Health Courses

Leadership Academy

Type: Elective credit (*not* PE credit)

Prerequisites: Teacher or Sponsor recommendation

Grades: 11, 12

Credits: 1 (semester, 1 credit each semester)

The goal of this course is to help students learn effective strategies to manage pressure and lead others during pressure situations. Students will learn what causes stress and how to manage it more effectively. They will learn the benefits of a positive mindset, accurate thinking, and an attitude of gratitude. Students will work through leadership scenarios to prepare them for situations they encounter on a daily basis. Topics such as fear of failure, self-esteem, self-concept, and social approval will also be explored in class.

Please note: Students must be enrolled in at least four other credit classes to take this course.

Unified PE

Type: Physical Education or Elective credit

Prerequisites: Completion of a PE course and Instructor/Administrator Approval

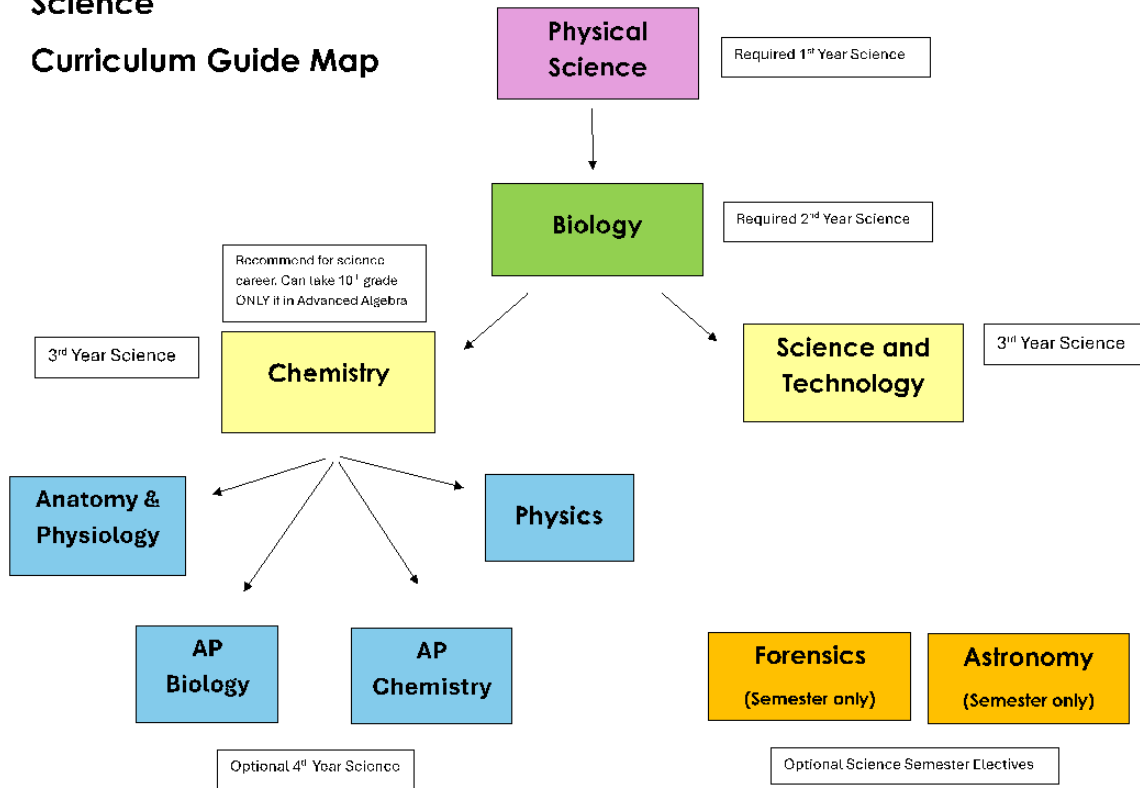
Grades: 11, 12

Credits: 1 (semester, 1 credit each semester)

Unified Physical Education (P.E.) is a unique opportunity for students of varying ability levels and backgrounds to come together on equal terms through ongoing fitness, sports, leadership, and wellness activities. Unified P.E. focuses on the physical, intellectual, and social growth of all participants. Students will be required to participate in outside Special Olympics events. This class may be repeated.

Science Courses

Science Curriculum Guide Map



Science Courses

Physical Science

Type: Graduation Requirement

Prerequisites: None

Grade(s): 9

Credits: 2 (full year, 1 credit each semester)

Physical Science is the study of matter, energy, chemistry, and the forces that govern our universe. The first semester topics covered will include the scientific method, motion, force, and energy. Second semester topics will include mixtures and compounds, atoms, periodic table, chemical bonds, and reactions.

Biology

Type: Graduation Requirement

Prerequisites: None

Grade(s): 10

Credits: 2 (full year, 1 credit each semester)

A course requirement for sophomores, this class deals with the structure and functions of living things at the cellular level as well as the overall workings of organisms. Students get to explore how traits are inherited and how those traits help organisms to survive in their environment. This class also allows students the opportunity to discover the technology used by scientists all over the country.

Chemistry

Type: Science or Elective credit

Prerequisites: Advanced Algebra or current enrollment in Advanced Algebra; recommended grade of B or higher in Physical Science and Biology; teacher approval required for sophomore enrollment

Grade(s): 10, 11, 12

Credits: 2 (full year, 1 credit each semester)

General Chemistry will introduce basic chemistry concepts such as solving complex equations, chemical nomenclature, chemical reactions, stoichiometry, atomic structure, acid/base reactions, bonding, molecular structure and gas laws. Chemistry is a lab-based course and will require you to apply mathematical thinking, critical thinking, and other problem-solving skills in a fast-paced environment.

Physics

Type: Science or Elective credit

Prerequisites: Successful completion of Advanced Algebra or concurrent in Precalculus

Grade(s): 11, 12

Credits: 2 (full year, 1 credit each semester)

Physics uses mathematics to describe the natural world. Topics covered in physics are Newton's Three Laws of Motion, acceleration, velocity, momentum, the net forces on objects, projectile motion, energy, work, waves, and electricity.

Science and Technology

Type: Science or Elective credit

Prerequisites: Biology

Grade(s): 11, 12

Credits: 2 (full year, 1 credit each semester)

Science and Technology is a laboratory-based class meant to help students gain knowledge of the world around them. This course is a study of general science topics that include: Forces and Motion, Earth Science, Matter and Changes in Matter. It's geared as a 3rd-year science class.

Forensics

Type: Science or Elective credit

Prerequisites: None

Grade(s): 11, 12

Credits: 1 (semester, 1 credit each semester)

Forensic Science is the application of science to the criminal justice system. This course may include fingerprinting, blood analysis, trace evidence analysis, and other CSI techniques. This course may discuss sensitive topics in criminology.

Astronomy

Type: Science or Elective credit

Prerequisites: None

Grade(s): 11, 12

Credits: 1 (semester, 1 credit each semester)

Astronomy offers an opportunity to explore various astronomy topics including the solar system, galaxies, stars, moon, and black holes. The goal of the course is to explore the universe and its development over time.

Science Courses

AP Biology - Dual Enrollment Option (UNO)

Type: Science or Elective credit, Dual Enrollment UNO

Prerequisites: Completion of Chemistry with a C grade or higher, or teacher approval.

Grade(s): 11, 12

Credits: 2 (full year, 1 credit each semester)

AP Biology is a college-level course in Biology. It takes general biology information and goes deeper into detail. The class is much more lab-oriented and requires the students to design their own labs in order to test their knowledge of the material covered.

Students who successfully complete the course will have the opportunity to earn college credit for the class by scoring a 3 or better on the AP test taken in the spring. This class is designed for serious students who are planning on going into the science field in college. Students will attend a summer workshop to prepare for this class.

Human Physiology & Anatomy

Type: Science or Elective credit

Prerequisites: Completion of Chemistry with a C grade or higher, or teacher approval

Grade(s): 11, 12

Credits: 2 (full year, 1 credit each semester)

This course is an in-depth study of the human body and its functions and is particularly important for those interested in pursuing a medical career.

AP Chemistry

Type: Science or Elective credit

Prerequisites: Completion of Chemistry with a B grade or higher, or teacher approval

Grade(s): 11, 12

Credits: 2 (full year, 1 credit each semester)

Advanced Placement Chemistry is a college-level course. The class will study topics learned in General Chemistry in more depth. AP Chemistry will also introduce the new topics of equilibrium, kinetics, thermodynamics, electrochemistry, oxidation-reduction reactions, organic chemistry, nuclear chemistry, and biochemistry. Advanced Placement chemistry will also have a structured lab component of approximately twenty labs. The successful completion of this course **may** allow the student to receive college credit in chemistry. College credit can be earned by taking the Advanced Placement test in chemistry and scoring a 3 or above. Credit will be awarded by the institution which receives the score based on its rules for Advanced Placement courses.

Skilled and Technical Sciences Courses

Course Name	Pre-Requisites	Grade Level(s)
Introduction to the Built Environment	None	9, 10, 11, 12
Introduction to Drafting	None	9, 10, 11, 12
Woodworking Principles	Introduction to the Built Environment <i>and</i> Introduction to Drafting	10, 11, 12
Woodworking Manufacturing	Introduction to the Built Environment <i>and</i> Introduction to Drafting	10, 11, 12
Construction Technology	Introduction to the Built Environment <i>and</i> Introduction to Drafting	11, 12
Building Construction	Introduction to the Built Environment <i>and</i> Introduction to Drafting <i>and</i> Construction Technology	12
Architectural Drafting & Design	Introduction to the Built Environment <i>and</i> Introduction to Drafting	10, 11, 12
Engineering Drafting & Design	Introduction to Drafting	10, 11, 12
Drafting and Related Technology	Introduction to Drafting	11, 12
Principles of Engineering	Introduction to the Built Environment <i>and</i> Introduction to Drafting	10, 11, 12
Agriculture I: Introduction to Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources	None	9, 10, 11, 12
Agriculture II: Animal and Plant Production	Agriculture I	10, 11, 12

Skilled and Technical Sciences Courses

Introduction to the Built Environment

Type: Elective

Prerequisites: None

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

Credits: 1 (semester, 1 credit each semester)

Fees/Materials: Not to exceed \$15 - This fee will cover costs for project supplies.

This course provides the skills and technical knowledge for a beginning student in areas of industry, safety, material, equipment, and process understanding. The student will develop an awareness of construction, design, and manufacturing areas. This course serves as an introductory course to all other STS courses. This course is designed for the beginning woodworker and as the foundation for other construction classes. During this course, the student will have the basic skills needed to enter the more advanced courses offered and to work safely and efficiently. The student will learn the correct terms and uses of materials and processes. Students will also learn safe and proper applications of woodworking hand tools and selected machine tools.

Woodworking Principles

Type: Elective

Prerequisites: Intro to the Built Environment & Intro to Drafting

Grades: 10, 11, 12

Credits: 1 (semester, 1 credit each semester)

Fees/Materials: Not to exceed \$50 - This fee will cover costs for project supplies.

This course is designed as the foundation for machine woodworking and joinery. Basic knowledge of cabinetmaking will be taught in this class. Students will produce a variety of woodworking joints, make a materials bill, and use it to calculate the cost and read complex working drawings. Class time will be divided between a classroom setting and laboratory work. Students will spend the majority of the semester building an introductory project. Safety, measurement, planning, machining, fabrication processes, and finish processes will be included. Career opportunities will also be explored. Lumber costs are provided by the student.

Woodworking Manufacturing

Type: Elective

Prerequisites: Intro to the Built Environment & Intro to Drafting

Grades: 10, 11, 12

Credits: 1 (semester, 1 credit each semester)

Fees/Materials: Up to \$35 - This fee will cover costs for project supplies.

This is a course that introduces the student to basic knowledge and skills that are foundation to manufacturing. Basic knowledge of manufacturing and the industry will be taught in this class. Students will create a group-manufactured product to give a realistic understanding of manufacturing. Safety, measuring, planning, and production processes will be covered. Class time will be divided between a classroom setting and laboratory work. Included in this project are the different machining processes and an introduction to CNC technology. Students will learn how the CNC is impacting the manufacturing industry today and have a chance to make a project with it.

Construction Technology

Type: Elective

Prerequisites: Intro to the Built Environment & Intro to Drafting

Grades: 11, 12

Credits: 1 (semester, 1 credit each semester)

Construction Technology will be introducing students to specific trade areas of residential and commercial construction. Students will explore information on selected careers and entrepreneurial opportunities in the areas of, electrical, plumbing, HVAC, Concrete, Masonry, Drywall, Tile, insulation, siding, metal workers, etc. Class time will be divided between a classroom setting and laboratory work. Many activities will be on-the-job type training making this a hands-on experience that is as realistic as possible.

Skilled and Technical Sciences Courses

Building Construction

Type: Elective

Prerequisites: Completion of Intro to the Built Environment, Intro to Drafting, Construction Technology with a B or higher

Grades: 12

Credits: 4 (full year, 2 credits each semester)

The Building Construction class will cover the methods and materials of residential construction. Technical skills are combined with planning and management topics to prepare the student for all stages of a project. This course explores opportunities and career pathways within the residential, commercial, and industrial sectors, and walks the student through the planning, execution, and reporting of a project. Most of the activities will be on-the-job type training, trying to make this experience as realistic as possible. This class will meet for two periods during the day. The size of this class will be limited to 8 students.

Introduction to Drafting

Type: Elective

Prerequisites: None

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

Credits: 1 (semester, 1 credit each semester)

This course provides students with a broad introduction to Drafting. With hands-on exercises, assignments, and projects, students gain the capability to use CAD to model projects and create and distribute industry-standard drawings.

Architectural Drafting & Design

Type: Elective

Prerequisites: Introduction to the Built Environment & Introduction to Drafting

Grades: 10, 11, 12

Credits: 1 (semester, 1 credit each semester)

In this class, the students will create residential architectural working drawings, using CAD, necessary for a standard building permit. With hands-on exercises, assignments, and projects, students gain the capability to use CAD to model a house project and create and distribute industry-standard drawings.

Engineering Drafting & Design

Type: Elective

Prerequisites: Introduction to Drafting

Grades: 10, 11, 12

Credits: 1 (semester, 1 credit each semester)

Fees/Materials: Not to exceed \$10*

The major focus of the course is to expose students to design processes, research and analysis, teamwork, communication methods, global and human impacts, engineering standards, and technical documentation. The major emphasis in this course will be on Mechanical Drafting.

*Added costs if students choose to make other projects outside of required class assignments.

Drafting and Related Technology

Type: Elective

Prerequisites: Introduction to Drafting

Grades: 10, 11, 12

Credits: 1 (semester, 1 credit each semester)

Fees/Materials: Not to exceed \$10*

In this class, the students will be introduced to a wide variety of Drafting programs and technology used in the Drafting Industry. With hands-on exercises, assignments, and projects, students gain the capability to use CAD to create models with 3D Printing. Students will also use the Structural Scanner to build models.

*Added costs if students choose to make other projects outside of required class assignments.

Principles of Engineering

Type: Elective

Prerequisites: Introduction to the Built Environment & Introduction to Drafting

Grades: 10, 11, 12

Credits: 1 (semester, 1 credit each semester)

Fees/Materials: Not to exceed \$10*

Principles of Engineering is a course that is appropriate for high school students who are interested in design and engineering. The major focus of this course is to expose students to the design process, research and analysis, teamwork, communication methods, engineering standards, and technical documentation. Principles of Engineering gives students the opportunity to develop skills and understanding of course concepts through activities, projects, and problem-based learning.

*Added costs if students choose to make other projects outside of required class assignments.

Skilled and Technical Sciences Courses

Agriculture I: Introduction to Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources

Type: Elective

Prerequisites: None

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

Credits: 1 (semester, 1 credit each semester)

This course will focus on defining agriculture, identifying agricultural career opportunities, describing the role of agriculture in local and global entities, exploring advancements in agriculture, leadership development, and acquisition of basic agricultural skill sets. Classroom and laboratory activities are supplemented through supervised agricultural experiences, and leadership programs.

Agriculture II: Animal and Plant Production

Type: Elective

Prerequisites: Agriculture I

Grades: 10, 11, 12

Credits: 1 (semester, 1 credit each semester)

Students will build on their knowledge of agriculture, food, and natural resources. Leadership and careers will continue to be a focus. Additionally, we will explore more agriculture opportunities and areas such as livestock evaluation and production, natural resources, meat evaluation, plant production, agribusiness, and food science.

Social Sciences Courses

Course Name	Pre-Requisites	Grade Level(s)
World Geography*	None	9
World History*	None	10
American History*	None	11
AP American History	World Geography <i>and</i> World History	11
Government*	None	12
AP U.S. Government & Politics	None	12
Constitutional Law	None	11, 12
Leadership Academy	None	11, 12
Sociology	None	11, 12
Psychology - Dual Enrollment Option (UNO)	None	11, 12
AP Human Geography - Dual Enrollment Option (UNO)	None	11, 12

Social Sciences Courses

World Geography

Type: Graduation Requirement

Prerequisites: None

Grades: 9

Credits: 2 (full year, 1 credit each semester)

This course is inquiry-oriented. It is designed so those students use methods of inquiry to understand the basic principles of geography. Students will work with maps and globes, describe and compare various locations, and cultures, understand the relationship of the environment to human activity, and discuss current events/problems in various regions. It will also provide a review of key points in the geography of Europe, Asia, and Australia.

World History

Type: Graduation Requirement

Prerequisites: None

Grades: 10

Credits: 2 (full year, 1 credit each semester)

The course will study the significant events and changes in the history of the world and how the actions of people from the past have shaped much of how the world is today. The class will study how the societies and cultures of the world have grown more interdependent, and provide them with a better understanding of the similarities and differences between these groups of people.

American History

Type: Graduation Requirement

Prerequisites: None

Grades: 11

Credits: 2 (full year, 1 credit each semester)

This class is a general survey of American history from the Progressive Era to the present. The course begins with a review of the significant documents that established the United States then a chronological study of major past and current events is undertaken. Events included are the Progressive Era, Expansion, World War I, The Depression, The New Deal, World War II, Civil Rights Era, Space Exploration, Economic Boon and Recessions, and the Contemporary United States. The student will analyze major events and demonstrate historical research skills.

AP American History

Type: Graduation Requirement Alternative

Prerequisites: World Geography and World History

Grades: 11

Credits: 2 (full year, 1 credit each semester)

This is a different kind of survey of American history. This course will cover US History from European exploration to current times. AP students will read a college textbook and a companion document reader. Frequent essays are the norm, and writing skills will be sharpened. AP students will receive college credit at most colleges and universities by scoring a "3-5" on the national AP Exam in May.

Government

Type: Graduation Requirement

Prerequisites: None

Grades: 12

Credits: 2 (full year, 1 credit each semester)

Creating informed participants in our representative government is the goal of this class. The class will focus on the three branches of government, civil liberties, public policy, and political and economic systems. The student will study current issues at the local, state, and federal levels of government.

AP U.S. Government & Politics

Type: Graduation Requirement Alternative

Prerequisites: World Geography, World History, & American History

Grade: 12

Credits: 2 (full year, 1 credit each semester)

This is an introductory college-level course in United States government and politics. Students will cultivate their understanding of U.S. government and politics through analysis of data and text-based sources as they explore topics like constitutionalism, liberty and order, civic participation in a representative democracy, competing policy-making interests, and methods of political analysis.

Constitutional Law

Type: Elective credit

Prerequisites: None

Grades: 11, 12

Credits: 1 (semester, 1 credit each semester)

This is a college preparatory class in the study of Supreme Court cases from 1789-present. The concepts of common law and equity will also be explored.

Social Sciences Courses

Leadership Academy

Type: Elective credit

Prerequisites: Teacher or sponsor recommendation

Grades: 11, 12

Credits: 1 (semester, 1 credit each semester)

The goal of this course is to help students learn effective strategies to manage pressure and lead others during pressure situations. Students will learn what causes stress and how to manage it more effectively. They will learn the benefits of a positive mindset, accurate thinking, and an attitude of gratitude. Students will work through leadership scenarios to prepare them for situations they encounter on a daily basis. Topics such as fear of failure, self-esteem, self-concept, and social approval will also be explored in class.

Please note: Students must be enrolled in at least four other credit classes to take this course.

AP Human Geography - Dual Enrollment Option (UNO)

Type: Elective credit; Dual Enrollment UNO

Prerequisites: None

Grades: 11, 12

Credits: 2 (full year, 1 credit each semester)

The AP Human Geography course is equivalent to an introductory college-level course in human geography and prepares students for the AP test in the spring.

The course introduces students to the systematic study of patterns and processes that have shaped human understanding, use, and alteration of Earth's surface. AP Human Geography's seven units look at Cultural, Population, Political, Agricultural, Economic, and Urban applications of geography to our world.

Sociology

Type: Elective credit

Prerequisites: None

Grades: 11, 12

Credits: 1 (semester, 1 credit each semester)

This is a college preparatory class in the study of patterns of group behavior in the family, in religious organizations, in political and economic institutions, and in education. Included in this study will be research methods, population patterns, learning a culture, social structure, groups and formal organizations, deviance and control, and social inequality.

Psychology - Dual Enrollment Option (UNO)

Type: Elective credit; Dual Enrollment UNO

Prerequisites: None

Grades: 11, 12

Credits: 2 (full year, 1 credit each semester)

This is a college preparatory class in the study of individual behavior. Biopsychology, perception, learning, thinking, mental illness, healing, human development, motivation, and emotion are the units covered during the two semesters.

World Languages

Course Name	Pre-Requisites	Grade Level(s)
Spanish I	None	9, 10, 11, 12
Spanish II	Spanish I <i>or</i> instructor approval	10, 11, 12
Spanish III	Spanish II <i>or</i> instructor approval	10, 11, 12
AP Spanish - Dual Enrollment option (UNO)	Spanish III <i>or</i> instructor approval	12
French I	None	9, 10, 11, 12
French II	French I <i>or</i> instructor approval	10, 11, 12
French III	French II <i>or</i> instructor approval	10, 11, 12
AP French	French III <i>or</i> instructor approval	11, 12

World Languages

Spanish I

Type: Elective

Prerequisites: None

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

Credits: 2 (full year, 1 credit each semester)

This first-year class introduces students to the complete study of Spanish through a variety of activities. The emphasis will be on vocabulary acquisition and speaking, but level-appropriate grammar as well as reading and writing practice will also be part of the class. Culture is incorporated through video clips and activities as well as reading selections. Writing, listening, and speaking assessments will be used. Many colleges require two years of a foreign language.

Spanish II

Type: Elective

Prerequisites: Successful completion of Spanish I or instructor approval

Grades: 10, 11, 12

Credits: 2 (full year, 1 credit each semester)

The purpose of Spanish II is to daily build upon and enhance grammar and fluency skills acquired in Spanish I. Students will use supplementary story and culture books. In addition to the activities practiced in Spanish I, students may do special projects and reports to increase their awareness of Hispanic culture. Spanish II must be taken following Spanish I. Verbal skills will be emphasized.

Spanish III

Type: Elective

Prerequisites: Completion of Spanish II with a C+ or higher, or instructor approval

Grades: 11, 12

Credits: 2 (full year, 1 credit each semester)

This course is designed to enable students to (1) learn most of the basic "tenses" of the Spanish language (2) increase conversational skills (3) increase vocabulary and writing skills (4) read short stories (5) seriously consider the value of Spanish language fluency. Students should be expected and encouraged to know most basic tenses by Spanish 3. They are applying this knowledge through literature, listening and speaking activities.

AP Spanish (Dual Enrollment option)

Type: Elective

Prerequisites: Successful completion of Spanish III or instructor approval

Grades: 12

Credits: 2 (full year, 1 credit each semester)

Students in AP Spanish will engage in more in-depth oral and written communications. Upon completion of this course, the students will have completed the study of all basic grammar concepts with knowledge of a vocabulary sufficient to continue their studies at the advanced level in college.

French I

Type: Elective

Prerequisites: None

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

Credits: 2 (full year, 1 credit each semester)

French I is designed to introduce the student to the French language through grammatical structure, comprehension, and oral and written expression. The basic elements of French learned during this first-year course will serve as a basis for the further study of the French language and culture.

French II

Type: Elective

Prerequisites: Successful completion of French I or instructor approval

Grades: 10, 11, 12

Credits: 2 (full year, 1 credit each semester)

French II offers the students the opportunity to increase their proficiency in the skills of listening, reading, writing, and speaking. Upon completion of this course, the students will have mastered a large vocabulary and will be able to engage in meaningful conversation in three tenses.

French III

Type: Elective

Prerequisites: Successful completion of French II or instructor approval

Grades: 10, 11, 12

Credits: 2 (full year, 1 credit each semester)

Through this course, the students will engage in increasingly complex conversations as their vocabulary and their knowledge of grammar concepts increases greatly. The students will use this knowledge to read and write longer and more complex works in the target language.

World Languages

AP French

Type: Elective

Prerequisites: Successful completion of French III or instructor approval

Grades: 11, 12

Credits: 2 (full year, 1 credit each semester)

Students in AP French will engage in more in-depth oral and written communications. Upon completion of this course, the students will have completed the study of all basic grammar concepts with knowledge of a vocabulary sufficient to continue their studies at the advanced level in college.

Special Education Courses

Special Education Program

The Resource Program offers services to students who meet the criteria as an individual with a Disability under NDE Rule 51 and IDEA (ex: SLD – Specific Learning Disabled, OHI – Other Health Impairments, ED – Emotional Disturbance). The process to qualify begins with the classroom teacher. The teacher makes a referral to the Problem Solving Team (PST). Every effort is made to offer each student the best education possible in the least restrictive environment.

For further information about qualifying for Special Education services, please contact the building principal or the Student Services Director at the district office. If a student qualifies for special education then a team, including parents, develops an Individual Educational Plan. The building administration will make the final determination on the eligibility of a student for a high school diploma. Input from the IEP team will be accepted as part of the process determining whether a student has completed a course of study that makes him/her eligible to receive a signed/certified diploma. The student can be awarded a certified diploma using any of the following program options:

1. A student completes a standard course of study.
2. A student completes a modified standard course of study:
 - a. Examples include: Courses at his or her learning level but still meeting state standards, use of accommodations, etc.
3. A student successfully completes his/her IEP & Transition goals BUT not the standard course of study:
 - a. Examples include: Job site, or a shortened day, modified curriculum programs, course of study built off of IEP goals, etc.
 - b. Transition program for 18-21 year-old students.

Special Education Classes for students on an Individual Education Plan

“Basic” core courses are aimed at presenting curriculum to students with an IEP (Individualized Education Program). These classes satisfy the state and district standard requirements but allow students to work at a more realistic and challenging level, while still meeting state standards. Students can earn a maximum of 2 credits in each Basic Core Content area towards graduation.

Special Education Courses

Basic Math I

Type: Foundational Math Course

Prerequisites: None; MAP score of 190 or lower and/or IEP team recommendations

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

Credits: 2 (full year, 1 credit each semester)

Foundational math skills in the areas of numerical operations, algebraic expressions working towards pre-algebraic skills. Must take *Basic 1 Math* prior to *Basic 2*.

Basic Math 2

Type: Foundational Math Course

Prerequisites: Basic Math I; MAP score of 195 or lower, and/or IEP team recommendations

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

Credits: 2 (full year, 1 credit each semester)

Foundational math skills that build upon *Basic 1* in the areas of ratios and proportional relationships, expressions and equations and inequalities continuing to work towards pre-algebra skills. MAP Score to qualify for *Basic 2* is 195 or lower, but if lower, the student has to have completed *Basic 1*. **Upon completing and passing *Basic 1* and *Basic 2*, the student will move into Pre-Algebra and finish with Algebra, meaning they will be taking a 4th year of math with freshmen and/or sophomores.**

Basic English

Type: Foundational English Course

Prerequisites: None; Placement is based upon Middle School recommendation for incoming freshmen, a student's IEP goals and accommodations and/or IEP Team recommendations

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

Credits: 2 (full year, 1 credit each semester)

Expands a student's knowledge by studying reading and writing. We will read a variety of materials including poetry, vocabulary, writing, along with speaking and listening. Writing skills taught include writing paragraphs that have a main idea, supporting the main idea of your writing with documentation from the reading or text, organized thinking, and conclusions. Students learn about writing conventions and grammar. We engage in editing written language, and work with words by studying essential prefixes, suffixes, and root words to strengthen vocabulary. We will learn about synonyms and antonyms to help broaden vocabulary skills. Students learn to use the context clues of sentences to learn unknown word meanings. Students will read a variety of materials that include nonfiction, fiction, and poetry. When reading we will learn about applying skills in decoding, work knowledge and analysis, vocabulary, comprehension skills that include plot elements, comparing and contrasting, summarizing, and drawing conclusions.

Unified PE

Type: Physical Education or Elective credit

Prerequisites: None; Placement is based upon the IEP team decision

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

Credits: 1 (semester, 1 credit each semester)

Unified Physical Education (P.E.) is a unique opportunity for students of varying ability levels and backgrounds to come together on equal terms through ongoing fitness, sports, leadership, and wellness activities. Unified P.E. focuses on the physical, intellectual, and social growth of all participants. Students will participate in Special Olympics activities. This class may be repeated.

Unified Music

Type: Elective credit

Prerequisites: None; Placement is based upon the IEP team decision

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

Credits: 1 (semester, 1 credit each semester)

Unified music is a unique opportunity for students of varying ability levels and backgrounds to come together on equal terms through vocal, instrumental, and general music activities that will focus on the musical and social growth of all participants.

General Education Co-Taught Classes

The Special Education Department offers general education co-taught classes based upon individual student IEP needs and goals.

Special Education Courses

Functional Classes

Functional core courses are courses and job experiences in place for students on an IEP and who have a verified disability. These opportunities prepare and instruct students to become more independent and successful as young adults. Functional coursework focuses on social skills, cooking, budgeting, personal care, collaboration, and teamwork, as well as employment readiness activities. Students in functional leveled classes may align with those whose IEP team determines would benefit from attending programming during their 18-21 years. These courses may be based on the extended indicators that align with state standards.

Functional English

Type: Functional core course

Prerequisites: None; Placement is based upon the IEP team decision

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

Credits: 2 (full year, 1 credit each semester)

This course is designed for students in the Life Skills Program. Students will develop skills to help them read, write, and speak while performing daily activities. They will also learn the writing process and how to write different types of stories.

Functional Job Skills

Type: Functional course

Prerequisites: None; Placement is based upon the IEP team decision

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

Credits: 2 (full year, 1 credit each semester)

This course is designed for students in the Life Skills Program. Students will develop skills necessary to be successful in many different aspects of life including: money management, cleaning, proper work-related social skills, and the reward of working hard.

Functional Life Skills

Type: Functional core course

Prerequisites: None; Placement is based upon the IEP team decision

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

Credits: 2 (full year, 1 credit each semester)

This course is designed to meet the needs of students in the Life Skills program. Students will learn and practice skills related to health, safety, hygiene, social skills, and tasks such as shopping, cleaning, and clothing care.

Functional Math

Type: Functional core course

Prerequisites: None; Placement is based upon the IEP team decision

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

Credits: 2 (full year, 1 credit each semester)

This course is designed to meet the needs of students in the Life Skills program. Students will develop their understanding of mathematical concepts needed for everyday skills such as number sense, money management, budgeting, telling time, and time management.

Functional Science

Type: Functional core course

Prerequisites: None; Placement is based upon the IEP team decision

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

Credits: 2 (full year, 1 credit each semester)

This course is designed for students in the Life Skills Program. Students will explore concepts related to basic earth science, physical science, and biology.

Functional Social Studies

Type: Functional core course

Prerequisites: None; Placement is based upon the IEP team decision

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

Credits: 2 (full year, 1 credit each semester)

This course is designed to meet the needs of students in the Life Skills program. Students develop and build upon skills that will benefit them as they move onto their post-secondary lives. Students will learn, but are not limited to: addressing envelopes, writing addresses, learning personal information (i.e., address, phone number, emergency contact), states and regions of the United States, methods of public transportation and how to use them, and applying for jobs.

Additional BHS Programs and Services

School Counseling Department

The primary concern of the school counselor is to aid the students who have questions concerning their academic, personal, or social life. This is accomplished through private conferences and group discussions. The school counselor discusses questions with students concerning future courses and possible vocations and careers.

The goal of the school counseling program is to develop within the students an understanding and acceptance of themselves so that they can make intelligent vocational, educational, and social choices. Students are assisted in formulating goals, which are unique to their personal talents, capacities, and interests. School counselors can help the students believe in themselves, respect themselves and others, and to recognize that achievement can be a personally satisfying experience when goals are clarified.

Counseling is defined as the process of an experienced and qualified individual helping a second person to understand oneself. They will be given opportunities to make appropriate adjustments and decisions in the light of these insights, to accept personal responsibilities for choices, and to follow those courses of action which will help them grow.

The following services are provided: making self-evaluations, planning high school programs, preparing for post-secondary education and training, studying vocational and career options, counseling students individually and in groups, administering individual and group tests, conferring with parents regarding student progress and concerns, making referrals to various agencies, scheduling classes and assisting with curriculum planning, and conducting follow-up studies with various groups.

Library Media Department

The mission of the Bennington Library Media Program is for all students, teachers, and administrators to develop the skills and judgment to become efficient, ethical, and effective lifelong learners.

Students will learn the skills and abilities needed to become proficient consumers and producers of information using a variety of sources and formats. Teachers will develop working instructional partnerships with the school librarian across the curriculum. Administrators will form an instructional partnership that benefits the entire learning community.

We believe that the Library Media Center:

- fosters library patronage as a lifelong practice.
- provides guidance to readers in selecting appropriate reading materials.
- is a vital resource that supports the educational program of the school through the collaboration of professional personnel.
- provides an atmosphere in which students can learn to be skillful and discriminating users of all available media.
- provides high-quality, accurate, and up-to-date resources to students and staff.

Four Year Plan

Complete your schedule for the upcoming school year in the appropriate chart on the next pages. Circle the appropriate class when options are given. If no options are given, write in the class you prefer to take. Please note that semesters are only given as a guide and do not necessarily indicate the semester you will be scheduled for the class. A credit is earned each semester for the successful completion of each scheduled class. Review the graduation requirements and career field class offerings as you complete your plan of study.

Academic Graduation Requirements

English: 8 credits

Math: 6 credits

Science: 6 credits

Social Studies: 8 credits

Physical Education: 4 credits

Computer Science/Personal Finance: 2 credits

Electives: 16 credits

Total: 50 credits

Career Field Class Offerings

Bennington High School offers many elective classes that can help you explore possible career fields and gain relevant knowledge. See the chart below for elective offerings and how they align with different career fields.

Career Field	BHS Course Offerings
Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources	FCS, Foods, Cultural Foods, Introduction to Ag, Food, and Natural Resources, Animal and Plant Production
Business, Management & Administration	Accounting I and II, Computer Science and Technology, Personal Finance, Introduction to Business, Marketing, Business Law, Business Economics, Entrepreneurship, Hospitality and Tourism, Professional Communications
Communications and Information Systems	Introduction to Journalism, Journalism I, Computer Science and Technology, Introduction to Programming, Web Design, Introduction to Digital Design, Digital Design, Professional Communications, Introduction to Programming, AP Computer Science
Health Sciences	Human Physiology/Anatomy
Human Services and Education	FCS, Foods, Adult Living, Child Care, Introduction to Education, Healthcare Foundations, Cultural Foods, Psychology, Sociology, Personal Finance, Teacher Cadet, Professional Communications
Skilled and Technical Sciences	Introduction to Built Environment, Introduction to Drafting, Woodworking Principles/Mfg., Construction Technology, Architectural Drafting and Design, Engineering Drafting, Drafting Technology, Principles of Engineering
Foundational/Career Development Courses (courses helpful in all career fields)	Core English, Math, Science, and Social Studies classes, Computer Science & Technology, Personal Finance, World Languages

Four Year Plan

Freshman Year

	First Semester		Second Semester
English	English 9	English	English 9
Math	Pre-Algebra* Algebra or Geometry* or Advanced Algebra*	Math	Pre-Algebra* Algebra or Geometry* or Advanced Algebra*
Science	Physical Science	Science	Physical Science
Social Studies	World Geography	Social Studies	World Geography
P.E. Must take at least one semester of P.E. during freshman year	Intro. to PE or Strength and Conditioning*	P.E. Must take at least one semester of P.E. during freshman year	Intro. to PE or Strength and Conditioning*
Required Electives	Computer Science	Required Electives	Health
Elective		Elective	
Elective/Study Hall		Elective/Study Hall	

*Must meet placement guidelines

Sophomore Year

	First Semester		Second Semester
English	English 10	English	English 10
Math	Algebra or Geometry* or Advanced Algebra* or Pre-Calc*	Math	Algebra or Geometry* or Advanced Algebra* or Pre-Calc*
Science	Biology	Science	Biology
Social Studies	World History	Social Studies	World History
Physical Education Not required this year, but 4 PE credits are required for graduation	Strength and Conditioning or Team Sports or Lifetime Activities or Unified PE*	Physical Education Not required this year, but 4 PE credits are required for graduation	Strength and Conditioning or Team Sports or Lifetime Activities or Unified PE*
Elective		Elective	
Elective		Elective	
Elective/Study Hall		Elective/Study Hall	

*Must meet placement guidelines

Four Year Plan

Junior Year

	First Semester		Second Semester
English	English 11 <i>or</i> AP English Language	English	English 11 <i>or</i> AP English Language
Math	Algebra <i>or</i> Geometry* <i>or</i> Advanced Algebra* <i>or</i> Finite Math* <i>or</i> Pre-Calc* <i>or</i> AP Calculus* <i>or</i> AP Stats*	Math	Algebra <i>or</i> Geometry* <i>or</i> Advanced Algebra* <i>or</i> Finite Math* <i>or</i> Pre-Calc* <i>or</i> AP Calculus* <i>or</i> AP Stats*
Science	Chemistry <i>or</i> Science and Technology <i>or</i> Astronomy/Forensics <i>or</i> AP Biology* <i>or</i> Human Physiology/Anatomy* <i>or</i> AP Chemistry*	Science	Chemistry <i>or</i> Science and Technology <i>or</i> Astronomy/Forensics <i>or</i> AP Biology* <i>or</i> Human Physiology/Anatomy* <i>or</i> AP Chemistry*
Social Studies	US History <i>or</i> AP US History	Social Studies	US History <i>or</i> AP US History
Elective		Elective	
Elective		Elective	
Elective		Elective	
Elective <i>or</i> Study Hall <i>or</i> Early Leave* <i>or</i> Late Arrival*		Elective <i>or</i> Study Hall <i>or</i> Early Leave* <i>or</i> Late Arrival*	

*Must meet placement guidelines and/or pre-requisites

Four Year Plan

Senior Year

	First Semester		Second Semester
English	English 12 <i>or</i> AP Lit. & Composition	English	English 12 <i>or</i> AP Lit. & Composition
Math Not required this year, but 6 math credits are required for graduation	Algebra <i>or</i> Geometry* <i>or</i> Advanced Algebra* <i>or</i> Finite Math* <i>or</i> Pre-Calc* <i>or</i> AP Calculus* <i>or</i> AP Stats*	Math Not required this year, but 6 math credits are required for graduation	Algebra <i>or</i> Geometry* <i>or</i> Advanced Algebra* <i>or</i> Finite Math* <i>or</i> Pre-Calc* <i>or</i> AP Calculus* <i>or</i> AP Stats*
Science Not required this year, but 6 science credits are required for graduation	Chemistry <i>or</i> Science and Technology <i>or</i> Astronomy/Forensics <i>or</i> AP Biology* <i>or</i> Human Physiology/Anatomy* <i>or</i> AP Chemistry*	Science Not required this year, but 6 science credits are required for graduation	Chemistry <i>or</i> Science and Technology <i>or</i> Astronomy/Forensics <i>or</i> AP Biology* <i>or</i> Human Physiology/Anatomy* <i>or</i> AP Chemistry*
Social Studies	Government	Social Studies	Government
Elective <i>or</i> Study Hall <i>or</i> Early Leave* <i>or</i> Late Arrival*		Elective <i>or</i> Study Hall <i>or</i> Early Leave* <i>or</i> Late Arrival*	
Elective <i>or</i> Study Hall <i>or</i> Early Leave* <i>or</i> Late Arrival*		Elective <i>or</i> Study Hall <i>or</i> Early Leave* <i>or</i> Late Arrival*	
Elective <i>or</i> Study Hall <i>or</i> Early Leave* <i>or</i> Late Arrival*		Elective <i>or</i> Study Hall <i>or</i> Early Leave* <i>or</i> Late Arrival*	
Elective <i>or</i> Study Hall <i>or</i> Early Leave* <i>or</i> Late Arrival*		Elective <i>or</i> Study Hall <i>or</i> Early Leave* <i>or</i> Late Arrival*	

UNL, UNO, and UNK Admission Requirements**

CATEGORY	UNITS*	UNIVERSITY-WIDE REQUIREMENTS
English	4 units	All units must include intensive reading and writing experiences
Mathematics	3 units	Algebra I, Algebra II, Geometry (UNL requires 4 units of mathematics. See "Additional Academic Requirements" below.)
Social Studies	3 units	Units that include one unit of American or world history and one additional unit of history, American government, and/or geography
Natural Sciences	3 units	At least two units selected from biology, chemistry, physics, and earth sciences. One of these units must include laboratory instruction
World Language	2 units	Both units must be in the same language. Additional units are recommended. Students who are unable to take two years of a world language in high school may still qualify for admission. Note: Some UNL degree programs require the equivalent of 4 years of high school world language in the same language in order to graduate.
Additional Academic Requirements	1 unit	UNK - One unit chosen from any of the above academic disciplines UNL - One additional unit of mathematics that builds on concepts learned in Algebra II UNO - One unit chosen from any of the above academic disciplines
Total Units	16 units	

Admission is guaranteed if students meet the core course requirements and at least one performance requirement:

- Have a 3.0 cumulative high school grade point average *OR*
- Score 20 or higher on the ACT, writing portion not required *OR*
- Score a total of 1040 or higher on the SAT Critical Reading and Math sections *OR*
- Rank in the top half of your graduating class

* NOTE: 1 unit = one year of high school instruction

**Based on information from UNK, UNL, and UNO websites. Guardians and students are responsible for knowing which classes are required for admissions.

Early Entry College Opportunities

Program	Description
UNMC High School Alliance (Health Sciences)	A one-year program that meets at the UNMC campus, each day from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. The schedule follows the Omaha Public Schools calendar. It is open to seniors who have earned a “B” in Algebra 1, Biology, Physical Science, and a third-year science course, and are on track for graduation. Course options include Biomedical Research, Community Health, Human Anatomy, Human Genetics, Infectious Disease, Pathology, Patient-Centered Care, and Decision Making. Applications are available at www.unmc.edu/alliance and are due at the end of January. The applications include a 250-word essay describing your reasons for pursuing this program and interest in a health science career, a counselor certification form, high-school transcripts, and two recommendation forms with one from a math or science teacher and the other from another teacher.
Metro Community College Career Academies	The career academies are one- or two-year programs that meet at the MCC campuses, on various days from 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. The schedule follows the Metro Community College calendar. Academies are open to juniors or seniors who are on track for graduation. Current Nebraska high school students are automatically eligible to take credit classes at no tuition cost. Students will be responsible for tools, textbooks, and any other associated course fees. Career Academy options include: Applied Technology Center: <i>Diesel Technology, Fire Science Technology</i> Elkhorn Valley: <i>Digital Cinema/Filmmaking, Photography</i> Fort Omaha: <i>Architecture, Civil Engineering, Construction Technology, Culinary Arts, Data Science, Electrical Technology, Web and Mobile App Development, Pre-Apprenticeship Plumbing, Prototype Design, Horticulture, Land Systems and Management, Welding Technology</i> Omaha Community Playhouse: <i>Theatre Technology</i> Sarpy Center: <i>Criminal Justice, Business Transfer, Early Childhood Education, Human Services</i> South Omaha Campus: <i>Administrative Technology, Automotive Technology, Automotive Collision, Advanced Manufacturing, Certified Nursing Assistant, Emergency Medical Responder, IT Technician - Cyber Security</i> Online: 3-D Animation and Games Applications are available on the MCC website. More information can be found at https://www.mccneb.edu/prospective-students/enrollment/secondary-partnerships/career-academy
University of Nebraska - Lincoln Nebraska Now	These classes are designed for students who will be attending the University of Nebraska - Lincoln, and are not designed to be transferred. More information can be found at https://admissions.unl.edu/information-for/nebraska-now/
Local College Early Entry Programs (MCC, Peru State, Nebraska Wesleyan, etc.)	These classes are designed for students that will be attending the school or will transfer the credit to another college. These classes can't be taken in lieu of graduation requirement classes at Bennington High School. (If Bennington High School offers the class, the class must be taken at Bennington High School for graduation credit.)

Please note: The website *Transfer Nebraska* (<https://transfer.nebraska.edu/>) details how public colleges and community colleges in Nebraska accept credits from other colleges in Nebraska. Please look over this website if you plan to take any of the above options.

NCAA / NAIA

College Athletic Participation: Students interested in participating in college athletics need to fulfill academic requirements before they can participate.

For more information, go to : [GUIDE FOR THE COLLEGE-BOUND STUDENT-ATHLETE](#) or [NAIA Guide for the College-Bound Student-Athlete](#)