

MANCHESTER REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL
70 Church Street, Haledon, NJ 07508



9th Grade
FALCONS' COURSE GUIDE
2018 - 2019

MANCHESTER REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

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GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

For graduation, a minimum of 120 credits total are required, to include the following minimum credit requirements:

Content Area	Minimum Credits Required
Language Arts Literacy	20
Mathematics*	15
World History	5
US History	10
Science**	15
Physical/Health Education	20
World Languages***	5
Visual and Performing Arts****	5
Career Education/Consumer, Family, and Life Skills (Practical Arts)*****	5
Financial Literacy	2.5
Electives	17.5

*Must successfully complete Algebra 1, Geometry, and Algebra 2 or content equivalent.

**Must successfully complete three years of lab sciences (Physics, Chemistry, and Biology).

***Students can attain credits in World Languages by a demonstration of proficiency as defined by the State Department of Education and by the Manchester Regional High School Board of Education.

****5 credits of VPA and 5 credits of Practical Arts, or 10 credits in one content area

Students must also meet the NJDOE's Graduation Requirements as detailed below:

Two Pathways Available	ELA	Math
First Pathway	Take and Pass PARCC ELA Grade 10	Take and PASS PARCC Algebra 1
Second Pathway (this Pathway is only available if a student takes all PARCC tests associated with the high school-level courses for which they were eligible*)	Meet the criteria of the NJDOE Portfolio Appeal for ELA	Meet the criteria of the NJDOE Portfolio Appeal for Math
* "Eligible" is defined as a student who is enrolled in a high-school level course for which there is a PARCC test and receive a valid score. This includes all of these courses: Algebra 1, Geometry, Algebra 2, ELA 9, ELA 10, and ELA 11.		

PROMOTION

All students are placed in a graduation cohort based on the number of credits they have earned and the successful completion of required courses; there is no automatic or social promotion.

For 10th grade status, a student must have earned a minimum of 30 credits.

For 11th grade status, a student must have earned a minimum of 60 credits.

For 12th grade status, a student must have earned a minimum of 90 credits.

GRADING POLICY

The following grading scale will be enforced during the 2018-2019 school year:

<u>NUMERICAL GRADE</u>	<u>LETTER EQUIVALENT</u>	<u>GRADE EQUIVALENT</u>
98-100	A+	4.0
94-97	A	3.7
90-93	A-	3.4
88-89	B+	3.0
84-87	B	2.7
80-83	B-	2.4
78-79	C+	2.0
74-77	C	1.7
70-73	C-	1.4
65-69	D	1.0
0-64	F	0

A. Incomplete Grade

A report card grade of Incomplete (INC) will be given when a student has not completed assigned work (writing assignments, projects, tests, quizzes, etc.) before the end of the marking period due to absenteeism or other extenuating circumstances. Incompletes are not given to students who simply do not complete assignments. Except in extraordinary circumstances, missing assignments are due within two weeks of the close of the previous marking period. Should the student fail to make up the incomplete work satisfactorily and in its entirety by **two weeks** after the close of marking periods 1, 2 or 3, the grades for missing work will convert to "0" and be averaged in with the student's other grades. **Incomplete grades will not be given for the fourth marking period.**

Criteria for giving a grade of Incomplete:

1. Student is making progress towards completing all missing work. Work must be turned in by dates set by the teacher.
2. Student makes a consistent effort to come for extra help to complete difficult assignments.
3. Students who miss work due to absences or suspensions must make a genuine effort to find out what work is missing and complete it in two weeks.

B. Final Average

Final averages for full-year courses are calculated by averaging each marking period and the final exam at 20% each. Final averages for half-year and quarterly courses generally do not have a final exam; students can get this information from their classroom teachers.

C. No Credit

A student who exceeds the number of absences (as identified in the Attendance Policy) for a given course may receive a grade of No Credit (NC). This grade is to be averaged with credits taken and is computed with zero quality points when calculating a student's GPA and rank. Teachers are to discuss all NC grades with their immediate supervisors.

D. Credit Recovery

Any student who fails a subject may take the course in summer or night school, or online, for credit recovery.

E. Exam Exemptions

Underclassmen may be exempt from final exams through the Renaissance program. Gold cardholders may be exempt from two exams, provided their year-to-date averages are at least 90. Silver cardholders may be exempt from one exam, provided their year-to-date average is at least 90.

Any senior with an average of 95 or better in any particular subject may be exempt from the final exam. The Renaissance exemption may be in addition to the traditional senior exemption.

COURSE WEIGHT

Every course offered at Manchester Regional High School has been assigned a “weight” based upon its level of difficulty and expected curricular outcomes. These weights are explained below.

Course Level	Weight	Description
Advanced Placement	1.25	College-level courses. Students may take the Advanced Placement exam upon the completion of the course. The exam will be at the expense of the Board of Education if a student has an A average.
Honors	1.15	These courses require considerable extra class preparation and curricular activities with intense focus on the skills of analysis, synthesis, evaluation, and research, as appropriate.
General	1.00	Preparation courses for post-secondary education, business, and careers. Students will be required to demonstrate mastery of core curriculum content standards and/or the common core state standards and the application of skills gained.

HONORS AND ADVANCED PLACEMENT COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Qualified students are encouraged to enroll in Honors and Advanced Placement courses. Eligibility will depend on a variety of factors, including scores on standardized tests, grades, and teacher recommendations. Students who are not eligible based on the factors above may enroll in Honors or Advanced Placement courses only if both the student and the parent/guardian sign a waiver. All students enrolled in Honors and Advanced Placement courses must sign a contract and remain in the course for the academic year.

GPA AND CLASS RANK

The primary purpose of class rank is to supply information to post-secondary institutions. Class rank is based upon the academic performance of each student in any given graduating class, in comparison with the rest of the cohort. The student with the highest cumulative GPA in a particular grade level is ranked number one in the class. The student with the second highest GPA is ranked number two, etc. It is possible for more than one student to share the same rank when they have identical GPAs. Any senior who has not been a student at MRHS for at least two years prior to the senior year is not eligible for valedictorian or salutatorian.

All subjects studied for credit toward graduation are included in determining a student’s grade point average and rank. One’s grade point average is the sum of the quality points earned divided by the total credits attempted. To determine the Quality Points (QP) earned in a given subject, multiply the Grade Equivalent (GE) times the Weight of Course times the Credits. For example:

COURSE	GRADE	GE		WEIGHT		CREDITS		QP
A.P. Biology	90	3.4	x	1.25	x	8.00	=	34.00
Honors U.S. History II	84	2.7	x	1.15	x	5.00	=	15.525
P.E. 3	88	3.0	x	1.00	x	3.75	=	11.25
Health 3	65	1.0	x	1.00	x	1.25	=	1.25
Honors Spanish 4	94	3.7	x	1.15	x	5.00	=	21.275
Algebra 2	74	1.7	x	1.00	x	5.00	=	8.50
English 3	78	2.0	x	1.00	x	5.00	=	10.00
Art 1	98	4.0	x	1.00	x	5.00	=	20.00
TOTALS						38.00		121.80

121.80 Quality Points divided by 38.00 Credits = 3.205 GPA

SPORTS ELIGIBILITY

The New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association (N.J.S.I.A.A.) has established academic eligibility requirements that students must meet before being permitted to join any sports team.

1. To be eligible for the Fall and Winter seasons, students in 10th, 11th and 12th grade must have earned 30 credits during the previous school year. 9th graders are eligible immediately; there is no academic requirement for Fall and Winter sports.
2. To be eligible for the Spring season, all students must be currently earning 15 credits (based on 1st and 2nd Marking Periods).

If a student is eligible at the start of a sports season, he/she remains eligible for that entire sports season regardless of his/her grades at the end of any given marking period.

ATTENDANCE, Policy # 5200

A. Introduction

1. Every child is required by state law to attend school regularly, "...during all the days and hours that the public schools are in session in the district" (Title 18A 38-26). In keeping with the intent of the Board policy and state mandates, students are encouraged to hold in high priority their attendance to class and are required to make up all work missed when absent. Limitations are set to ensure that the educational process is not significantly reduced in quality.
2. A well-planned course of study in any subject demands regular attendance on the student's part if he/she is to master the course content. The Board believes that poor mastery of school content is directly related to habitual absence from school and that students should not receive credit for class time missed when required class work is not made up.
3. Any student who is absent from class on any day must make up the work he/she has missed. This requirement is in effect regardless of the reason for absence. Attending class is necessary for earning course credit, because there is no adequate substitute for the interaction of teachers and students engaged in a productive task. But by itself attendance is no guarantee of success. The final determination about earning credit depends on the quality of the work performed, and the student's mastery of the course work.
4. Students returning from an absence must arrange a schedule to make up missed work. **The actual dates of making up the work will be at the discretion of the teacher. The Guidance Office needs a minimum of 3 days to honor requests for work to be sent home.**

B. Attendance Appeals

1. All students have a maximum number of days to be absent from class (**18** day limit for a full-year course). If the maximum number of days is exceeded (see limits on the following pages), students may receive **NO CREDIT** (see page 5).
2. Appeals will only be considered under exceptional and extenuating circumstances (e.g. long-term illness).
3. **The student must begin the appeal process** with the submission of a completed Waiver Request Form to the student's guidance counselor. The necessary documentation must be included. The Waiver Request Review will be by the Attendance Appeals Committee (principal or assistant principal, counselors, nurse, and child study team member, when applicable). Their decision may be appealed to the superintendent and Board of Education.
4. Absences which will not count toward the loss of credit will include:
 - a. religious holidays as approved by the State Department of Education;
 - b. death in the immediate family (parents, grandparents, brothers, sisters, aunts, uncles – 5 calendar day maximum, in or out of the country);
 - c. professional appointments (e.g. college visitations, court appearances, road tests, etc.) which cannot be scheduled outside of school hours;
 - d. attendance at school-sponsored functions, such as school trips, class meetings, choir/band performances, etc.;
 - e. Serious illness or injury (long-term) with written verification from a physician and submitted to the school nurse within two days (48 hours) of the student's return to school;
 - f. Out of school suspensions.

5. Note that:
 - a. submitting makeup work is a requirement for passing, but not a guarantee; the makeup work must be well done; the rest of the student's work must be of high enough quality to justify awarding credit;
 - b. if a student loses credit in any given course due to absences, he/she will remain in class;
 - c. if the student's behavior in class interferes with the educational process, the student will be subjected to disciplinary penalties.
6. Absences, which will not be considered authorized, include:
 - a. truancy;
 - b. cutting (this means all forms of selective absences from class, including leaving before the end of the school day and reporting to school after the end of a class period without a valid excuse). Cuts in any course will be counted as unauthorized absences, and will be punished as disciplinary infractions; five (5) cuts may result in a loss of credit;
 - c. trips/vacations during the school year.
7. **All absences from school require:**
 - a. **A parent/guardian to call school by 8:00 a.m. to inform the Attendance Office of the student's absence;**
 - b. All excuse notes be received within 48 hours of the student's return to school; students will be charged with truancy if they return to school without a note.

C. Attendance Limitations

1. A maximum of 18 days' absence is established for credit in full year courses.
2. A maximum of 14 days' absence is established for credit in physical education.
3. A maximum of 9 days' absence is established for credit in half-year courses.
4. A maximum of 5 days' absence established for credit in one-quarter courses.

D. Lateness to Class

1. Every student is to report to class as quickly as possible. Teachers record lateness to class.
2. Any student who arrives later than 10 minutes will be admitted to class but informed he/she will receive a cut for the period. The teacher will submit the cut as a discipline referral to the attendance office. The disciplinarian will assign the appropriate discipline for the cut for the given period. The student will:
 - a. Remain in class and be involved in the learning process;
 - b. Face further disciplinary action if he/she is disruptive.

GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT

The Manchester Regional High School Guidance Department offers services to students that complement the learning process. Upon entering high school, each student is assigned a counselor with whom that student will remain for her/his tenure at Manchester Regional High School.

At the high school level, the focus is on preparing students for post-secondary options. The common goal is for counselors to be partners in the educational process so that each student has the ability to make wise and rational decisions, develop potential, set realistic goals, and become a self-sustaining member of society.

Each student in grade 8 meets with a counselor at a Scheduling Conference to plan the academic program for the following school year. If the parent/guardian wishes to be present at the Scheduling Conference, they should contact their middle school counselor for times and appointments.

PROGRAMMING AND CHANGES TO SCHEDULES

The guidance counselors make every effort to give each student their elective choices, however, elective choices cannot be guaranteed. Graduation requirements and core courses are the scheduling priority. Students have the opportunity to review their tentative schedules with their counselor before the beginning of the new school year. **After October 15, only changes necessitated by previous failures and/or the completion of summer school and/or night school courses will be accepted.**

SAMPLE NON-ACADEMY PROGRAMS (COURSE SELECTIONS)

9th

English 1
Algebra 1
Physics
World History
Physical Education/Health 1
Foreign Language
Elective
Elective

10th

English 2
Algebra 2
Chemistry
U.S. History 1
Physical Education/Health 2
Financial Literacy and PSAT Prep
Foreign Language
Elective

11th

English 3
Geometry
Biology
U.S. History 2
Physical Education/Health 3
Foreign Language
SAT Prep
Elective

12th

English 4
Math Elective
Science Elective
Physical Education/Health 4
Foreign Language
Elective
Elective
Elective

Seniors on Work-Study Programs are excused from school early. Seniors not needing a full day of classes for graduation may be granted permission by his or her guidance counselor AND the parent/guardian to have an abbreviated schedule.

ACADEMIES

Manchester Regional High School is pleased to announce the development of six new Academy Programs to further enhance the Manchester educational experience. Each academy provides a demanding and rich academic experience in each of the focused areas of study, and students will gain valuable career-related experiences. Students who successfully complete a four year Academy program will receive endorsements on their diplomas. Students must apply for the Academy by meeting with their counselors.

Business

The Academy of Business at Manchester Regional High School is a learning community that focuses on providing a content-rich foundation for students interested in the business and money management industries. Our four-year program provides college preparatory curriculum that incorporates business elective courses at each grade level. Coursework within the business classes seek to develop industry-relevant skills in accounting, sports and entertainment marketing, sales, advertising, business technology, investing, and money management.

Courses required for this endorsement include:

- Introduction to Business
- Microsoft Office
- Personal Money Management
- Accounting 1
- Accounting 2
- Sales & Advertising
- Sports & Entertainment Marketing
- Marketing Education

Communication Arts

The Academy of Communication Arts at Manchester Regional High School provides students with a track of coursework that will allow them to dive head-first into the world of broadcast communications. Students in this Academy will gain industry experience as they will continuously produce content for MRHS-TV, our own television station that can be viewed on channel 77 in many homes within Haledon, North Haledon, and Prospect Park. In addition to the content produced in our television station, students will also work as part of a news team that provides a daily news program for Manchester students each morning. If you are interested in producing media content, whether in front of the camera, behind the scenes with technology, or by writing and preparing news and journalistic copy, then this Academy provides you with an opportunity to gain tremendous experience. Courses required for this endorsement include:

- Journalism 1
- Journalism 2
- TV & Video 1
- TV & Video 2
- TV & Video 3

Honors

In the Honors Academy at MRHS, students partake in a learning community that dedicates itself to high levels of academic achievement. The students in this cohort immerse themselves in a rigorous yet engaging frame of coursework that seeks to assuredly prepare them for success at the collegiate level. A tremendous advantage of this Academy is that students enrolled in the program have the potential of earning as many as 39 college credits by taking and passing Advanced Placement exams as well as the available dual-enrollment credits through Passaic County Community College, which are accepted at New Jersey colleges and universities including Rutgers, The College of New Jersey, Montclair State, and William Paterson, as well as some out-of-state institutions. Many Manchester Alumni have entered their first year of college with sophomore college status. The demanding and engaging AP and Honors courses have helped Manchester students get accepted to and attend Ivy League colleges, and we are excited to build upon this level of excellence. This is a great program of study for motivated students with a strong work ethic. Courses offered for this endorsement include:

- Honors English 1 and 2
- Composition 1 and 2 (PCCC dual-enrollment credits, if eligible)
- AP English Language and/or AP English Literature
- Honors Algebra 1
- Honors Algebra 2
- Honors Geometry
- AP Statistics (PCCC dual-enrollment credits, if eligible)
- Honors Pre-Calculus (PCCC dual-enrollment credits, if eligible)
- AP Calculus
- Honors World Cultures
- Honors US1 and US2 History
- AP US Government and Politics
- AP US History
- Honors Biology
- Honors Chemistry
- Honors Physics
- AP Biology
- French or Spanish 2
- Honors French or Spanish 3, 4, and 5 (French offers PCCC dual-enrollment credits)
- Sociology (PCCC dual-enrollment credits)
- Criminal Justice (PCCC dual-enrollment credits)

Medical Sciences

The Academy of Medical Sciences at Manchester Regional High School provides a course track that introduces students to the wonderful science of the human body while also allowing students to gain real world medical care experience. The coursework in this Academy prepares students who are contemplating careers as physicians, nurses, scientists, and/or researchers. In addition to the impressive and challenging coursework, students are given the opportunity to gain experience as nurse aides at local medical facilities. This is a great Academy for all students who are excited about preparing for higher education, and it will be especially wise for future biology, chemistry, and other science majors to be part of this Academy. Courses required for this endorsement include:

- Honors Physics
- Honors Chemistry
- Honors Biology
- AP Biology
- Anatomy & Physiology
- Medical Science 1
- Medical Science 2

Technology

The Academy of Technology at Manchester Regional High School allows students to develop a firm understanding of the fundamentals of various in-demand technologies. Students in this Academy develop and maintain websites, create media, edit media, and dive deeply into the varied and intricate aspects of computer-based graphic design. Additionally, the Academy of Technology allows students the opportunity to produce content for our local TV station, MRHS-TV (Channel 77), and our daily morning news broadcast. The teachers in this Academy created a program that blends the science of technology with the artistry of imagination, which has resulted in a comprehensive, engaging, and entertaining program of study. Courses offered for this endorsement include:

- Intro to Computer Engineering
- Cisco 1
- Cisco 2
- Digital Photography
- Google 101
- PC Graphics 1
- PC Graphics 2
- PC Graphics 3
- PC Graphics 4
- TV & Video 1
- TV & Video 2
- TV & Video 3
- TV & Video 4

Visual and Performing Arts

The Academy of Visual and Performing Arts at Manchester Regional High School advances Manchester's rich history of dedication to the performing and visual arts through comprehensive coursework intended to develop students' theatrical, vocal, instrumental, technological, and creative arts skills. The instructors within this academy focus on both the academic and artistic aspects of their respective fields of study so that students are knowledgeable regarding all aspects of these artistic doctrines. Additionally, students will have the opportunity to perform in theatrical productions, vocal performances, produce MRHS-TV content, design theatrical sets, and display their work in artistic showcases. Students within this academy typically form a tight-knit and supportive learning community that is augmented by the passionate direction of our artistic instructors. Students can choose Visual Arts, Performing Arts, or both academies. Courses offered for these endorsements are:

Visual Arts

- Materials & Design 1
- Materials & Design 2
- Art 1
- Art 2
- Art 3
- Digital Photography
- PC Graphics 1
- PC Graphics 2
- PC Graphics 3
- PC Graphics 4

Performing Arts

- Dramatic Arts
- Beginning Band
- Beginning Band, Keyboard
- Beginning Band, Percussion
- Band
- General Chorus
- Concert Choir
- Music Theory

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

FINE AND APPLIED ART

ART 1

Grades 9-12, Credits 5.00

Art 1 is an introductory course in art design, fundamentals of drawing, color analysis, painting and sculpture. Emphasis is placed on "hands on" projects as well as the aesthetics and criticism of art. Included in this course is a brief overview of art history. The purpose of this course is to encourage the enjoyment of creating art, working with a variety of media, as well as gaining the skills and knowledge in this subject area.

MATERIALS & DESIGN 1

Grades 9-12, Credits 5.00

Material & Design 1 is designed for those students who gain satisfaction and pleasure working to create products that are both utilitarian and decorative in concept and design. Material & Design 1 is recommended for students who desire a career in art or an art related field, or simply for personal pleasure. The areas covered in this class are: design, ceramics, printing, metals and textiles.

BUSINESS

ACCOUNTING 1

Grades 9-12, Credits 5.00

Accounting 1 is a skill-based course of value to all students pursuing a strong background in business, marketing, and management. This course includes planned learning experiences that develop initial and basic skills used in systematical classifying, recording, verifying, and maintaining numerical data involved in financial and product control records including the paying and receiving of money. Accounting computer applications will be integrated throughout the course where applicable.

INTRODUCTION TO BUSINESS

Grades 9-12, Credits 5.00

An introductory course planned to introduce students to the functions and role of business in our economic system as well as to prepare students for a more meaningful and beneficial interaction with business as citizens and consumers. Basic methods and record keeping procedures of a business are emphasized as well as the role of the computer in carrying out the various aspects of a business. The class will touch on 5 distinct areas of business, including finance, management, marketing, advertising, and accounting.

MICROSOFT OFFICE

Grades 9-12, Credits 2.50

Students will become proficient in the most recent version of the Microsoft Office package in this half-year course, which is the entry requirement for the Business Academy. This course will help prepare students for an entry-level job in the business world, and/or prepare them for college by giving them experience with these commonly used programs. Included in the package are the following programs: Microsoft Word, Excel, and PowerPoint. Throughout the course, the implementation and combining of all Microsoft programs will help students produce creative and innovative projects.

PERSONAL MONEY MANAGEMENT

Grades 9-12, Credits 2.50

Personal Money Management is a half-year course that includes the application of knowledge, skills, and ethical values when making consumer and financial decisions that impact the self, the family, and the local and global communities. Seven specific strands are addressed and taught throughout the curriculum. These strands include: income and careers; money management; credit and debt management; planning, saving, and investing; becoming a critical consumer; civic financial responsibility; insuring and protecting.

SALES & ADVERTISING

Grades 9-12, Credits 5.00

The purpose of this course is to introduce the student to many skills needed to function in the business and advertising world as both a consumer and as a potential businessperson. He/she will develop an understanding of our business system and the economic setting in which it functions. The student will also learn how to reach potential consumers through many types of advertising and how it has rapidly expanded in the past 20 years. The student will see how the connection between sales and advertising works through the eyes of the businessperson and consumer.

ENGLISH

DRAMATIC ARTS

Grades 9-12, Credits 5.00

Dramatic Arts is an introductory course designed for those students interested in exploring the world of dramatic arts. Students will be introduced to drama as a genre while experimenting with the skills needed to bring drama to life. Students will come to understand the basics of acting as well as develop skills such as speaking, characterization, movement, and improvisation in order to become effective performers.

ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE (ESL) - BEGINNING, INTERMEDIATE AND ADVANCED

Grades 9 -12, Credits 5.00

In the English as a Second Language Program, the teacher provides individualized and group instruction with the aim of strengthening each student's basic communication skills and improving his/her performance in content area classrooms. Instruction incorporates listening, speaking, reading and writing.

ENGLISH 1

Grade 9, Credits 5.00

The ninth grade English coursework allows students an opportunity to build strong foundation in reading and writing skills. Critical reading, expository writing, persuasive writing, and objective writing are the anchor standard skills that are focused on. Furthermore, English 1 students will complete a research/citation unit that will allow them to begin their path towards preparation for career and college readiness. The literature studied will be a blend of fiction and informational texts that introduce the students to classical texts as well as modern works.

HONORS ENGLISH 1 (PRE-REQUISITES: "A" OR HIGHER IN LAL8, TEACHER RECOMMENDATION, AND COMPLETION OF SUMMER ASSIGNMENTS)

Grade 9, Credits 5.00

This course introduces students to the following genres via selections from World Literature: mythology, drama, novel, poetry, short story and non-fiction. Listening skills and oral presentations as well as vocabulary development and grammar usage are stressed. Expository writing and research techniques such as paraphrasing, summarizing, and note-taking are incorporated. Emphasis is also placed upon student orientation to high school and the development of study skills. Failure to complete all of the Summer Reading Assignments results in dismissal from the course.

JOURNALISM 1

Grades 9-12, Credits 5.00

Journalism is a full-year course that is divided into the following interrelated and integrated units: Introduction to Journalism, Writing the News, Beyond Page One, Gathering News, and Newspaper and Community. The purpose of this course is for students to explore the various elements that constitute “good” journalism. Students will improve their writing and will hone interviewing and research skills. Further, students will produce the school newspaper as part of the class requirements.

MATH

ALGEBRA 1/HONORS ALGEBRA 1

Grades 9-10, Credits 5.00

The four basic operations will be applied to integers, monomials, polynomials, rational and irrational expressions, and will be used to find solutions to one and two variable equations as well as verbal problems. Polynomial expressions and second-degree equations will be thoroughly covered. The coordinate plane, linear equations in two variables and systems of two linear equations will be heavily emphasized. The Honors level is accelerated, more rigorous, and more challenging and requires an A in 8th grade math and teacher recommendation.

HONORS ALGEBRA 2 (PRE-REQUISITE: “B+” OR HIGHER IN ALGEBRA 1 AND TEACHER RECOMMENDATION)

Grades 9-11, Credits 5.00

This accelerated course is rigorous and challenging. It provides the student with the understanding and confidence necessary for success with higher mathematics. All the material of the regular Algebra 2 course and additional concepts will be developed including the binomial expansion and formula, matrices and determinants, logic, higher degree functions, abstract algebra and field axioms.

MUSIC

BAND (PRE-REQUISITE: BEGINNING BAND AND/OR AUDITION/TEACHER RECOMMENDATION)

Grades 9-12, Credits 5.00

The goal of the Band Program is to provide each student with a well-rounded musical education. This education focuses on building a solid foundation of musical knowledge upon which successful performances are built. In addition to providing a quality music education, the Band Program also recognizes the need to educate the whole child. By participating as a member of the band, each student will develop the character skills needed to attain his/her own personal best. Participation in performances is a requirement of this course.

BEGINNING BAND

Grades 9-11, Credits 5.00

Beginning Band is designed to introduce aspiring musicians to the rehearsal and performance requirements of a high school band. This course is open to any student who has an interest in developing the ability to play a musical instrument. An emphasis of instruction will be on reading and comprehending standard notation as well as improving performance techniques. Participation in performances is a requirement of this course.

BEGINNING BAND – KEYBOARD

Grades 9-11, Credits 5.00

Piano and Electronic Keyboard is based on the New Jersey Standards for High School Music. Students taking this course are offered keyboard classes in order to develop music proficiency and musicianship. Students perform with proper posture, hand position, fingering, rhythm, and articulation; compose and improvise melodic and harmonic material; create and perform simple accompaniments; listen to, analyze, sight-read, and study a variety of keyboard literature; study the elements of music as exemplified in a variety of styles; and make interpretive decisions. This course is for students with little or no experience on piano.

BEGINNING BAND – PERCUSSION

Grades 9-11, Credits 5.00

Beginning Band Percussion is designed for students who are interested in exploring concert percussion instruments. The course will focus on care of all instruments, correct posture, carriage of mallets and sticks, basic tone production, and rudiments. Students will study basic music theory and note reading, and will have the opportunity to experience playing keyboard, battery (drums), and auxiliary percussion instruments.

CONCERT CHOIR (PRE-REQUISITE: AUDITION AND TEACHER APPROVAL)

Grades 9-12, Credits 5.00

The basics of music fundamentals, advanced vocal technique, advanced harmonies (3 to 4 parts) will be covered. Exposure to a wider scope of choral literature will broaden student knowledge. Character education will be achieved through the team-building exercises like school concerts and community events.

GENERAL CHORUS

Grades 9-12, Credits 5.00

Chorus is open to all students since no previous training is required. The course focus is on basic voice training, ear training, music fundamentals and music literature. Performance in concerts will depend on the level of vocal ability at the director's discretion. Character education will be achieved through the team-building exercises of school concerts and community events. The purpose of the course is to increase the ability of each student with regard to voice quality as well as the ability to lead and sing his/her part in a harmonic setting.

MUSIC THEORY

Grades 9-11, Credits 5.00

Music Theory and Appreciation is a course designed to give students a comprehensive look at music from ancient Greek civilization through hip hop music of today. This course is open to all students, regardless of their past musical background. The goal of Music Theory and Appreciation is to help students understand the fundamentals of music and how the music of today is linked to the past. The course will begin with a review of music elements to provide a basic foundation for discussion. The first half of the course centers on the history of Western music, beginning with the music of the ancient Greeks and ending with current classical music. The second half of the course examines various types of popular music of the 20th century including jazz, rock and roll and pop. Music Theory and Appreciation is a full year course that meets every day.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND HEALTH

Each year all students are scheduled for Health and Physical Education. Each student is enrolled in Health for one marking period and Physical Education for three marking periods.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION 9

Grade 9, Credits 3.75

Introduction to skills and basic knowledge of team and individual sports.

HEALTH EDUCATION 9

Grade 9, Credits 1.25

The study of the cardiovascular system, risk factors of cardiovascular disease, reproductive systems, birth control, sexually transmitted diseases, and steroid abuse.

SCIENCE

PHYSICS

Grade 9, Credits 5.00

This math-dependent course is an introductory program dealing with the concepts of velocity and acceleration graphing; vectors; Newton's three laws of motion; particle and wave motion; conservation of momentum and energy; light; sound; electro-magnetism and nuclear physics. The approach stresses physics from a mathematical point of view. Weekly laboratory experiences are provided to emphasize basic principles and to acquaint students with various measuring instruments. Skills in presenting, analyzing and interpreting experimental results are also emphasized. This course stresses physics from a conceptual point of view along with mathematics. There is a summer reading requirement for the course with a writing assignment due in September. The course requires extensive reading, writing and research during the year.

HONORS PHYSICS (CO-REQUISITE: ALGEBRA 1 HONORS OR ALGEBRA 2 HONORS AND TEACHER RECOMMENDATION)

Grade 9, Credits 5.00

This course is an accelerated program dealing with the concepts of velocity and acceleration graphing; vectors; Newton's three laws of motion; particle and wave motion; conservation of momentum and energy; light; sound; electro-magnetism and nuclear physics. The approach stresses physics from a mathematical point of view. Weekly laboratory experiences are provided to emphasize basic principles and to acquaint students with various measuring instruments. Skills in presenting, analyzing and interpreting experimental results are also emphasized. There is a summer reading requirement for the course with a writing assignment due in September. The course requires extensive reading, writing and research during the year.

GEOPHYSICAL SCIENCE

Grades 9, Credits 5.00

Geoscience is a one-year science course that aims to develop basic scientific skills and attitudes that can be used in life. Topics from the disciplines of earth/space science, chemistry and physics are selected to help the student develop skills in measuring, recording and interpreting information and preparing and reading graphs. Development of critical thinking skills is emphasized along with reading in the science content areas. This course is reserved for students whose IEPs dictate Resource or LLD placement.

SOCIAL STUDIES

WORLD HISTORY

Grade 9, Credits 5.00

The World History course is a basic Social Studies course for grade nine, designed as a survey of the world with emphasis on the Modern European History. It focuses on students acquiring historical understanding of the social, political and economic forces, ideas and institutions, the role of geography, and the varying cultural influences that have led to the world in which they are expected to function and contribute. In order for students to grasp the concept of living in an interdependent world, considerable time will be spent on the non-Western world, including: the Middle East, the Far East, Asia, Africa and Latin America.

HONORS WORLD HISTORY (PRE-REQUISITE: MIDDLE SCHOOL PERFORMANCE AND TEACHER RECOMMENDATION)

Grade 9, Credits 5.00

The Honors World History course follows the World History curriculum with extended activities and assignments. The emphasis of this course is to improve historical perspective and cultural interaction, while encouraging understanding of cultural diversity. Students will be able to relate events of the past to present day situations. Students are expected to present oral assessments, interpret and analyze primary sources and complete research assessments.

TECHNOLOGY

INTRODUCTION TO COMPUTER ENGINEERING

Grades 9–12, Credits 5.00

This course teaches the Students enrolled in a variety of the major concentrations of Computer Engineering (hardware and software - design and integration), as well as many of the specialty areas including computer operating systems, wired and wireless networking, computer programming in multiple languages, and designing/building 3D printed models. Students will also research emerging technologies, discuss copyright/fair use, and evaluate the meaning of safe digital citizenship in an increasingly connected world. Introduction to Computer Engineering is recommended for any student interested in anyone interested in pursuing a career in any area of Information and Computer Technologies.

DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY

Grades 9-10, Credits -2.5

This full year course will expose students to the world of digital photography. Four areas of instruction will be emphasized: How cameras work, how composition works, how lighting works, and how to use photo-editing software. Students will, generally, receive basic instruction, demonstration, and see samples of the desired outcomes, at the beginning of each period. They will be allowed to go outside and shoot assignments, based on what they are learning. Perhaps the most useful part of classroom instruction will be daily reviews of photos students have shot the previous day(s). They will see what makes a successful photo and what does not.

GOOGLE 101

Grades 9-10, Credits -2.5

This half-year course will expose students to the world of GOOGLE used within our high school. The course will focus on the technological student services provided by our district focusing on proper student email use, chromebooks, GOOGLE classroom, and additional programs that are integral to computer work in our school. The Google 101 program ensures knowledge and skills of Google Classroom software in a collaborative learning environment. This course will also be the introduction to our technology academy and is required for all freshmen entering into the technology academy.

WORLD LANGUAGES

ARABIC 1

Grades 9-12, Credits 5.00

The Arabic I course is designed as an entry-level course for students seeking knowledge and understanding of the Arabic language and culture. Students will learn basic vocabulary, common expressions, and the fundamentals of grammar and pronunciation to conduct basic conversations in real situations. The course will also enable students to have a better understanding of the Arabic culture and the variations of it. The main focus will be on building proficiency in the four skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing through the study of the Arabic grammar and syntax.

FRENCH 1

Grades 9-12, Credits 5.00

The fundamental skills and concepts of the French language and the culture of people from French-speaking countries are introduced. Students begin to understand, speak, read and write in French.

FRENCH 2 (PRE-REQUISITE: FRENCH 1)

Grades 9-12, Credits 5.00

Students increase proficiency in communication skills. New vocabulary and language patterns are learned through listening, speaking, reading and writing. Readings are the basis for the study of attitudes and customs in French-speaking countries throughout the world.

SPANISH 1

Grades 9-12, Credits 5.00

This course provides students with a basic foundation for the future study of Spanish. It includes the following components: vocabulary study, language syntax, and aural/oral skills. It also fosters an appreciation for the culture of the Spanish-speaking world.

SPANISH 2 (PRE-REQUISITE: SPANISH 1 AND/OR NATIVE PROFICIENCY)

Grades 9-12, Credits 5.00

This course fosters the continued development of skills needed for a complete understanding of Spanish through knowledge of new vocabulary and grammatical structures. It also offers cultural enrichment, the study of geography, and customs of the Spanish-speaking world.