

# **BENZIE CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL**



## **COURSE CATALOG**

**2016**

# ENGLISH

## **English 9**

**9<sup>th</sup> Grade**

**Year Long**

**1 Credit**

This course develops three main skill areas of language arts: reading, writing, and grammar. The class examines a variety of genres including short story, novel, drama and poetry. Students learn higher level reading skills focused on understanding theme, interpreting meaning, and identifying author's craft. Writing skills focus on organizing ideas and crafting language purposefully. Grammar usage and mechanics are studied throughout the year and are reinforced in subsequent writing assignments. In all areas of study, active and independent learning, and logical and critical thinking are promoted.

## **Honors English 9**

**Prerequisites: Teacher Rec., STARS Test 10<sup>th</sup> Grade Level, Writing Sample, B+ average in English**  
**Recommended for Grades: 9**

**Year Long**

**1 Credit**

Honors English I is designed for the highly-motivated college-bound freshman. Students should demonstrate the ability to write with a high degree of competence based on an understanding of the writing process and the characteristics of good writing. The study of vocabulary will promote better verbal scores in reading comprehension on the ACT and SAT. Students will read and discuss short stories, plays, poetry and essays from an anthology of literature. Students will write two book reviews. Other writing assignments will include but not be limited to description, character sketch, personal narrative, persuasion and analysis.

## **English 10**

**Recommended for Grades: 10**

**Year Long**

**1 Credit**

The goal for English Language Arts 10 is to continue to build a solid foundation of knowledge, skills, and strategies that will be refined, applied, and extended as students engage in more complex ideas, texts, and tasks. In English Language Arts 10, students will add to the list of various genre of classic and contemporary narrative and informational texts that will be read and analyzed throughout high school. Tenth graders will connect with and respond to texts through critical response and stance. They will learn to evaluate for validity and quality, to balance and expand their perspectives promoting empathy, social action and appropriate use of power. Critical response and stance offers students the lens to assess and modify their beliefs, views of the world, and how they have power to impact them.

## **Honors English 10**

**Pre Prerequisite: Recommendation of current Honors English I teacher, B average in English**

**Recommended for Grade: 10**

**Year Long**

**1 Credit**

The goal for Honors English 10 is to acquire mastery of knowledge, skills, and strategies of more complex ideas, texts, and tasks in this college prep class. Students will add American Literature to the list of various genre of classic and contemporary, narrative and informational texts that will be read and analyzed throughout high school. The focus of exploration will be American novels and text.

Students will connect with and respond to texts through critical response and stance. They will learn to evaluate for validity and quality, to balance and expand their perspectives promoting empathy, social action and appropriate use of power. Critical Response and Stance offers students the lens to assess and modify their beliefs, views of the world, and how they have power to impact them.

## **English 11**

**Prerequisite: Teacher Recommendation, B+ average in English**

**Recommended for Grade: 11**

**Year Long**

**1 Credit**

This class will read and discuss world literature from a variety of cultures. Students will explore different genres that may include novel, short story, essay, drama, poetry, and nonfiction and other visual media. Students will examine the historical and cultural context of the literature as a means to understand it. The course will also focus on preparing students for the ACT test that is required of all juniors by the State of Michigan. Grammar, reading, and writing skills will be emphasized and tested regularly in preparation for the Spring ACT test.

## **Honors English 11**

**Prerequisites: Recommendation of current Honors English II teacher, B average in English**

**Recommended for Grade: 11**

**Year Long**

**1 Credit**

This advanced level class will devote an entire year to the improvement of writing and analytical skills that the student has developed along the honors English path. We will utilize college level writing material and explore the finer aspects of the "Writing Process" culminating in a substantial research paper. Use of short stories, novels, and scholarly journal articles will provide students an opportunity to learn how to analyze and interpret multiple literary texts. The skills gained and developed in this class will assist and prepare the students for the ACT test taken at the end of the junior year.

## **English 12**

**Recommended for Grade: 12**

**Year Long**

**1 Credit**

English 12 is a year-long literature survey course. Students will study the works of a variety of British authors. Special emphasis will be given to the study of a Shakespeare play. The course will also include instruction in grammar and writing. Students will complete a senior project in the spring.

## **AP Literature**

**Teacher Recommendation**

**Year Long**

**1 Credit**

AP Literature is a year-long survey course of British literature. The authors studied, including medieval poets, Chaucer, Shakespeare, and Dickens, are much the same as the ones studied in the general education sections, but the honors class delves into more depth. Tests take a variety of formats, from multiple choice to assigned essays to essays in which students develop their own topics. Students will do an interpretive reading during the study of Hamlet. In the spring, they will complete a senior project in fiction writing.

# FINE ARTS

## **Concert Choir**

**Recommended for Grades: 9-12**

**Full Year**

**1 Credit**

The Concert Choir is a combined voicing choir of 9-12 grade students. This ensemble participates in concert performances, district and state level festivals, and solo & ensemble. It explores primary and intermediate high school literature and vocal techniques with an emphasis on style, tone quality, and sight-singing. Attendance at public performances is mandatory.

## **Chamber Choir**

**Recommended for Grades: 9-12**

**Full Year**

**1 Credit**

The Chamber Choir ensemble is an auditioned based group for 10-12 grade students. Students auditioning for this group must have a year's choral experience, strong music and sight-reading abilities. Auditions for this group take place at the end of the school year. The Chamber Choir participate in choral festival, concert performances, solo & ensemble, and many extra community performances throughout the year. Attendance at public performances is mandatory.

**MEMBERSHIP IS BY AUDITION ONLY.**

## **Girls Choir**

**Recommended for grades 9-12**

**Full Year**

**1 Credit**

Bella Cantante (Beautiful Singers) is a 9-12 female chorus. The group performs at all required choral events and at special community events. This ensemble participates in the district solo & ensemble festival and the high school choral festival. The group focuses on singing with a good choral tone, sight-reading, and music theory. You do not need to audition to be a part of this ensemble.

## **Advanced Theater Arts**

**Recommended for grades 9-12**

**Full Year**

**1 Credit**

Advanced Theater Arts Class is an extension of the Basic Theater Arts class offered in seventh grade. This class is designed to teach students public speaking skills so that they can become more confident individuals. This year-long, activity-oriented course will introduce students to the art of the actor and teach them to develop commitment, responsibility, sensitivity, esteem, and pride through performance. Students will also have opportunities to evaluate live theater performances through organized field-trips.

## **8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> grade Band**

**Full Year**

### **1 Credit**

This is the transition band class introducing new scales, more complex rhythms and higher level musical literature. This prepares instrumental music students for the Senior High Band Class.

## **Symphonic Band**

**Recommended for Grades: 10-12**

**Full Year**

**1 Credit**

This class explores advanced high school and college level musical literature and techniques with an emphasis on style and tone quality. Fundamentals of marching band are also taught in the fall. Prerequisite: successful completion of a junior high band program. Students must be able to play a minimum of four major and two minor scales and be able to read rhythms in a variety of meters and time signatures.

## **Jazz Band**

**Recommended for Grades: 9-12**

**Full Year**

**1 Credit**

Jazz Band is open to instrumental music students with previous musical training either in band or through legitimate private lessons. The instrumentation is standard jazz, Saxophones, Trombones, Trumpets, Guitar, Set Drum, Bass Guitar (or acoustic) and Piano. The class performs three times a year in band concerts. All students work on improvisation, jazz articulations and rhythms.

## **Crafts I**

**Recommended for Grades: 9-12**

**Semester**

**½ Credit**

In this class the student will learn how to construct a variety of projects following basic steps and processes. They will explore a variety of materials including clay, wood, and reeds. Projects will be constructed to develop individual skills and express personal ideas and feelings. The student will also create and utilize a sketchbook to record project information, develop designs and keep personal ideas for projects. No previous art experience is required for this course.

## **Drawing I**

**Recommended for Grades: 9-12**

**Semester**

**½ Credit**

In this course, the student will develop an awareness of the basic elements of design, proportions, and the concept of light and shadow. The student will develop skills in a variety of drawing techniques, including line drawing, pointillism, rendering, and geometric perspective. A variety of materials will be used to develop the students' ability to express themselves in two-dimensional works of art: pencils, colored pencils, inks, colored chalks, oil pastels, and felt-tipped markers. No previous art experience is needed.

# HEALTH/PHYSICAL EDUCATION

## Health

**Required Grade: 10**

**Semester**

**½ Credit**

This course explores the development of the individual from a physical, psychological, and emotional perspective. The content will include an overview of types of pathogens, how they spread, and preventive methods used to control the spread of communicable diseases. Discussion will center on the consequences for the use and abuse of tobacco, alcohol and illegal drugs. Furthermore, a focus on effective, proven prevention strategies will be looked at with the developing adolescent in mind. Finally, an introduction to the study of mental health will examine what it is, how to effectively manage stress and identify certain common disorders and their effects on self, family, and society.

## Physical Education Coed

**Recommended for Grades: 9**

**Year Long**

**1 Credit**

This course is recommended to students who have participated in physical education at the middle school level and/or are willing to be at a competitive level in a coed environment. The same design and expectations will apply as with the above mentioned physical education course.

## Advanced Physical Education Coed

**Recommended Grades: 10-12**

**Year Long**

**1 Credit**

Advanced physical education will provide an opportunity for the student to participate in many of the same activities which are included in regular high school physical education but at an advanced level with other physically skilled students. A student must first pass regular high school physical education while exhibiting an advanced skill level in many of the activities presented in that course before he may enroll in advanced physical education. A strong emphasis will be placed on dressing appropriately for activity throughout the course. A reasonable portion of the student's grade will reflect his achievement in these areas since all are considered essential to obtaining course outcomes.

The primary goal of Advanced Physical Education will be to improve the student's physical fitness level through participation in team activities with skilled participants and individual training programs using weights and running as the primary means. Students completing the Course should become more physically fit as a result and also have a thorough understanding of how to maintain this fitness level on their own in the future.

# INDUSTRIAL ARTS

## **Agricultural Mechanics**

**Recommended for Grades: 11-12**

**Full Year**

**1 Credit**

This class is heavily weighted to hands-on lab/shop activities. Short, in-class work is necessary to introduce new units and present lecture notes. Also, safety procedures are introduced prior to entering the shop. After the required book work and safety instruction, students will spend large blocks of time working on projects in the shop. Students must be able to furnish 2 small engines for projects. The major units of study are: 1. Principles of combustion engines, 2. Disassembly, cleaning, reassemble (Not < 2 engines), 3. Troubleshooting small engines (repair at least 1 engine), 4. Engine, evaluation and repairs, 5. Batteries-chargers and systems, 6. Hydraulics, 7. Oxyacetylene torch-cutting/ brazing, and 8. Welding, fabrication and repair.

## **Agricultural Welding**

**Recommended for Grades: 10-12**

**Full Year**

**1 Credit**

This is an introductory course where students learn the basics of shielded metal arc welding (SMAW) and gas metal arc welding (GMAW) and their application in fabrication and agricultural work. Emphasis will be placed on safety, theory, and hands-on practice. Additional topics will include cutting, design, measurement, finishing, and repairs.



# MATHEMATICS

## Algebra I A

**Recommended for Grades 9**

**Year Long**

**1 Credit**

This course covers the idea of function families and their characteristics. The course will consider key features of the different families through a study of tables, graphs, equations and story problems. Function families will include linear, absolute value, quadratic, and polynomial. The course will also look at inverses and systems related to these families.

## Algebra I B

**Recommended for Grades 10**

**Year Long**

**1 Credit**

This course will continue the idea of families of functions and their characteristics, this time focusing on exponential and power functions. The course will also cover exponent rules including integer and rational exponents and radicals. The course will connect to Algebra IA through a study of sequences and series. The course will also contain all statistics and probability CCSS.

## Algebra II A

**Prerequisite Algebra I, teacher recommendation required**

**Recommended for Grades 11**

**Year Long**

**1 Credit**

This course is the third year of the Algebra sequence and will complete the CCSS required for Algebra I and II in the state of Michigan. The course will review all function families through a study of piece-wise defined functions. The course will study two new families of functions: logarithms and rational functions. The will finish the year with connections to Pre-Calculus and college math through the study of conic sections and trigonometry.

## Algebra I

**Recommended for Grades 10-12**

**Year Long**

**1 Credit**

Algebra I is the study of linear, absolute value, quadratic and exponential functions and inequalities. For each family of functions there will be a study of graphs and equations as well as a connection between the different representations and their connection to real-world situations. The study of linear and exponential functions will also be connected to arithmetic and geometric sequences. The class also looks at systems of all types of these equations.

## Algebra II and Statistics

**Prerequisite Algebra I**

**Recommended for Grades 10-12**

**Year Long**

**1 Credit**

Algebra II is a continuation of Algebra I. It takes the same family of functions approach by studying graphs, equations, real-world situations and connection different representations. It looks at polynomials, exponentials, logarithms, and rational functions as well as conic sections and a continued look at sequences and series. One marking period of this class will be dedicated to the study of probability and statistics. This will cover all probability and statistics standards for the high school common core.

## **Honors Algebra II**

**Prerequisite teacher recommendation open to students who excel in Algebra I & Geometry**

**Recommended for Grades 10-12**

**Year Long**

**1 Credit**

Honors Algebra II will build on concepts taught in Algebra I and Geometry while adding new concepts to the student's repertoire of mathematics. Continuing the study of exponential and logarithmic functions and further enlarge the catalog of function families to include rational and trigonometric functions. The primary strands of context expectation include quantitative literacy and logic, algebra and functions, geometry and trigonometry, and statistics and probability.

## **Geometry**

**Prerequisite Algebra I**

**Recommended for Grades: 9-12**

**Year Long**

**1 Credit**

This course in basic geometry is designed to give the student a better understanding of a logical mathematical system. The course is developed allowing students to use algebra skills already learned. The primary focus will be towards mastering the Michigan Geometry Content Standards.

## **Honors Geometry**

**Prerequisite Algebra I**

**Open to students who have excelled in Algebra I with teacher recommendation or those who receive 90% or above on the Geometry Placement Test**

**Year Long**

**1 Credit**

This course in Euclidean geometry is designed to give the student a better understanding of a logical mathematical system. Using algebra skills already learned students will be challenged with assignments, projects, and thought producing challenges. In addition to the Michigan Content Standards topics include inductive and deductive thinking, logic, polygons, congruence, similarity, circles, parallelism, and an introduction to right triangle trigonometry.

## **Pre-Calculus**

**Prerequisite Algebra I, II & Geometry**

**Recommended for Grades: 11-12**

**Year Long**

**1 Credit**

This is an advance course covering coordinate geometry, polynomials, exponents and logarithms, and a comprehensive coverage of trigonometry. Other topics include statistics and probability. This course is designed to prepare the student for college-level mathematics and AP Calculus in particular. A graphing calculator is recommended.

## **Advanced Placement Calculus**

**Prerequisite Algebra I, Algebra II, Geometry, and Pre-Calculus**

**\*May receive Baker College credit under dual enrollment for grade "C" or better**

**Recommended for Grades: 12**

**Year Long**

**1 Credit**

AP Calculus AB is the study of limits, derivatives and integrals. It covers basic computations as well as problem solving and technology use. It includes all College Board required topics and culminates with the AP test given in May of each year. For a complete syllabus, see the AP Calculus teacher.

# SCIENCE

## **Earth Science**

**Required for Grade 9**

**Full Year**

**1 Credit**

This class will provide students with scientific knowledge and experience from the Earth and Space Sciences in real-world contexts. The goal of this interdisciplinary course is for students to develop an understanding of the earth and the solar system as a set of closely coupled systems that can be useful in explaining natural phenomena and making decisions about real-world problems. Units covered include Astronomy, Plate Tectonics, Seismology, Volcanology, Mineralogy, Paleontology, Glaciology, Meteorology and Oceanography. Objectives for this course have been selected from the Michigan Department of Education's High School Science content expectations.

## **Honors Earth Science**

**Teacher Recommendation**

**Grade 9**

**Full Year**

**1 Credit**

This class provides students with scientific knowledge and experiences from the Earth & Space Sciences in real-world contexts but will explore the high school Science Context expectations to a greater depth than the regular Earth Science course. The goal of this interdisciplinary course is for students to develop an understanding of the earth and the solar system as a set of closely coupled systems that can be useful in explaining natural phenomena and making decisions about real-world problems. Units covered include Astronomy, Plate Tectonics, Seismology, Volcanology, Mineralogy, Paleontology, Glaciology, Meteorology and Oceanography. Objectives for this course have been selected from the Michigan Department of Education's High School Science content expectations

## **Environmental Science**

**\*Recommended for 10th-12th Grade**

**Full Year**

**1 Credit**

Environmental Science is the study of the natural environment and the interdependence of all life forms. Students will gain a better understanding of the environment including the dependence of human life on the finite resources of the planet through a combination of interdisciplinary lessons and hands-on experiences. Emphasis will be placed upon natural biomes, biological diversity, local ecosystems, current environmental issues, and sustainable conservation practices.

## **Plant Science**

**Recommended for grades: 10-12**

**Full Year**

**1 Credit**

Plant Science is designed to give students a good understanding of plants and their importance to all ecosystems. It meets one of the required science credits for graduation. Major units of study: cells; parts and functions; plant parts & their functions; plant propagation, forestry, soils, greenhouse management & use; integrated pest management; landscaping; bedding plants; vegetable gardening; fruit production; field crops; pesticides; hydroponics; forage crops and house plants.

## **Animal Science**

**Recommended for grades: 10-12**

**Full Year**

**1 Credit**

Animal Science is designed to introduce students to how animals grow and develop and the different systems that affect this growth and development. The major focus is on agricultural animals with some attention on wildlife. This class does meet 1 credit of science toward graduation requirements. Major areas of study include cells-parts & functions; systems-parts & functions; classification & nomenclature, aquaculture' poultry; dairy; beef; swine; sheep/goats; honey bees; rabbits, wildlife, and companion animals.

**NOTE:** Students who complete both Animal science AND Plant science (in separate years) will receive two credits toward graduation and fulfill the biology requirement. If a student completes Animal science OR Plant science it would fulfill ½ of the Biology requirement.

## **Biology**

**9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> grade**

**Full Year**

**1 Credit**

Biology is the study of life. This Biology course is a survey course, which incorporates new perspectives and understanding across the major sub-disciplines of biology. Genetics, cell biology, development, evolution, classification, animals and human body systems are some of the areas covered. We will examine the human role in the world of living things in relation to contemporary problems. The course will have a lab-based, hands-on component. Understanding through exploration is one goal of this course. Students will be sensitized to various moral and environmental issues brought about by research in bioengineering and other areas of biological research. They will be provided with tools with which to make educated decisions regarding these new technologies and developments. This class promotes scientific thinking through problem solving, a process that encourages curiosity and careful inquiry.

## **Honors Biology**

**Prerequisite Recommendation by 8<sup>th</sup> grade Science & Algebra I teachers**

**9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> grade**

**Full Year**

**1 Credit**

Same as Biology with emphasis on preparing students for Advanced Biology and Advanced Placement Biology.

## **Chemistry**

**Prerequisite Algebra I**

**Recommended for Grades: 11-12**

**Full Year**

**1 Credit**

This course is a lab-intensive hands-on application of many general chemistry concepts. Topics for this course will include periodic law and bonding, stoichiometry (balancing equations and using a mass/mole concept to figure chemical products), gas laws, solutions, redox reactions, Thermo chemistry and acid/base reactions. The course is designed to prepare students for entry-level college chemistry courses and provide students with an analytical lab experience. Pre-required courses include a good understanding and mastery of the concepts taught in Algebra.

## **Honors Chemistry**

**Teacher Recommendation**

**Full Year**

**1 Credit**

In addition to general chemistry requirements, Honor's chemistry topics will include equilibrium, chemical kinetics and some organic chemistry. Honor's chemistry students will have an increased homework load and an accelerated schedule for general chemistry topics

## **Advanced Placement Chemistry**

**Prerequisite Algebra I, Algebra II, Geometry, Chemistry**

**Recommended for Grades: 12**

**Full Year**

**1 Credit**

Students opting for this course will need to understand that it is designed to cover the same topics that a first year general inorganic Chemistry course at most colleges and universities will cover. Tests and labs will be of the same nature that would be found in most colleges. Students will also enter into an agreement that it will be expected that to complete this course, the Advanced Placement examination will be taken in May to determine their placement and credit for college Chemistry courses.

Prerequisites for the course will include Algebra and Geometry concepts and a superior understanding of a general Inorganic Chemistry course.

## **Physics \***

**Prerequisite Algebra I, Geometry**

**Recommended for Grades: 12**

**Full Year**

**1 Credit**

**\*May be used as a senior year math credit**

Students taking this course will learn about force, motion and energy during the first semester, and waves, sound, light, electricity and atomic energy during the second semester. Projects will be required throughout the year including catapults. Short 1-day or 2-day projects pertaining to the topic being studied at the time will be used throughout the year. This course will help prepare students to take entry-level physics at any college.

## **Advanced Biology**

**Prerequisite Biology “B” or better, Chemistry “B” or better**

**Recommended for Grades: 11 & 12**

**Full Year**

**1 Credit**

This class is provided to allow college-bound students to expand their conceptual framework, factual knowledge, and analytical skills that initially were developed in their introductory biology class. The first semester of work is devoted to the study of heredity, populational biology (hardy Weinberg), basic biological chemistry of carbohydrates, lipids, proteins, and nucleic acids and the biochemistry of the light and dark reactions and the chemiosmotic synthesis of ATP. During the second semester the focus will shift to the structure, function and biochemistry of the various vertebrate organ systems, the biochemistry of glycolysis and cellular respiration, and introductory biometrics.

Occasionally some projects and laboratory work will necessitate that students spend additional time in the laboratory. Every student planning on attending college should be enrolled in Advanced Biology in their junior or senior year. Almost every career path requires credits earned in Intro level Biology in college.

## **Advanced Placement Biology**

**Pre requisite Chemistry “B” or better**

**Recommended for Grades: 11 & 12**

**Full Year**

**1 Credit**

This class is provided to prepare college-bound students to take the Advanced Placement examination in Biology. Students enrolled in AP Biology must also be concurrently enrolled in Advanced Biology. Taken together the classes cover the entire AP Biology course description. A complete AP Biology course description is published by the College Board. Copies of this complete description can be obtained by the principal or AP Biology instructor. Topics covered in AP Biology from molecules and cells include enzymology, cells, membranes, sub cellular organization, and cell cycle and regulation. Topics covered from heredity and evolution include gametogenesis, DNA and RNA structure and function, gene regulation, mutation, viral structure and replication, nucleic acid technology, early evolution of life, evidence for evolution and mechanisms of evolution. Topics covered from organisms and populations include evolutionary patterns, survey of the diversity of life, phylogenetic classification, evolutionary relationships, reproduction, growth and development of plants and animals, structural, physiological, behavioral adaptations and responses to the environment, population dynamics, communities and ecosystems and global issues.

# SOCIAL STUDIES

## U.S. History

**9<sup>th</sup> Grade**

**Full Year**

**1 Credit**

The study of United States history prepares students to take up the challenges of life in contemporary society. This full year course introduces students to the history of the United States with a focus on the post-Civil War Industrial Age to the present day. Beginning with a review of prior political, intellectual, and demographic transformations that shaped the nation, students learn about major political, philosophical, and historical underpinnings of our government. Throughout the course, students analyze how ideas of freedom and equality have shaped our collective past and explore implications for the future. Adopting a chronological approach, students analyze their causes and effects of events in the nation's past. They use primary and secondary sources to explore time and place in the twentieth century. Within their historical study of twentieth century America, students deepen their understanding of major geographical themes, economic principles, and significant concepts in United States government. Throughout the course students learn to develop important questions, conduct inquiry, and evaluate evidence. They also read a variety of historical arguments and develop skills in writing evidentiary-based arguments and historical narratives. By helping identify common and diverse strands that formed and continue to shape life in America, students develop the habits of mind essential for democratic citizenship.

## Civics

**Required for Grade: 10**

**Full Year**

**1 Credit**

Civics introduces students to the American political system -- its core values and principles as set forth in foundational documents, as well as its origins, institutions and operations. The course also acquaints students with political parties, historical development of American politics, voting and elections, public opinion and interest groups, branches of federal government, state and local government, criminal and civil law, civil rights, and government and economy. Students are also introduced to the rights and responsibilities of citizenship and of democratic civic involvement. They also are required to fulfill community service obligations.

## World History

**11<sup>th</sup> Grade**

**Full Year**

**1 Credit**

World History is a year long course that gives students the opportunity to explore recurring themes of human experience common to civilizations around the globe from ancient to contemporary times. This course centers on the following themes: the origins and expansion of the global capitalist economy and the varied types of resistances to that expansion, the rise of secular/scientific thinking and politics, the transformation of religion in the modern world, the influence of technology. Five regions of the world surveyed include: Africa, Asia, Pacific Islands, Europe and Latin America. Historical analysis and interpretations will be surveyed through the lens of comparative examination of the economic, cultural, political, social and technological commonalities and differences between human societies. This course is required in the 11<sup>th</sup> grade.

## **Economics**

**Requirement for Grade 10**

**Semester**

**½ Credit**

This one-semester required course builds economic literacy in students. The overarching problem of scarcity, unlimited human wants pursuing limited resources, is a focal point of the course. Students deepen their prior knowledge of basic economic concepts and apply them to national and international economic systems and problems as a whole. They explore the various challenges presented by both micro and macro economic perspectives. By focusing on microeconomics, students study how interactions of buyers and sellers impact price and the role of trade-offs and incentives in consumer and business decisions. Students also examine the macroeconomic goals of high employment, stable prices, and economic growth as they explore how the flow of goods and services and money are used measure and influence the status of the economy. After examining the role that governments in the United States play in a market economy, students assess how the activities of households, firms, and governments have global consequences in an increasingly interconnected world. Throughout the course, students use a variety of media to compile, analyze, and present statistical data pertinent to economic problems. Students apply their economic knowledge to make informed decisions as consumers and to participate as citizens in deciding matters of economic policy.



# TECHNOLOGY

## Computers 9

Required for Grades: 9

Year Long

1 Credit

This course develops the skills needed to use Web 2.0 tools and a variety of applications to produce quality projects which can be integrated into all subject areas throughout the high school experience. Learning how to use the Internet and online databases for the purpose of academic research and being a good digital citizen will be stressed. Basic photo-editing, podcasting and other multi-media projects will be created throughout the year. Students will learn how to use Microsoft Office software effectively to create documents, spreadsheets and presentations. Emphasis on creating a digital portfolio, on-line learning experiences and career exploration will be included in this year long course.

## Video Editng (BCTV)

Recommended for Grades: 11-12

Year Long

1 Credit

Video Editing (BCTV) is a year-long course that focuses on producing a daily news bulletin that is shown to the student body. Students will broadcast daily announcements, run camera and editing equipment, produce creative programs, and film extracurricular activities. Video editing is a deadline-driven class that will require time spent outside of the school day to complete projects. **MEMBERSHIP BY APPLICATION PROCESS ONLY!**

# WORLD LANGUAGES

## **Spanish I**

**Recommended for grades 9-12**

**Year Long**

**1 Credit**

Students will be introduced to the Spanish language and culture. In a variety of classroom activities, students will acquire vocabulary and grammar in order to speak Spanish. While the focus of the course will be on speaking, students will also learn to listen to, read, and write Spanish. Student success in Spanish is dependent upon the completion of daily homework, weekly vocabulary quizzes, tests, and projects. A strong understanding of English grammar is also stressed.

## **Spanish II**

**Prerequisite Spanish I**

**Required**

**Year Long**

**1 Credit**

Students will continue their study of the Spanish language and culture. Students will expand the vocabulary and grammar learned in the first year. The focus of the course will also expand to include writing as well as speaking. The main goal of the Spanish II course is to expand their use of the grammar to include the future and past verb tenses as well as present tense. Students will be able to speak in conversations and write a one-page paper about a given topic. Students will expand their cultural understanding of Spanish-speaking countries. Student success in Spanish II is dependent upon the completion of daily homework, weekly vocabulary quizzes, tests, and projects.