

2022 - 23 Course Description Guide



Michigan Merit Curriculum (MMC) Credit Requirements (18.0)

(Each course = ½ credit)

| ENGLISH/LANGUAGE ARTS (ELA) - 4.0 Credits | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|-----------------------------|
| English 9A (*Essentials or Standard) | English 10A | English 11A | English 12A | |
| English 9B (*Essentials or Standard) | English 10B | English 11B | English 12B | |
| MATHEMATICS - 4.0 Credits | | | | |
| Pre-Algebra A (**Essentials or Standard) | Algebra 1A (**Essentials, Standard, or Honors) | Geometry A (**Essentials, Standard, or Honors) | Algebra 2A (**Essentials, Standard, or Honors) | Financial Math A |
| | | | | Financial Math B |
| Pre-Algebra B (**Essentials or Standard) | Algebra 1B (**Essentials, Standard, or Honors) | Geometry B (**Essentials, Standard, or Honors) | Algebra 2B (**Essentials, Standard, or Honors) | Personal Finance |
| SCIENCE - 3.0 Credits | | | | |
| Biology A | Chemistry A | Physics A | Earth / Space Science A | Environmental Science A & B |
| Biology B | Chemistry B | Physics B | Earth / Space Science B | Physical Science A & B |
| SOCIAL STUDIES - 3.0 Credits | | | | |
| Civics | World History & Geography A | | US History & Geography A | |
| Economics | World History & Geography B | | US History & Geography B | |
| Health & Physical Education 1.0 Credit | Visual, Performing, & Applied Arts (VPAA) - 1.0 Credit | | World Language - 2.0 Credits (1.0 credit maybe substituted VPAA credit) | |
| MI Health | Journalism A | Public Speaking A | Spanish 1A | Spanish 2A |
| Lifetime Fitness | Journalism B | Public Speaking B | Spanish 1B | Spanish 2B |

| Additional Topics | Grade Levels | | | *Reading NWEA Score | | |
|---|--------------|-----------|-------|---------------------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| | Credits | Class | Grade | Essentials ELA 9A & 9B | | |
| Electives | | | | | | |
| Career & Technical Education (CTE) | 0.0 - 4.5 | Freshman | 9 | NWEA Score ≤ 206 | | |
| Dual Enrollment | 5.0 - 9.0 | Sophomore | 10 | **Mathematics NWEA Score | | |
| Personal Curriculum | 9.5 - 13.5 | Junior | 11 | Essentials | Standard | Honors |
| Future Planning | 14.0 - 18.0 | Senior | 12 | ≤ 210 | 211 - 235 | ≥ 236 |

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English / Language Arts (ELA)

Essential English Language Arts 9A & 9B (NWEA score \leq 210)

Grade: 9

Estimated time: 120 Hours (2 semester courses)

Credits: 1.0

Course Description: This course reviews previously learned skills before introducing students to new skills and concepts. These courses are designed for students who may not have a solid understanding of reading skills and concepts. This course uses a thematic and contemporary approach, including high interest topics to motivate students and expose them to effective instructional principles using diverse content areas and real-world texts. This course will require students to critically read fiction, poetry, drama, and literary nonfiction, to develop mastery on comprehension and literary analysis strategies. Interwoven in the lessons across two semesters are activities that encourage students to strengthen their oral language skills and produce clear, coherent writing. This course allows students to gain knowledge and proficiency in the following comprehension strategies: summarizing, questioning, previewing and predicting, recognizing text structure, visualizing, making inferences, and monitoring understanding with metacognition.

English Language Arts 9A & 9B

Grade: 9

Estimated time: 115 Hours (2 semester courses)

Credit: 1.0

Course Description: This freshman-year English course invites students to explore diverse texts organized into thematic units. Students will engage in literary analysis and inferential evaluation of great texts both classic and contemporary. While critically reading fiction, poetry, drama, and literary nonfiction, students will master comprehension and literary analysis strategies. Interwoven in the lessons across two semesters are activities that encourage students to strengthen their oral language skills and produce clear, coherent writing. Students will read a range of classic texts including Homer's *The Odyssey*, Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*, and Richard Connell's "The Most Dangerous Game." They will also study short but complex texts, including influential speeches by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and Ronald Reagan. Contemporary texts by Alvarez, Janeczko, and Angelou round out the course.

English Language Arts 10A & 10B

Prerequisite Courses: ELA 9 A & ELA 9B

Grade: 10

Estimated time: 90 Hours (2 semester courses)

Credit: 1.0

Course Description: This sophomore-year English course invites students to explore a diverse selection of world literature organized into thematic units. While critically reading fiction, poetry, drama, and expository nonfiction, students learn essential reading comprehension strategies and engage in literary analysis and evaluation of both classic and contemporary works. Interwoven in the lessons across two semesters are grammar, vocabulary, and writing lessons that encourage students to strengthen their English language skills. The students will read a range of classic and contemporary literary texts including Henrik Ibsen's *A Doll's House*, George Orwell's *Animal Farm*, and Marjane Satrapi's *Persepolis*. In addition to reading a wide range of literary texts, students read and analyze complex informational and argumentative texts including Sonia Sotomayor's "A Latina Judge's Voice," Julia Alvarez's "A Genetics of Justice," and the contemporary informational text *Sugar Changed the World: A Story of Magic, Spice, Slavery, Freedom, and Science*.

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English / Language Arts (ELA) (continued)

English Language Arts 11A & 11B

Prerequisite Courses: ELA 10A & ELA 10B

Grade : 11

Estimated time: 115 Hours (2 semester courses)

Credits: 1.0

Course Description: This junior-year English course invites students to delve into American literature, from early American Indian voices through thoughtful contemporary works. Students will engage in literary analysis and inferential evaluation of great texts, the centerpieces of this course. While critically reading fiction, poetry, drama, and expository nonfiction, students will master comprehension and literary analysis strategies. Interwoven in the lessons across two semesters are tasks that encourage students to strengthen their oral language skills and produce creative, coherent writing. Students will read a range of short but complex texts, including works by Ralph Waldo Emerson, Emily Dickinson, Nathaniel Hawthorne, Langston Hughes, Martin Luther King, Jr., F. Scott Fitzgerald, Leslie Marmon Silko, Amy Tan, and Naomi Shihab Nye.

English Language Arts 12A & 12B

Prerequisite Courses: ELA 11 A & ELA 11B

Grade: 12

Estimated time: 100 Hours (2 semester courses)

Credits: 1.0

Course Description: This senior-year English Language Arts course invites you to explore a diverse collection of texts organized into thematic units. You will engage in literary analysis and inferential evaluation of both classic and contemporary literature. While critically reading fiction, poetry, drama, and expository nonfiction, you will learn comprehension and literary analysis strategies. The last semester of this course includes the Senior English Project. The project is designed to assist students in the next step in their life. Students will create a cover letter, resume, and write a short paper about their passion. Tasks will encourage you to strengthen your oral language skills and produce creative, coherent writing. You will read a range of classic texts including the ancient epic Gilgamesh, William Shakespeare's Hamlet, and Oscar Wilde's The Importance of Being Earnest. You will study short but complex texts, including essays by Jonathan Swift and Mary Wollstonecraft, and influential speeches by Queen Elizabeth I and Franklin D. Roosevelt. Contemporary texts by Seamus Heaney, Derek Walcott, and Chinua Achebe round out the course. In section B, students will complete the senior project which includes the creation of a resume, passion paper, and a presentation.

Mathematics

Essentials Pre-Algebra A & B (NWEA score \leq 210)

Grade: 9

Estimated time: 117 Hours (2 semester courses)

Credit: 1.0

Course Description - This course is designed for students who have completed a middle school mathematics sequence but are not yet Algebra-ready. This course reviews key algebra readiness skills from the middle grades and introduces basic Algebra I work with appropriate support. Students revisit concepts in number and operations, expressions and equations, ratio and proportion, and basic functions. By the end of the course, students are ready to begin a more formal high school Algebra I study.

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Mathematics (continued)

Essentials Algebra 1A & 1B (NWEA score \leq 210)

Grade: 9

Estimated time: 117 Hours (2 semester courses)

Credit: 1.0

Course Description - This course focuses on five critical areas: relationships between quantities and reasoning with equations, linear and exponential relationships, descriptive statistics, expressions and equations, and quadratic functions and modeling. This course builds on the foundation set in middle grades by deepening students' understanding of linear and exponential functions and developing fluency in writing and solving one-variable equations and inequalities. Students will interpret, analyze, compare, and contrast functions that are represented numerically, tabularly, graphically, and algebraically. Quantitative reasoning is a common thread throughout the course as students learn how they can use algebra to represent quantities and the relationships among those quantities in a variety of ways. Standards of mathematical practice and process are embedded throughout the course, as students make sense of problem situations, solve novel problems, reason abstractly, and think critically.

Essentials Geometry A & B (NWEA score \leq 210)

Grade: 10-12

Prerequisite Courses: Algebra 1A & 1B

Credit: 1.0

Estimated time: 118 Hours (2 semester courses)

Course Description - This course formalizes what students learned about geometry in the middle grades with a focus on reasoning and making mathematical arguments. Mathematical reasoning is introduced with a study of Math Courses triangle congruence, including exposure to formal proofs and geometric constructions. Then students extend what they have learned to other essential triangle concepts, including similarity, right-triangle trigonometry, and the laws of sines and cosines. Moving on to other shapes, students justify and derive various formulas for circumference, area, and volume, as well as cross-sections of solids and rotations of two-dimensional objects. Students then make important connections between geometry and algebra, including special triangles, slopes of parallel and perpendicular lines, and parabolas in the coordinate plane, before delving into an in-depth investigation of the geometry of circles. The course closes with a study of set theory and probability, as students apply theoretical and experimental probability to make decisions informed by data analysis.

Standard Pre-Algebra A & B (NWEA Score 211 - 235)

Grade: 9

Estimated time: 110 Hours (2 semester courses)

Credit: 1.0

Course Description - This course is designed for students who have completed a middle school mathematics sequence but are not yet Algebra-ready. This course reviews key algebra readiness skills from the middle grades and introduces basic Algebra I work with appropriate support. Students revisit concepts in number and operations, expressions and equations, ratio and proportion, and basic functions. By the end of the course, students are ready to begin a more formal high school Algebra I study.

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Mathematics (continued)

Standard Algebra 1A & 1B (NWEA Score 211 - 235)

Grade: 9

Estimated time: 108 Hours (2 semester courses)

Credit: 1.0

Course Description - This course focuses on five critical areas: relationships between quantities and reasoning with equations, linear and exponential relationships, descriptive statistics, expressions and equations, and quadratic functions and modeling. This course builds on the foundation set in middle grades by deepening students' understanding of linear and exponential functions and developing fluency in writing and solving one-variable equations and inequalities. Students will interpret, analyze, compare, and contrast functions that are represented numerically, tabularly, graphically, and algebraically. Quantitative reasoning is a common thread throughout the course as students learn how they can use algebra to represent quantities and the relationships among those quantities in a variety of ways. Standards of mathematical practice and process are embedded throughout the course, as students make sense of problem situations, solve novel problems, reason abstractly, and think critically.

Standard Geometry A & B (NWEA Score 211 - 235)

Prerequisite Courses: Algebra 1A & 1B

Grades: 10-12

Estimated time: 115 Hours (2 semester courses)

Credits: 1.0

Course Description - This course formalizes what students learned about geometry in the middle grades with a focus on mathematical reasoning making arguments. Students will study triangle congruence, including exposure to formal proofs and geometric constructions. Students extend their learning to other essential triangle concepts, including similarity, right-triangle trigonometry, and the laws of sines and cosines. Moving on to other shapes, students justify and derive various formulas for circumference, area, and volume, as well as cross-sections of solids and rotations of two-dimensional objects. Students then make important connections between geometry and algebra, including special triangles, slopes of parallel and perpendicular lines, and parabolas in the coordinate plane, before delving into an in-depth investigation of the geometry of circles. The course closes with a study of set theory and probability, as students apply theoretical and experimental probability to make decisions informed by data analysis.

Standard Algebra 2A & 2B

Prerequisite Courses: Algebra 1A & 1B (NWEA Score 211 - 235)

Grades: 10-12

Estimated time: 113 Hours (2 semester courses)

Credit: 1.0

Course Description - This course focuses on functions, polynomials, periodic phenomena, and collecting and analyzing data. Students will make connections between verbal, numeric, algebraic, and graphical representations of functions and apply this knowledge as they create equations and inequalities that can be used to model and solve mathematical and real-world problems. As students refine and expand their algebraic skills, they will draw analogies between the operations and field properties of real numbers and those of complex numbers and algebraic expressions. Process standards are embedded throughout the course, as students solve novel problems, reason abstractly, and think critically.

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Mathematics (continued)

Honors Algebra 1A & 1B (NWEA Score \geq 236)

Estimated time: 115 Hours (2 semester courses)

Grade: 9

Credit: 1.0

Course Description - This full-year honors course introduces students to linear, exponential, and quadratic functions by interpreting, analyzing, comparing, and contrasting functions that are represented numerically, tabularly, graphically, and algebraically. Technology is utilized within some lessons to further support students in identifying key features as well as displaying images of the functions. The course builds upon the basic concepts of functions to include transformations of linear and nonlinear functions. Students deepen their understanding of quantitative reasoning, piecewise functions, and quadratic functions through performance tasks. The additional performance-based skills allow the honors students to apply more of the concepts taught in the course. The course concludes with students analyzing data through displays and statistical analysis

Honors Geometry A & B (NWEA Score \geq 236)

Prerequisite Courses: Algebra 1A & 1B

Estimated time: 116 Hours (2 semester courses)

Grades: 10-12

Credit: 1.0

Course Description - The course begins by exploring the foundational concepts of Euclidean Geometry in which students learn the terminology of geometry, measuring, proving theorems, and constructing figures. Students then expand on their knowledge of transformations and complete an assignment on identifying point symmetry as well as completing a performance task on tessellations. The course continues with an in-depth look at triangles, prove theorems, relating congruence and similarity in terms of transformations, and connecting right triangles relationships to trigonometry. Students study set theory and apply probability through theoretical and experimental probability, two-way tables, and combinations and permutations. Within the circle units, students identify angles, radii, and chords, and then compute the circumference and area of various circles. Then students study parabolas, ellipses and hyperbolas.

Honors Algebra 2A & 2B (NWEA Score \geq 236)

Prerequisite Courses: Algebra 1A & 1B

Estimated time: 125 Hours (2 semester courses)

Grades: 10-12

Credit: 1.0

Course Description - The course begins with a review of concepts that will assist students throughout the course, such as literal equations, problem solving, and word problems. To build on their algebraic skills, students learn about complex numbers and apply them to quadratic functions by completing the square and quadratic formula methods. Next, students solve linear systems and apply their knowledge of the concept to three-by-three systems. An in-depth study on polynomial operations and functions allow students to build their knowledge of polynomials algebraically and graphically. In the second semester, students study nonlinear functions. Students solve and graph rational and radical functions whereas the exponential and logarithmic functions focus on the key features and transformations of the functions. Expected value and normal distribution concepts expand and deepen students' knowledge of probability and statistics. Students also cover trigonometric functions and periodic phenomena.

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Mathematics (continued)

Financial Math A & B

Grades: 9-12

Estimated time: 120 Hours (2 semester courses)

Credit: 1.0

Course Description - Connecting practical mathematical concepts to personal and business settings, this course offers informative and highly useful lessons that challenge students to gain a deeper understanding of financial math. Relevant, project-based learning activities cover stimulating topics such as personal financial planning, budgeting and wise spending, banking, paying taxes, the importance of insurance, long-term investing, buying a house, consumer loans, economic principles, traveling abroad, starting a business, and analyzing business data. Offered as a two-semester course for high school students, this course encourages mastery of math skill sets, including percentages, proportions, data analysis, linear systems, and exponential functions.

Personal Finance

Grades: 9-12

Estimated time: 60 Hours (1 semester course)

Credit: 0.5

Course Description - This one-semester elective prepares students to navigate personal finance with confidence. The course opens with a study of what it means to be financially responsible, engaging students in budgeting, planning, and being a smart consumer. Students learn about the relationship between education, employment, income, and net worth, and they plan for the cost of college. Students then broaden their study to include banking, spending, investing, and other money management concepts before exploring credit and debt. In the final unit of the course, students study microeconomics and entrepreneurship, with an overview of economic systems, supply and demand, consumer behavior and incentives, and profit principles. The course concludes with an in-depth case study about starting a business

Math Experience

Grade: 12

***** when using “double dip” courses only**

Credit: 0.5

Course Description When utilizing the “double dipping” courses to provide ½ credit for a student in each of the three courses (Chemistry, Physics, and Economics AND the 4th year math credit), this course should be placed on a student’s schedule. A “double dip” course can be used when the student is a senior or beyond and is enrolled in a course which promotes the application of math skills. Currently, there are only three courses where “double dip” is appropriate - Economics, Chemistry and Physics.

Science

Biology A & B

Grades: 9-12

Estimated time: 113 Hours (2 semester courses)

Credit: 1.0

Course Description - This compelling two-semester course engages students in the study of life and living organisms and examines biology and biochemistry in the real world. This is a yearlong course that encompasses traditional concepts in biology and encourages exploration of new discoveries in this field of science. The components include biochemistry, cell biology, cell processes, heredity and reproduction, the evolution of life, taxonomy, human body systems, and ecology. This course includes both hands-on wet labs and virtual lab options.

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Science (continued)

Chemistry A & B * (Potential Double Dip Course)**

Prerequisite Courses: Biology A & B

Grades: 10-12

Estimated time: 110 Hours (2 semester courses)

Credit: 1.0

Course Description - This rigorous, full-year course engages students in the study of the composition, properties, changes, and interactions of matter. The course covers the basic concepts of chemistry and includes eighteen virtual laboratory experiments that encourage higher-order thinking applications. The components of this course include chemistry and its methods, the composition and properties of matter, changes and interactions of matter, factors affecting the interactions of matter, electrochemistry, organic chemistry, biochemistry, nuclear chemistry, mathematical applications, and applications of chemistry in the real world.

Physical Science A & B

Grades: 9-12

Estimated time: 108 Hours (2 semester courses)

Credit: 1.0

Course Description - This full-year course focuses on basic concepts in chemistry and physics and encourages exploration of new discoveries in the field of physical science. The course includes an overview of scientific principles and procedures and has students examine the chemical building blocks of our physical world and the composition of matter. Additionally, students explore the properties that affect motion, forces, and energy on Earth. Building on these concepts, the course covers the properties of electricity and magnetism and the effects of these phenomena. As students refine and expand their understanding of physical science, they will apply their knowledge to complete interactive virtual labs that require them to ask questions and create hypotheses. Hands-on wet lab options are also available.

Environmental Science A & B

Grades: 9-12

Estimated time: 158 Hours (2 semester courses)

Credit: 1.0

Course Description - Environmental science is a captivating and rapidly expanding field, and this two-semester course offers compelling lessons that cover many aspects of the field: ecology, the biosphere, land, forests and soil, water, energy and resources, and societies and policy. Through unique activities and material, high school students connect scientific theory and concepts to current, real-world dilemmas, providing them with opportunities for mastery in each of the segments throughout the semester.

Earth / Space Science A & B

Grades: 9-12

Estimated time: 150 Hours (2 semester courses)

Credit: 1.0

Course Description - Students enrolled in this course explore the scope of Earth sciences, covering everything from basic structure and rock formation to the incredible, volatile forces that have shaped and changed our planet. As climate change and energy conservation become increasingly prevalent in the national discourse, it will be important for students to understand the concepts and causes of our changing Earth. Earth Science is a two-semester course providing a solid foundation for understanding the physical characteristics that make the planet Earth unique and examines how these characteristics differ among the planets of our solar system.

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Science (continued)

Physics A & B *** (Potential Double Dip Course)

Grades: 9-12

Estimated time: 150 Hours (2 semester courses)

Credit: 1.0

Course Description - This course focuses on traditional concepts in physics, and encourages exploration of new discoveries in this field of science. The course includes an overview of scientific principles and procedures, and leads students toward a clearer understanding of motion, energy, electricity, magnetism, and the laws that govern the physical universe. As students refine and expand their understanding of physics, they will apply their knowledge in experiments that require them to ask questions and create hypotheses. Throughout the course, students solve problems, reason abstractly, and learn to think critically

Health & Physical Education

Contemporary Health

Grades: 9-12

Estimated time: 65 Hours (1 semester course)

Credit: 0.5

Course Description - This course analyzes various health topics. It places alcohol use, drug use, physical fitness, healthy relationships, disease prevention, relationships and mental health in the context of the importance of creating a healthy lifestyle. In addition, students conduct in-depth studies in order to create mentally and emotionally healthy relationships with peers and family, as well as nutrition, sleeping, and physical fitness plans. This course takes covers issues of harassment, bullying, sex / gender identity, same-sex relationships, contraception, and other sensitive topics.

Lifetime Fitness A & B

Grades: 9-12

Estimated time: 101 Hours (2 semester courses)

Credit: 1.0

Course Description - Exploring fitness topics such as safe exercise and injury prevention, nutrition and weight management, consumer product evaluation, and stress management, Lifetime Fitness equips high school students with the skills they need to achieve lifetime fitness. Throughout this full year course, students assess individual fitness levels according to the five components of physical fitness: cardiovascular health, muscular strength, muscular endurance, flexibility, and body composition. Personal fitness assessments encourage students to design fitness programs to meet their individual fitness goals

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Social Studies

Civics (Government)

Grades: 9-12

Estimated time: 50 Hours (1 semester course)

Credit: 0.5

Course Description - This semester-long course provides students with a practical understanding of the principles and procedures of government. The course establishes the origins and founding principles of American government. After a rigorous review of the Constitution and its Amendments, students investigate the development and extension of civil rights and liberties. Lessons also introduce influential Supreme Court decisions to demonstrate the impact and importance of constitutional rights. The course builds on this foundation by guiding students through the function of government today, the role of citizens in the civic process, and culminates in an examination of public policy and the roles of citizens and organizations in promoting policy approaches. Students sharpen their writing skills in shorter tasks and assignments, practice outlining and drafting skills by writing full informative, argumentative essays.

U.S History & Geography A & B

Grade: 9

Estimated time: 120 Hours (2 semester courses)

Credit: 1.0

Course Description - U.S. History I is a yearlong course that dynamically explores the people, places, and events that shaped early United States history. This course stretches from the Era of Exploration through the Industrial Revolution, leading students through a careful examination of the defining moments that shaped the nation of today. Students begin by exploring the colonization of the New World and examining the foundations of colonial society. As they study the early history of the United States, students will learn critical-thinking skills by examining the constitutional foundations of the U.S. government. Recurring themes such as territorial expansion, the rise of industrialization, and the significance of slavery will be examined in the context of how these issues contributed to the Civil War and Reconstruction.

Economics * (Potential Double Dip Course)**

Grades: 11-12

Estimated time: 55 Hours (1 semester course)

Credit: 0.5

Course Description - Available as either a semester or a full year, this course invites students to broaden their understanding of how economic concepts apply to their everyday lives—including microeconomic and macroeconomic theory and the characteristics of mixed-market economies, the role of government in a free-enterprise system and the global economy, and personal finance strategies. Throughout the course, students apply critical-thinking skills while making practical economic choices. Students also master literacy skills through rigorous reading and writing activities. Students analyze data displays and write routinely and responsively in tasks and assignments that are based on scenarios, texts, activities, and examples. In more extensive, process-based writing lessons, students write full-length essays in informative and argumentative formats.

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Social Studies (continued)

World History & Geography A & B

Grade: 10

Estimated time: 110 Hours (2 semester courses)

Credit: 1.0

Course Description - This yearlong course examines the major events and turning points of world history from ancient times to the present. Students investigate the development of classical civilizations in the Middle East, Africa, Europe, and Asia, and they explore the economic, political, and social revolutions that have transformed human history. Students conduct a study of modern history, drawing connections between past events and contemporary issues. The use of recurring themes, such as social history, democratic government, and the relationship between history and the arts, allows students to draw connections between the past and the present, among cultures, and among multiple perspectives. Students will use a variety of sources, including legal documents, essays, historical writings, and political cartoons to evaluate the reliability of historical evidence and to draw conclusions about historical events.

World Language

Spanish 1A & 1B

Grades: 9-11

Estimated time: 150 Hours (2 semester courses)

Credit: 1.0

Course Description - Students begin their introduction to high school Spanish with fundamental building blocks in four key areas of foreign language study: listening comprehension, speaking, reading, and writing. Each unit consists of an ongoing adventure story, a new vocabulary theme and grammar concept, numerous interactive games reinforcing vocabulary and grammar, reading and listening comprehension activities, speaking and writing activities, and multimedia cultural presentations covering major Spanish-speaking areas in Europe and the Americas.

Spanish 2A & 2B

Prerequisite Courses: Spanish 1A & 1B

Grades: 10-12

Estimated time: 135 Hours (2 semester courses)

Credit: 1.0

Course Description - Students continue their introduction to Spanish with fundamental building blocks in four key areas of foreign language study: listening comprehension, speaking, reading, and writing. Each unit consists of an ongoing adventure story, a new vocabulary theme and grammar concept, numerous interactive games reinforcing vocabulary and grammar, reading and listening comprehension activities, speaking and writing activities, cultural presentations covering major Spanish-speaking areas in Europe and the Americas, and assessments.

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Visual, Performing, and Applied Arts (VPAA)

Journalism 1A & 1B (Enrollment approval by Regional Director)

Grades: 9-12

Estimated time: 55 Hours (2 semester courses)

Credit: 1.0

Course Description - Students interested in what's going on in schools, towns, online, in-print, and broadcast news outlets will find Journalism: Investigating the Truth is the perfect course. This class teaches how to write a lead that grabs your readers, how to write engaging news stories and features, and how to interview sources. Lessons also include the history of journalism, how to succeed in the world of social media news, and how to turn your writing, photography, and people skills into a rewarding career.

Public Speaking / Speech A & B (Enrollment approval by Regional Director)

Grades: 9-12

Estimated time: 60 Hours (2 semester courses)

Credit: 1.0

Course Description - The art of public speaking is one which underpins the very foundations of Western society. This course examines those foundations in both Aristotle and Cicero's views of rhetoric, and then traces those foundations into the modern world. Students will learn not just the theory, but also the practice of effective public speaking, including how to analyze the speeches of others, build a strong argument, and speak with confidence and flair. Students will learn what makes a truly successful speech and will be able to put that knowledge to practical use.

Introduction to Art (pending qualified teacher employment)

Grades: 9-12

Estimated time: 95 Hours (2 semester courses)

Credit: 1.0

Course Description - Covering art appreciation and the beginning of art history, this course encourages students to gain an understanding and appreciation of art in their everyday lives. Presented in an engaging format, Intro to Art provides an overview of many introductory themes: the definition of art, the cultural purpose of art, visual elements of art, terminology and principles of design, and two- and three-dimensional media and techniques. Tracing the history of art, high school students enrolled in the course also explore the following time periods and places: prehistoric art, art in ancient civilizations, and world art before 1400.

Art History (pending qualified teacher employment)

Grades: 9-12

Estimated time: 90 Hours (2 semester courses)

Credit: 1.0

Course Description - Introducing art within historical, social, geographical, political, and religious contexts for understanding art and architecture through the ages, this course offers high school students an in-depth overview of art throughout history, with lessons organized by chronological and historical order and world regions. Students learn topics including early medieval and Romanesque art; art in the twelfth, thirteenth, and fourteenth centuries; fifteenth-century art in Europe; sixteenth-century art in Italy; the master artists; High Renaissance and baroque art; world art, which includes the art of Asia, Africa, the Americas, and the Pacific cultures; eighteenth- and nineteenth-century art in Europe and the Americas; and modern art in Europe and the Americas.

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Electives

Psychology A & B

Grades: 9-12

Estimated time: 150 Hours (2 semester courses)

Credit: 1.0

Course Description - Students learn the study of psychology and help them master fundamental concepts in research, theory, and human behavior. Students analyze human growth, learning, personality, and behavior from the perspective of major theories within psychology, including the biological, psychosocial, and cognitive perspectives. From a psychological point of view, students investigate the nature of being human as they build a comprehensive understanding of traditional psychological concepts and contemporary perspectives in the field. Course components include an introduction to the history, perspectives, and research of psychology; an understanding of topics such as the biological aspects of psychology, learning, and cognitive development; the stages of human development; aspects of personality and intelligence; the classification and treatment of psychological disorders; and the aspects of social interactions.

Sociology

Grades: 9-12

Estimated time: 65 Hours (1 semester course)

Credit: 0.5

Course Description - Providing insight into the human dynamics of our diverse society, this is an engaging, one-semester course that delves into the fundamental concepts of sociology. This interactive course, designed for high school students, covers cultural diversity and conformity, basic structures of society, individuals and socialization, stages of human development as they relate to sociology, deviance from social norms, social stratification, racial and ethnic interactions, gender roles, family structure, the economic and political aspects of sociology, the sociology of public institutions, and collective human behavior, both historically and in modern times.

African American History (Regional Director Approval Needed)

Grades: 9-12

Estimated time: 56 Hours (1 semester course)

Credit: 0.5

Course Description - Over the course of U.S. history, how have African Americans helped shape American culture? This African American History course answers that question by tracing the accomplishments and obstacles of African Americans beginning with the slave trade on up to the modern Civil Rights movement. Lessons include slavery, emancipation, and the years of Jim Crow. Students will learn about the political, economic, social, religious, and cultural factors that have influenced African American life, come face to face with individuals who changed the course of history, and explore how the African American story still influences current events today.

***Double Dipping

Some courses can be used to grant more than one credit if the content meets the academic standards of both courses. Since credit is based on student proficiency with the content, how and where they learn the content has no bearing on credit as long as students satisfactorily demonstrate proficiency on district-determined measures. When utilizing the “double dipping” courses to provide ½ credit for a student in each of the three courses: **Economics (Social Studies & Senior Math (year 4 math)) & Chemistry (Science & Senior Math (year 4 math)) & Physics (Science & Senior Math (year 4 math))**

2022 - 23 Course Description Guide

Career / Technical Education (CTE)

CTE credits awarded to students who have completed a program and may be granted for: 1) VPAA Credit, 2) Second foreign language credit, 3) Third credit of Science, or 4) Fourth math credit. Credit awarded depends on articulation agreements (including curriculum documents) with partners, including ISD and RESA programs. Programming is dependent on student / center location; see your local Center Director for more information.

Dual Enrollment

Traditional college opportunities (dual enrollment) courses should be offered to every student, provided they meet the following requirements:

- a. Currently enrolled in Success as a student. Note: All students grades 9 - 12 are eligible but not enrolled in high school for more than four years (unless one of the exceptions provided for in the administrative rule has been satisfied).
- b. Have at least one parent or legal guardian that is a resident of Michigan (unless the student is experiencing homelessness).

Personal Curriculum (PC)

Personal Curriculum (PC): A personal curriculum is an agreement which modifies the Michigan Merit required credits. The decision to create a plan is based on the individual student's learning needs. The intent of the PC option is to assure the relevance of the student's course of study and facilitate the achievement of postsecondary goals. The PC must align with the high school content expectations, the students educational development plan (EDP), and reduce barriers that may limit a student's opportunity to pursue their career pathway. Personal Curriculum | Rationale:

- 1) If a student enrolls with a current PC, the center must reevaluate the need for a PC in our setting. Current PCs do not automatically transfer with the student.
- 2) A student desires to go beyond the MMC requirements
- 3) Modify the math requirements
- 4) Student disability with an IEP
- 5) Modify credit requirements for transfer student

If none of these reasons are valid for a student, then a PC is not the correct support.

Future Planning (Post High School)

- [College / Career Coach](#)
- [College and Career Resources](#)
- [Tuition Incentive Program \(TIP\)](#)
- [Student Financial Aid Information FAFSA](#)
- [Student Planning Form](#)
- [Planner Form \(Daily / Weekly Schedule\)](#)
- [Track your credits](#)
- [Seeking a job \(support with Michigan Works\)](#)