

ENGLISH

English 9

9th 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 10th 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 Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) and state assessment. 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.

MATHEMATICS

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

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.

Algebra 1 Lab

Recommended for students wishing to gain additional algebra skills

Year Long

1 elective credit

This class is designed, to improve the math skills necessary to be successful in an Algebra 1 course. Students will be assessed at the beginning of the semester and areas of improvement will be defined. The class will be designed around these areas and concepts will be taught with a multiple representation approach. Possible topics will include operations with fractions and decimals, operations with positive and negative integers, setting up graphs, displaying data, and interpreting tabular and graphical information. More topics could be added based on the assessment given in the beginning of the course. There will be a selection process to fill this class.

SCIENCE/AGRICULTURE

Earth Science

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 Content 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

Honors Biology

Prerequisite Recommendation by 8th grade Science & Algebra I teachers

Recommended for Grades: 9-10

Full Year

1 Credit

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

Livestock and Animal Science

Recommended for Grades: 9-12

Full Year

1 Credit

A course designed as an introduction to food and fiber production. Emphasis will be divided between commercial agriculture and practical livestock production for individuals and families. This is a hands-on course in which students will be involved in work and tasks related to raising and breeding animals. This includes feeding and watering animals, cleaning animal pens, shoveling manure, handling and moving animals, and performing care tasks such as shearing and hoof/nail trimming. This means you will get DIRTY sometimes. Units of instruction will include introduction to agriculture, poultry production, pest and disease management, animal facilities design, animal nutrition, animal reproduction, large animal management (sheep), small

animal management (rabbits), poultry production (broiler chickens), record keeping, animal judging, agribusiness, and aquaculture. Instruction in leadership (FFA) and supervised agricultural experience program development as well as exposure to agricultural career opportunities will be provided.

Food Crops and Plant Science

Recommended for Grades: 9-12

Full Year

1 Credit

A course designed as an introduction to plants and agricultural crops. Emphasis will be divided between commercial agriculture and practical food production for individuals and families. This is a hands-on course in which students will be involved in work and tasks related to growing and managing plants. This includes, preparing soil, turning compost, filling pots, planting seeds, weeding, and watering. This means you will get DIRTY sometimes. Units of instruction will include introduction to agriculture, plant anatomy and physiology, soils and plant nutrition, fruit crops, plant propagation, composting, greenhouse plant production, maple syrup production, agribusiness, and gardening. Instruction in leadership (FFA) and supervised agricultural experience program development as well as exposure to agricultural career opportunities will be provided.

SOCIAL STUDIES

U.S. History

Required for Grade: 9

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.

TECHNOLOGY & BUSINESS

Freshman Connection

Required for Grades: 9

Year Long

1 Credit

This course will build on necessary typing/keyboarding 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. EDP's will continue to be developed using our new platform XELLO (digital). Learning how to use the Internet and online databases for the purpose of academic research. Students will learn how to use Google Suite/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.

Multimedia

Prerequisite: ELA “B” or better

Required for Grades: 9-12

Year Long

1 Credit

Multimedia class is a journalism class open to students in the 10th, 11th, and 12th grades. The course is designed to offer students experiences in journalism. They will have opportunities to hone their journalism skills by participating in all elements of both broadcast and print production. The course includes instruction in effective and responsible journalistic writing forms and techniques, broadcasting, sales and marketing, and business management. Students are required to work outside the school day. Consideration for enrollment is based on an application along with a 60-second video pitch. Written letter to instructor describing interest in the class.

FINE ARTS

Concert Choir

Recommended for Grades: 9-12

Full Year

1 Credit

Concert Choir is a SATB choir of 9-12 grade students. This ensemble participates in 3 concert performances, in addition to district and state level festivals, and solo & ensemble. Choral literature spans from sacred, secular, foreign-language, and popular music selections. Students will enhance their music literacy skills as well as learn the basics of music theory, music terms, and sight-reading. Attendance at public performances is mandatory.

Chamber Choir

Recommended for Grades: 9-12

Full Year

1 Credit

Chamber Singers is an auditioned SATB ensemble for 9-12 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 Singers participate in 3 concert performances, solo & ensemble, BC’s Got Talent, and many extra community performances throughout the year. Attendance at public performances is mandatory. ***MEMBERSHIP IS BY AUDITION ONLY.**

Symphonic Band

Grades: 9-12

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.

Crafts

Recommended for Grades: 9-12

Full Year

1 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

Recommended for Grades: 9-12

Full Year

1 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

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.

HS Body Mechanics

Prerequisite: See Course Description

Recommended for grades: 9-12

Full Year

1 Credit

This course is designed to further the opportunity for its participants to learn and reinforce training concepts and techniques used for obtaining and maintaining optimal physical fitness. Students will benefit from comprehensive weight training, performance-based training, and cardiorespiratory endurance activities. Students will build upon the fundamentals of weight training, strength training, aerobic training, fitness training/conditioning, nutrition, and applied functional sciences (i.e., the convergence of physical, biological and behavioral sciences that consist of the principals, strategies, and techniques process for functional assessment, training and conditioning, rehabilitation and injury prevention). *Approval from one of two sources: a) a previous Benzie Central high school or middle school Physical Education instructor; b.) a Benzie Central coach that coached the prospective Body Mechanics for an entire athletic season within the last calendar year.*

INDUSTRIAL ARTS/AGRICULTURAL

Industrial Arts

Grades: 9

Full Year

1 Credit

In this course students will learn to safely use tools and machines by making things and doing basic repair work. Student projects will involve woodworking, metalworking, electrical, plumbing and mechanical skills. Students will also learn basic technical drawing skills and have the opportunity to compete in local, regional and state project fairs. This course will teach students practical, hands-on skills and/or prepare students to enter a program at Benzie's Ind Arts/FFA program or the Career-Tech Center.

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 for Grades: 9-12

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.

STUDY HALL

Seminar

Required for grades 9-12

Year Long

.25 Credit

This year-long course is designed to help students with organization and manage the academic rigor and social issues of high school. This course covers various study skills, note-taking, test-preparation, research procedures, and reading and writing strategies. Students will learn and practice organizational skills and will receive a daily agenda to use in all their BCHS classes.

The course will also address social issues that affect students as they begin to explore high school and post-secondary planning. Seminar is designed to help students during their transition to high school – its academic and personal demands – and help ensure their educational success.

Freshman

9TH GRADE CLASSES:

1. Core _____
2. Core _____
3. Core _____
4. .Core _____
5. Freshman Connect
6. Elective _____
7. Elective _____
8. Seminar _____

* = Must try out or have teacher recommendations

ELECTIVE CHOICES for 9th GRADE

Fine Arts: Choir, *Chamber Choir, Symphonic Band, Drawing, Crafts **World Languages:** Spanish I. *Spanish II

Sciences: *Honors Biology, FC Plant Science, LS Animal Science **Health/Nutrition:** Coed physical education, Body Mechanics

Agriscience: Industrial Arts Shop Class **Math:** *Algebra Lab

FOR GRADUATION: 1 YR of PE, 1 YR of Spanish from electives

High School Plan

The following are minimum credit requirements that must be satisfied in order to graduate from Benzie Central High School. These add up to 20, additional elective credits must be earned to reach a minimum total of 24. The entire graduation policy is located in the student handbook.

English	4 credits
Mathematics: 2 credits of Algebra, 1 credit of Geometry and 1 credit of math in the 4th year	4 credits
Science: 1 credit Earth Science, 1 credit Biology and 1 credit of Chemistry or Physics	3 credits
Social Studies: 1 credit US History, 1 credit Civics, 1 credit World History and .5 credit Economics	3.5 credits
Physical Education	1 credit
Health	.5 credit
Freshman Connection	1 credit
World Language*	2 credits*
Visual, Performing or Applied Arts	1 credit

*The World Language requirement must be met in 1 of the following 3 ways:

- A student shall successfully complete 2 credits of the world language. OR
- A student shall successfully complete 1 credit of a world language and successfully complete an accredited Career Tech program.
OR
- A student shall successfully complete 1 credit of a world language and successfully an additional VPAA Credit.

Welcome Benzie High School Freshman!

This information provides you with several different ways to look at how to plan your future academic track for graduation. More information can be found on our website or by going directly to the 9th grade “Counselor” page and hitting the link for 9th grade course descriptions and graduation requirements.

Basically, you only have one “elective” class to choose from your 9th grade year, but we have several choices for that elective. Remember if you see an “*” that means you need a Teacher Recommendation to sign up for that class. I will go over all of this information when we schedule on powerschool to register for the classes below but am happy to meet individually if you have questions after that. Please email me or call the office to set up an appointment or, if you are a student, you can stop into my office and see me or sign in on my door sheet and I will call you down to talk at my first opportunity. Go class of 2023!

Barbara Powell, Guidance Counselor 9th Grade
powellb@benzieschools.net

Requirements	9th Grade	10th Grade	11th Grade	12th Grade
Math (4 Credits: Algebra 1,2, Geometry and 4th year)	Algebra 1 Hon. Geometry	Algebra 2 Hon. Alg. 2 Geometry	Geometry Pre-Calculus Algebra 2	Geometry Con. Ed. Physics AP Calculus
English (4 Credits, 4 years)	English 9 Hon. Eng. 9	English 10 Hon. Eng. 10	English 11 Hon. Eng. 11	English 12 AP Literature
Science (3 Credits: Earth, Biology, Chemistry required)	Earth Science *Hon. E. Science	Biology Hon. Chemistry	Chemistry AP Biology ADV Biology	AP Chemistry
Social Studies (3 credits, 3 years)	US History	Health/Econ. Civics	World History AP Psychology	AP US History
*Required to graduate: 1 year for 9th grade only	Freshman Connect	N/A	N/A	N/A
World Language 2 years of “Foreign Lang) Or 1 year + 2 yrs of WL (IA, CTC, Music or Art)	Spanish I/II	Spanish I/II/III	Spanish I/II/III CTC MTA Dual Enroll	Spanish I/II/III CTC MTA Dual Enroll
ELECTIVES: Choose 1 (* = prerequisite TR)	*Honors Biology *Algebra Lab Coed Physical Ed. or Body Mechanics Industrial Arts	Band Choir Drawing or Crafts Livestock Animal Science or Crop Plant Science		
Seminar	All students take a seminar to assist with questions during the day, study time, organization opportunity, club meetings			