

S C A L E S M O U N D H I G H
S C H O O L

2013/2014

COURSE DESCRIPTION BOOK



Introduction

This handbook has been prepared to assist you in registering for the classes you will take at Scales Mound High School. **Save this information!** Careful planning is essential to a successful high school experience. The Scales Mound High School course of study is designed to build a foundation of basic skills, which will allow students to enter the careers of their choice and to become productive citizens in our society.

As you select the courses, which will make up your highly individualized program during the high school years, consider:

1. graduation requirements
2. career plans
3. college & vocational school entrance requirements
4. those subjects, which have value, meaning and appeal to you, the student.

As you plan your next years program, you should talk over selections with your parents/guardians. You should seek advice from teachers and counselor, because these people have had opportunities to learn about your abilities and interests and can advise you in a valuable way. The counselor can also help you select courses which will meet graduation requirements and prepare you to meet the entrance requirements for post high school training programs. Electives should be carefully chosen. In many instances, certain electives should be included in your program to meet college entrance requirements.

It is important for you to design a 4-year course action plan. Course descriptions appear after each department's course listings. They give you a complete overview of the courses offered and when you may take them. Also included in this booklet is a 4-year planning worksheet designed to help you fill out your plan. Refer to the graduation requirements and the general college and vocational requirements listed in the handbook to ensure that your 4-year plan meets your needs. As your career goals or plans change, you will be able to revise your plan accordingly.

The following is a list of required coursework for everyone who earns a diploma from Scales Mound High School. Students taking Algebra I and/or Biology I as an eighth grader will be **required** to take 3 math credits and 2 science credits while enrolled in high school.

Graduation Requirements

Physical Education	3.50 Credits
English	4.00 Credits
Math	3.00 Credits
Science	2.00 Credits
American History	1.00 Credits
History Elective	0.50 Credits
Consumer Education	0.50 Credits
Government	0.50 Credits
Health	0.50 Credits
Additional Course Work	10.5 Credits
TOTAL	26.0 Credits

Academic Load & Procedures

- A) Each student is required to carry a minimum of 3.0 credits each semester with the understanding that a total of 26 credits are needed for graduation.
- B) **Course selections made at registration are considered final.** Schedules changes will be considered only for the following reasons:
 - a) Medical recommendation
 - b) Scheduling error, conflict or imbalance
 - c) parent request, when appropriate
 - d) recommendation from faculty member, counselor or administrator
- C) Students may add courses when they have free periods in their schedule. Students may change courses **only** during the **first three days** of each semester. Students who need to change a class due to special circumstances during the school year must receive principal, counselor, teacher and parents approval.
- D) Class Rank and Honor Roll are determined by grades earned in all classes. See student handbook for requirements.
- E) Physical Education is required for graduation and all students must participate. The only exception will be a medical disability report from your family physician or certain conditions for Juniors and Seniors to waive Physical Education.

Valedictorian & Salutatorian

Valedictorian and salutatorian is recognition for the outstanding students in their class. The selection for valedictorian and salutatorian will be based on the following criteria.

First Consideration

Students who have the highest GPA and meet the qualifications of the Distinguished Scholars Graduate Program Requirements.

Second Consideration

Students who have the highest GPA and meet the qualifications of the Scholars Graduate Program Requirements but no the Distinguished Scholars Graduate Program.

Third Consideration

Students who do not qualify for the Scholars Program and have the highest GPA.

Scholars Program

As a way of encouraging students to make the most of the educational opportunities provided at Scales Mound High School, a scholars's program is offered. Students who successfully meet program requirements will receive recognition of "High Honors" or "Honors" at senior graduation. In addition to recognition at graduation ceremonies and notation on their final transcript, members of the Scales Mound Scholar's Program will be eligible to receive the following:

At the end of each school year, students who have met the requirements for their grade level in the Scholar's Program will be eligible to receive:

1. Publication of their names in the local newspaper, plus photos of seniors who will be eligible for high honors.
2. Eligibility to participate in all special Scholars' Program activities.

Distinguished Scholars Graduate Requirements

In order to be considered for Distinguished Scholars Graduate Honors recognition, a student will have an overall grade point average not lower than 3.5 on a 4.0 point scales, and successful completion of the following courses:

Four Units of English including English 9, English 10, American Literature, British Literature, Creative Writing (Elective), Short Story (Elective), Contemporary Literature, Research Procedures or Writing for Publication (Elective).

Three and 1/2 Units of Physical Education and **1/2 Unit of Health**

Four Units of Mathematics including Algebra I, Algebra II, Geometry, Introduction to Calculus, Trigonometry, Probability and Statistics, or AP Calculus.

Four Units of Science including Biology I, Botany/Zoology, Ecology/Microbiology, Chemistry, Human Physiology, Physics, Advanced Chemistry, Advanced Physics, Chemistry III, or Physics III.

Two Units of Social Studies including American History, Government, and 1/2 Social Studies elective.

Two Units of Progressive Study in a single elective area (foreign language, business, computer science, agriculture, industrial arts, art, music, yearbook, Highland Community College courses, or a Jo Daviess Area Vocational Center Course)*.

A total of 20 Units of study are required for successful completion of the high honors program.

* Second year courses in vocational education must be a skill level course.

Scholars Graduate Program Requirements

In order to be considered for Scholars Graduate Honors recognition, a student will have an overall grade point average not lower than 3.0 on 4.0 point scale, and successful completion of the following courses:

Four Units of English including English 9, English 10, American Literature, British Literature, Creative Writing (Elective), Short Story (Elective), Contemporary Literature, Research Procedures or Writing for Publication (Elective).

Three and 1/2 Units of Physical Education and 1/2 Unit of Health

Three Units of Mathematics including Algebra I and II, and Geometry.

Two Units of Science including Biology I.

Two Units of Social Studies including American History, Government, and 1/2 Social Studies elective.

Two Units of Progressive Study in a single elective area (foreign language, business, computer science, agriculture, industrial arts, art, music, yearbook, Highland Community College Courses, or a Jo Daviess-Carroll Area Vocational Center course).

A total of 18 units of study are required for successful completion of the honors program.

Scheduling Information For Vocational/Technical Programs And Employment

Whether you plan to seek a job right after high school or go on for further vocational and technical education training, doing well in high school will increase your chance for success.

You will get the most out of your high school years when you are well prepared in what employers consider essential for successful employment: reading, writing, speaking and listening, problem solving skills, mathematics, science, social studies and computer literacy. You should also develop good study habits, positive work attitudes, employment skills and an ability to get along with people.

If you choose Technical or Vocational College or seek employment upon graduation, you will have greater flexibility in selecting and pursuing a career if you have completed the following recommended coursework (Guidelines taken from Illinois State Board of Education: Department of Adult, Vocational and Technical Education, Private Business and Technical School Unit Publication):

English	4 years
Mathematics	3 years
Natural Science	3 years
Social Studies	3 years
Computer Science	1 year
Vocational Education	3-4 years

Students at S.M.H.S. will find high school vocational course offerings listed under Agriculture, Art, Computer Education, Industrial Technology or Area Vocational Center.

Students who plan to take AVC courses during their junior and/or senior year are encouraged to take the Scales Mound freshman and sophomore level courses in vocational course work.

Students planning to attend vocational/technical school can meet the entrance requirement if they complete the graduation requirements at S.M.H.S. However, a program strong in science, math and English is recommended in addition to the suggested vocational courses as the complexity of modern technology requires higher proficiency levels in these skills. Students planning to enter technical or health fields should take 3 years of math and science.

Students are encouraged to work closely with their counselor to ensure that they are meeting graduation requirements and the specific admission requirements of the school they plan to attend after graduation.

Registration Suggestions

- 1) Students are encouraged to take as many math courses as they can because math skills are becoming more important in every area of our technical society. To achieve the highest ACT score, a student should take math the first 3 years.
- 2) A student uncertain about future plans should meet the general college entrance requirements. A college entrance program will exceed the requirements of most alternative programs the student may elect to follow after graduation. Also, students can switch from the college preparatory course to something else as career plans are developed.
- 3) Students are recommended to take geometry, chemistry, history and Consumer Ed before writing the PSAT and ACT exams, which are offered in April of the junior year.
- 4) The ACT and/or SAT are college entrance examinations. They measure a student's proficiency in 4 academic areas. Colleges also place emphasis on the students' grade point average and class rank. Maintaining good grades and taking college preparatory courses are still considered the best indicators of future college success.
- 6) Foreign language is becoming a necessity in our global world. Colleges are requiring at least two years.
- 6) Illinois colleges begin accepting applications for admission in September of the student's senior year. Therefore, the class rank used for admission is based on the first 3 years of high school performance.
- 7) If valedictorian/salutatorian or the SCHOLARS PROGRAM is an important consideration, then parents and students should consult the Parent/Student Handbook concerning how these awards are determined.

WORKSHEET FOR PLANNING FOUR YEARS AT S.M.H.S

NAME _____	GRADUATION YEAR _____
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Post-Secondary Goal(s):

FRESHMAN YEAR	SOPHOMORE YEAR
English 9 ✓ 1.00	English 10 ✓ 1.00
P.E. ✓ 1.00	P.E. ✓ 1.00
Math ✓ 1.00	Math ✓ 1.00
Science ✓ 1.00	Science ✓ 1.00
Computers I (Recommended) ✓ 1.00	Driver's Ed/ Health ✓ 1.00
American History 1.00	Government/Consumer Ed 1.00
Spanish I (Recommended) 1.00	Spanish II (Recommended) 1.00

Total Credits _____	Total Credits _____

JUNIOR YEAR	SENIOR YEAR
P.E. ✓ 1.00	P.E. ✓ 1.00
English ✓ 1.00	English ✓ 1.00
Math ✓ 1.00	_____
Science (Recommended) ✓ 1.00	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Total Credits _____	Total Credits _____
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English Courses

ENGLISH 9 #015

This course includes four major areas of study: composition, literature, grammar, and vocabulary. Composition assignments will stimulate critical thinking and self-expression. Literature study will concentrate on comprehension and response in the areas of short stories, poetry, drama, and the novel. Students will review grammar and vocabulary skills and apply them to writing and reading. The course is taught through lecture, discussion, films, and research.

Level: 9

Length: 1 year

Required Course

Credit: 1

ENGLISH 10 #025

This course allows students to become active, imaginative participants in the reading process. Students will study short story, poem, novel, play, and non-fiction as distinctive literary forms exhibiting certain structural and thematic features that can be recognized and analyzed. Students will be encouraged to formulate their own creative responses to the literature studied. The composition portion of the course presents a sequential treatment of the writing process from prewriting through revising. Instruction in vocabulary, grammar, and mechanics is also provided.

Level: 10

Length: 1 year

Required Course

Prerequisite: Successful completion of English 9

Credit: 1

PRACTICAL ENGLISH I, II #035 #045

This course is designed to explore the nine skills required in the workplace: reading and writing; listening and oral communication; employability; critical thinking; problem-solving and decision-making; group and teamwork; self-esteem and goal-setting; keyboarding and computer-literacy; leadership and technology skills. All four forms of communication—reading, writing, listening and speaking – will be emphasized in order to best prepare the students for the workplace.

Level: 11, 12

Length: 1 year

Counts Towards English Requirement

Credit: 1

AMERICAN LITERATURE/GRAMMAR AND COMPOSITION I #037 (2013-2014)

This course is designed to accent the American scene through the study of American authors. In the literature phase, emphasis will be placed on reading and analysis of a variety of literary works that trace the development of American thought. In the composition segment of the course, students will write a variety of essays, which may include descriptive, narrative, instructional, analytical, critical, persuasive, and word choice. Grammar, punctuation, and mechanics will be emphasized to further the students' command of the English language.

Level: 11, 12

Length: 1 year

Counts Towards English Requirement

Credit: 1

BRITISH LITERATURE/GRAMMAR AND COMPOSITION II #047 (2012-2013)

This course, covering writing, mechanics, and literature, emphasizes the kinds of writing most often asked for in college courses. It offers experience in writing persuasive, expository, and opinion papers using formal methods of documentation and research techniques. It also covers several key areas of writing and language including the writing process, the basic elements of writing, the forms of writing, proofreading, note-taking, critical listening, test taking skills, and formal speaking. The literature portion of the class presents British and world literature in a historical context. Students will engage in critical reading, discussion, and oral presentation of required materials.

Level: 11, 12

Length: 1 year

Counts Towards English Requirement

Credit: 1

CREATIVE WRITING I, II #055 #65

This course is an introduction to the craft of fiction, poetry, and drama with the opportunity to create each. Students will also read works written by accomplished writers. The format of the class is a workshop with an emphasis on critique and discussion.

Level: 11,12

Length: 1 semester

Counts As An Elective

Credit: ½

CONTEMPORARY LITERATURE I, II #057 #67

This course is designed to study and discuss various short stories, plays, novels and poems selected from modern and contemporary authors. Readings will consist of modern fantasy, horror fiction, fairy tales, science fiction, immigrant literature, autobiography and memoir. The format of the course is reading intensive with a book club atmosphere.

Level: 11, 12

Length: 1 semester

Counts Towards English Requirement

Credit: ½

RESEARCH PROCEDURES #058

This course revolves around the research process with a strong emphasis placed on the exploration of primary and secondary sources highlighted by the study of library skills. This writing intensive course also focuses on the writing process for a research paper including the thesis statement and MLA and APA documentation along with a review of English grammar and mechanics.

Level: 11,12

Length: 1 semester

Counts As An Elective

Credit: ½

WRITING FOR PUBLICATION I, II #039, #049

This class is an intensive writing course that offers students an opportunity to explore the world of publication opportunities. Students will be offered time to seek out specific writing contests and publishers and create writing submissions based on the criteria set forth by the publisher. The class also features a workshoping aspect for revision strategies. This class must be taken concurrently with British Literature, American Literature, or English 10, and students must have the English teacher's approval to enroll.

Level: 10,11,12

Length: 1 year

Counts As An Elective

Credit: 1

Science Courses

PHYSICAL SCIENCE #216 (2014-2015)

This course is designed for those students who could benefit from another year of science before entering Biology I. The course will be taught through lectures, discussions, demonstrations, and laboratories. Physical Science will cover such topics as atomic structure, states of matter, chemical reactions, forces, work and machines, sound waves, and light waves.

Level: 9-10

Length: 1 year

Prerequisite: None; you may take Environmental Science OR Principles of Science in any sequence
Credit: 1

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE #215 (2013-2014)

This course will cover issues in the environment and is intended to help the student gain a better understanding of his/her relationship to the environment. The course will be taught through lectures, discussions, demonstrations, and laboratories. Environmental Science will cover such topics as ecosystems, water and air, atmosphere and climate, land, food, biodiversity, energy, waste, and human population explosion. This course is intended for those students who would benefit from taking another year of science before entering Biology I.

Level: 9-10

Length: 1 year

Prerequisite: None
Credit: 1

BIOLOGY I #217

This course is designed to provide an overview of Biology. Units will cover the following topics: components necessary for life, heredity, cells, and taxonomy. The class is taught through lecture, discussion, and laboratory experiments. (8th graders taking Biology I must get a “B-“ or better to receive high school credit. “C+” or below they must retake Biology I as a freshman.

Level: 9-12

Length: 1 year

Prerequisite: "B" or better in 8th Grade Science, instructor's approval if "C" or lower, Environmental Science or Principles of Science.
Credit: 1

ZOOLOGY #226 (2014-2015)

This one semester course will cover animal diversity, phylogeny, systems, evolution, and organization of both invertebrate and vertebrate animals. The class will be taught through lecture, discussion, videos, and laboratory experiments.

Level: 10-12

Length: 1 semester

Prerequisite: Biology I (8th graders must have completed Biology I with a “B-“ or better.)
Credit: ½

BOTANY #227 (2014-2015)

This one semester course will cover plant diversity, form and function, evolution, local history, phylogeny and importance of plants as related to humans. This class will be taught through the use of lecture, discussion, videos, and laboratory experiments.

Level: 10-12

Length: 1 semester

Prerequisite: Biology I (8th graders must have completed Biology I with a “B-“ or better)
Credit: ½

ECOLOGY #228 (2013-2014)

This one semester course will cover various aspects of ecology, including interdependence of organisms, energy flow through ecosystems, interactions between living and nonliving things, cycling of matter, population size, and several other ecological related topics. The course will be taught through lecture, discussion, videos and experiments.

Level: 10-12**Length: 1 semester****Prerequisite: Biology I (8th graders must have completed Biology I with a “B-“ or better)****Credit: ½****MICROBIOLOGY #229 (2013-2014)**

This one semester course will cover microscopic organisms, including bacteria, viruses, Protozoa, algae and fungi, specifically looking at evolutionary trends, diversity, classifications, interdependence and other related topics. The course will be taught through lecture, discussion, video, and experiments.

Level: 10-12**Length: 1 semester****Prerequisite: Biology I (8th graders must have completed Biology I with a “B-“ or better)****Credit: ½****CHEMISTRY I #225**

This is an introductory course designed to give a general overview of inorganic chemistry. Units cover the following topics: matter, chemical formulas, chemical equations, mole concept, atomic structure, periodic properties, bonding, and acid/base properties. The class is taught through lecture, discussion, and laboratory experiments.

Level: 9-12**Length: 1 year****Prerequisite: Algebra 1 (enrollment in Algebra 2 helpful)****Credit: 1****ADVANCED CHEMISTRY #235**

This course is designed for those students who are likely to enter areas in college where advanced knowledge in science is required. The course will be taught through lecture, demonstration, discussion and laboratories. Chemistry II will cover the gas laws, acid/base reactions, oxidation/reduction reactions, electrochemistry, basic nuclear chemistry, and basic organic chemistry

Level: 11,12**Length: 1 year****Prerequisite: Chemistry, “C” or better in Algebra II, and concurrently taking****Pre-calculus recommended.****Credit: 1****CHEMISTRY III #246**

This course includes atomic structure, periodic table, stoichiometry, types of reactions, and types of bonds. Quantitative applications of principles are stressed. Labs are an important part of the course.

Level: 12**Length: 1 year****Prerequisite: Advanced Chemistry****Credit: 1**

HUMAN PHYSIOLOGY #237

This is an advanced course designed to help prepare students for higher education, to further their studies in an area of biological interest and to demonstrate concepts needed for health related professions. Units cover the following topics: human anatomy, human morphology, and human genetics. The class is taught through lecture, discussion, films, and laboratory experiments.

Level: 11,12

Length: 1 year

**Prerequisite: Zoology/Botany or
Microbiology/Ecology Chemistry I
highly recommended.
Credit: 1**

PHYSICS I #236

This is an introductory course designed to give a general overview to the major topics in physics. Units will cover the following topics: mechanics, heat, electricity and magnetism, waves, light, sound, quantum theory, and nuclear energy. The course is taught through lecture, discussion, demonstration and experiments. Strong math skills are a necessity.

Level: 10-12

Length: 1 year

**Prerequisite: a grade of B or better in
Algebra 1 (Algebra 2 or concurrent
enrollment is highly recommended.)
Credit: 1**

ADVANCED PHYSICS #245

This course is designed for those students who are likely to enter areas in college where advanced knowledge in science is required. The course will be taught through lecture, demonstration, discussion and laboratories. Physics II will cover Newton's Laws of motion, properties of matter, heat transfer and thermodynamics.

Level: 11,12

Length: 1 year

**Prerequisite: Physics I
Credit: 1**

PHYSICS III #247

This course includes the study of electricity, magnetism, radiation, optics and modern physics. Labs are an important part of the course.

Level: 12

Length: 1 year

**Prerequisite: Advanced Physics
Credit: 1**

INTRODUCTION TO ANIMAL SCIENCE #256 (HCC AGRI 186) (2013-2014)

Survey's the fundamentals of nutrition and management, ruminant and nonruminant animal digestion, genetics of breeding and improvement, marketing livestock and the handling to livestock products and the physiology of animals.

Level: 11-12

Length: 1 year

**Prerequisite: None
Credit: 1**

NATURAL RESOURCE & WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AND CONSERVATION #238

This course develops management and conservation skills in understanding the connection between agriculture and natural resources. Student knowledge and skills are developed in: understanding natural resources and its importance; fish, wildlife, and forestry management and conservation; and exploring outdoor recreational enterprises. Hunting and fishing as a sport, growing and managing tree forests, and outdoor safety education will be featured. Career exploration will be discussed and guest speakers will be invited to share their knowledge with the class. Weekly outdoor excursions will be a significant portion of the curriculum.

Level: 11-12

Length: 1 year

**Prerequisite: None
Credit: 1**

HORTICULTURAL PRODUCTION AND MANAGEMENT #257 (HCC AGRI 188)

This advanced course offers instruction in both the greenhouse production and landscape areas of horticulture. Units of study include plant identification, greenhouse management, growing greenhouse crops, landscape design, installation, and maintenance, horticulture mechanics, nursery management, and turf production. Agribusiness units will cover operating a horticultural business, pricing work, advertising, and sales. Improving computer and workplace skills will be a focus. Participation in FFA student organization activities and Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) projects is an integral course component for leadership development, career exploration and reinforcement of academic concepts. For dual credit, you must take #776 Introduction to Horticulture and #257 Horticultural Production and Management.

Level: 10-12

Length: 1 year

Prerequisite: Intro to Hort or Botany

Credit: 1

Mathematics Courses

PRE-ALGEBRA # 115

Pre-Algebra is an algebra preparatory program covering variables and algebraic expressions, formulas, ratio, proportion and percents plus other topics. This course is designed for those students needing additional skills in order to succeed in first year algebra. This course also introduces some fundamental geometry and trigonometry skills. Those students taking pre-algebra in eighth grade cannot take this course. (This course does not apply toward college entrance requirements.)

Level: 9-12

Length: 1 year

Prerequisite: None

Credit: 1

ALGEBRA I #116

Algebra I focuses on the key topics that provide a strong foundation in the essentials of algebra. These topics include basic algebra and number properties, solving and graphing linear equations and inequalities, polynomials and factoring, irrational numbers and quadratic equations. The course is taught through instruction, discussion and practice exercises.

Level: 8-12

Length: 1 year

Credit: 1

GEOMETRY #125

Geometry is intended for the mathematically capable student and stresses the traditional concepts of Euclidean geometry and proof. The course includes a review of basic geometry plus topics of parallel lines and planes, congruent triangles, quadrilaterals, similar polygons, right triangles, circles, constructions, and areas and volumes.

Level: 9-12

Length: 1 year

Credit: 1

HONORS ALGEBRA II #135

This course provides an enriched course in Algebra II. It emphasizes higher order thinking skills, problem solving, and preparation for higher levels of mathematics and related fields. This course has more rigorous pace as well as more challenging assignments and assessments. This course builds on algebraic concepts covered in Algebra I. Topics include functions and their graphs, quadratic functions, inverse functions, advanced polynomial functions, conic sections, sequences and series, and matrices. Students are introduced to probability and statistics, and trigonometry and periodic function.

Level: 10-12

Length: 1 year

Prerequisite: grade of C+ or better in Algebra I;

Geometry

Credit: 1

ALGEBRA II #135

This course covers most topics covered in Honors Algebra II, but in less depth, and therefore is not as complete a preparation for precalculus. This course builds on algebraic concepts covered in Algebra I. Topics include functions and their graphs, quadratic functions, inverse functions, advanced polynomial functions, conic sections, sequences and series, and matrices. Students are introduced to probability and statistics, and trigonometry and periodic function.

Level: 10-12

Length: 1 year

Prerequisite: Algebra I

Credit: 1

TRIGONOMETRY #137

This course is intended for college bound students, introducing trigonometry with a unit-circle approach first then using right triangles. Topics to be covered include trigonometric functions and their graphs, analytic trigonometry, and vectors.

Level: 10-12

Length: 1 semester

Prerequisites: "C" average or better in Algebra II and Geometry

Credit: ½

INTRODUCTION TO CALCULUS #145

This class is an introductory college level calculus course. The course extends the topics of Algebra II, integrating them with geometric concepts. Coordinate geometry, trigonometry, vectors, and probability are also included. The course is taught through instruction, discussion, and practice exercises.

Level: 11-12

Length: 1 year

Prerequisite: grades of C or better in Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II

Credit: 1

PROBABILITY AND STATISTICS #138

This course is intended for college bound students. Topics will include combinations, probability and statistics.

Level: 10-12

Length: 1 semester

Prerequisites: "C" average or better in Algebra I and Geometry

Credit: ½

Social Studies Courses

AMERICAN HISTORY #315

This course is designed to provide students with an understanding of events, trends, individuals, and movements shaping the history of the United States. Students will examine the political, social, economic, and philosophical changes in the United States from the 1800 through the present. The class will be taught through lecture, discussion, video, speakers, individual projects, and group activities.

Level: 9

Prerequisite: None

Length: 1 year

Credit: 1

GOVERNMENT #325

This course is designed to give the student an understanding of political systems, with an emphasis on the United States and Illinois Constitution. Local, county, state, and federal government and government offices will be studied. Topics discussed will include the origin of political parties, the development of the United States political parties, the impact individual people have on the government, and the role interest groups play in our government. Students will learn about the United States election process and their responsibility as a United States citizen. Flag etiquette, the national anthem, and the pledge of allegiance will also be topics covered during the semester. This course will be taught through lecture, discussion, video, speakers, individual projects, and group activities. In addition, the students will be responsible for passing exams covering the United States and Illinois Constitutions.

Level: 10

Prerequisite: American History

Length: 1 semester

Credit: ½

GEOGRAPHY #316

This course is designed to give high school students an overview of the world around them and an understanding of factors impacting natural and human geography. Units will cover the fundamentals of geography, regions of the world, and various environmental, natural, and human issues. The course will be taught as two semester courses. The first semester will cover geography of the United States, Canada, Latin American, Europe, Russia, and the Republics. Second semester will cover the geography of Africa, Asia, Oceania, and Antarctica. This course will be taught through lecture, discussion, video, speakers, individual projects, and group activities.

Level: 9-12

Prerequisite: None

Length: 1 or 2 Semesters

Credit: ½ or 1

WORLD HISTORY #327

This course will describe the development of the present world by examining the changes in politics, science, society, economics, and philosophies from the past. Units will include the following topics: the beginnings of western civilization, the heritage of the Middle Ages and non-Western civilizations, the emergence of modern Europe, the Age of Revolutions, the expansion of European influence throughout the world, the impact of the World Wars and totalitarianism, and the post-World War era. This course will be taught through lecture, discussion, video, speakers, individual projects, and group activities.

Level: 9-12

Prerequisite: American History

Length: 1 year

Credit: 1

ILLINOIS HISTORY #335

This course focuses on the state of Illinois' past and present. General topics include: the early period, statehood, 1800's, Chicago, Jo Daviess County, Galena, Scales Mound, people who had a significant impact on Illinois History, and Illinois today. The course makes students aware of how important it is to be a citizen of Illinois and Jo Daviess County. It will be taught through lecture, discussion, video, speakers, individual projects, and group activities.

Level: 9-12

Length: 1 semester

Prerequisite: American History

Credit: ½

CONTEMPORARY ISSUES #336

This course is designed to describe current issues and modern social problems facing the world today or in recent history. Units covered include world and local news, changing political views in society, and social issues or changes facing today's society. This course will be taught through lecture, discussion, publications, video, speakers, individual projects, and group activities.

Level: 10-12

Length: 1 semester

Prerequisite: American History

Credit: ½

INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY #345

Sociology is the study of people in "groups". It is the goal of the course to understand how social systems form and develop over time. Students will compare characteristics of culture as reflected in language, literature, the arts, traditions, and institutions. This course will be taught through lecture, discussion, publications, Video, speakers, individual projects, and group activities.

Level: 11-12

Length: 1 semester/1year

Prerequisite: None

Credit: ½

INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHOLOGY #346

Psychology is the study of individual "human organisms". This introductory course deals with basic human physiology and human mental development. It is a survey course briefly examining the topic of history of psychology, physiology, development, sensation, perception, motivation, personality, and intelligence. This course will be taught through lecture, discussion, publications, Video, speakers, individual projects, and group activities.

Level: 11-12

Length: 1 semester

Prerequisite: None

Credit: ½

HISTORY AND CONTEMPORARY WORKS #347

History and Contemporary Works will focus on events in history and issues in society through in-depth study of contemporary works. Class will be taught through the use of lecture, historical facts, primary source documents, fiction and nonfiction readings, and film depicting historical events. Class activities will include research, note taking, and writing activities.

Level: 10-12

Length: 1 semester/1 year

Prerequisite: American History

Credit: ½

GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES #329

This course will focus on the many aspects of understanding the world in which we live. Students will develop a global understanding by studying cultures, political systems, use of resources and global issues. The objective of the course is to develop an understanding of the student's role as a global citizen. The course will be taught using a variety of online resources, class discussion and online networking.

Level: 10-12

Prerequisite: U.S. History

Length: 1 or 2 semesters

Credit: ½ or 1

Agriculture Courses

INTRODUCTION TO PLANTS & ANIMALS #775

This orientation course provides an opportunity for students to learn how the agricultural industry is organized; its major components; the economic influence of agriculture at state, national and international levels; and the scope and types of job opportunities in the agricultural field. Basic concepts in animal science, plant science, soil science, horticulture, natural resources, agribusiness management, and agricultural mechanics, will be presented. Improving computer and workplace skills will be a focus. Participation in FFA student organization activities and Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) projects is an integral course component for leadership development, career exploration and reinforcement of academic concepts.

Level: 9-12

Prerequisite: None

Length: 1 year

Credit: 1

INTRODUCTION TO HORTICULTURE SCIENCE #776

This course is designed to introduce students to the horticulture industry and provide them with basic plant science knowledge that can be further developed in advanced horticulture courses. Major units of instruction include horticulture research, horticultural careers, plant anatomy, seed germination, plant propagation, growing media, pest management, hydroponics, identifying horticultural plants, and growing greenhouse crops. Improving computer and workplace skills will be a focus. Participation in FFA student organization activities and Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) projects is an integral course component for leadership development, career exploration and reinforcement of academic concepts.

Level: 9-12

Prerequisite: None

Length: 1 year

Credit: 1

LANDSCAPING & TURF MANAGEMENT #785

This advanced course focuses on the landscape, nursery, and turf segments of the horticulture industry. Units of student instruction include: identifying landscape plants, designing landscape plans, hardscape construction techniques, and installing landscape plants. Also included are nursery production, turfgrass production, small engine repair, and maintenance of existing landscapes. Agribusiness units will cover calculating prices for work, managing a horticulture business, advertising, and sales.

Level: 11-12

Prerequisite: Hort Production & Mngt

Length: 1 year

Credit: 1

AGRICULTURAL BUSINESS MANAGEMENT #778 (2014-2015) (HCC#)

This course will develop students' understanding of the agricultural industry relating to the United States and World marketplace. Instructional units include: business ownership types, planning and organizing the agribusiness, financing the agribusiness, keeping and using records in an agribusiness, operating the agribusiness, agricultural law, taxes, and developing employability skills. Student skills will be enhanced in math, reading comprehension, and writing through agribusiness applications. Improving computer and workplace skills will be a focus. Participation in FFA student organization activities and Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) projects is an integral course component for leadership development, career exploration and reinforcement of academic concepts.

Level: 11-12

Prerequisite: None

Length: 1 year

Credit: 1

INTERRELATED CO-OP I & II #786(I) #787(II)

A program of career education for students who, through a cooperative arrangement between the school and employers, receive practical experience and related instruction through a job in the agricultural, business, health industrial, or personal/public service fields. The practical experience and related instruction is planned and supervised by the school so that each contributes to the student's education and employability. Work periods and school attendance will be worked out with the school and the employer.

Level: 11-12

Length: 1 year

Prerequisite: Application

Credit: 1

INTERRELATED CO-OP/WORK EXPERIENCE #788

Co-op work release is available to juniors and seniors who may be dismissed from the first or last period (up to 2 periods a day) to go to work provided that:

1. The student is enrolled in Interrelated Co-op I or II.
2. The employer requests release of the student.
3. The student will have a signed parental permission form on file.
4. **The grades from the semester preceding the request will be used, and the student needs to maintain a "C" average. Special administrative approval may be granted in specific instances.**
5. The student will be responsible for working with the co-op instructor to secure an employer.
6. The student will provide his/her own transportation.

Level: 11-12

Length: Semester or Year

Prerequisite: Application

Credit: ½, 1 or 2

SUPERVISED AGRICULTURAL EXPERIENCE(SAE) I & II #789(I) #790 (II)

This course is designed to establish knowledge and skills in various agricultural careers. Students will gain credit by establishing a project at their home, at a local business, or at their school usually after normal school hours. Example projects may include, but are not limited to: working at a garden center, raising vegetables/grain/livestock, conducting agriscience experiments in a greenhouse, and training horses at a stable. Students will be required to verify their experiences by keeping written or computerized records including: business agreements, budgets, inventories, daily activities, hours worked, income and expenses, total earnings, depreciation, and net worth. SAE records should be evaluated at least once per month. In addition, SAE lessons are integrated in each agricultural course. SAE participation can lead to fulltime employment, scholarships, and awards through the FFA.

This course is meant for students on a track that cannot fit a scheduled agriculture class into their class schedule. This class may only be taken two (2) semesters during the four year high school period.

Level: 10-12

Length: 1 year

Prerequisite: None

Credit: ½ (1/4 per semester)

BASIC AG SCIENCE #793

This second step agriculture course builds on basic skills and knowledge gained in the Introduction to the Plants & Animals course. Major units of instruction include agricultural research, soil science, advanced plant science, biotechnology, advanced animal science.

Level: 10-12

Length: 1 year

Prerequisite: None

Credit: 1

MEDICAL/VETERINARY TECHNOLOGY (2014-2015) #791

Interested in a career in the medical field? Start by learning basic terminology that will carry from animals to humans. This course deals with a variety of topics ranging from the animal industry, animal anatomy and physiology, animal ethics and welfare issues, animal health, veterinary medicine, veterinary office practices, to animal services to humans. Animal related careers will be explored ranging from training seeing eye dogs to large animal veterinarians.

Level: 11-12

Length: 1 year

Prerequisite: None

Credit: 1

AG SALES AND MARKETING (2013-2014) #792

Considering a career in business? The same sales and marketing skills can be applied to any business – find out what you are in for with a business career in this sales and marketing class. Topics of interest will include commodity marketing, agricultural economics, and international agriculture. We will actually start and run a business cooperative, develop a marketing plan, pricing & advertising strategies, tips for customer communication, and business career opportunities.

Level: 11-12

Length: 1 year

Prerequisite: None

Credit: 1

LEADERSHIP

This course is designed to provide students with the knowledge and leadership experiences to help them to become successful in life and in the workplace. Students will further enhance their potential for leadership development, personal growth, and career success. Participation in FFA student organization activities and Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) projects is an integral course component for this leadership development, career exploration and reinforcement of academic concepts.

Level: 11-12

Length: 1 Semester

Prerequisite: None

Credit: 1/2 Credit

COMMUNICATIONS

Students will analyze current issues and determine how they affect people on all sides of the issue. The students then learn and enhance their written and oral communication skills by presenting their views and opinions to the class. Students learn how to arrange and present debates, speeches, and interviews to be effective leaders in today's society. Participation in FFA student organization activities and Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) projects is an integral course component for this leadership development, career exploration and reinforcement of academic concepts.

Level: 11-12

Length: 1 Semester

Prerequisite: None

Credit: 1/2 Credit

See additional agriculture classes in the science section.

Art Courses

BEGINNING ART #515

This course reinforces and builds upon knowledge and skills developed at the elementary and middle levels. The elements and principles of design will be used in reinforcing what creates a strong composition in art. Students will experiment with a variety of media of choice. Portfolio development will be emphasized, based on technical quality, personal style and intended purpose.

Level: 9-12

Length: 1 year

Prerequisite: None

Credit: 1

INTERMEDIATE ART #525

This course builds upon the foundation established in Beginning Art, both improving skills previously learned and experiencing new approaches to art. Students will create expressive works of their own which reflect their understanding of the elements and principles of design, exhibit a sense of pride and craftsmanship, and effectively communicate their intended expressive content. Students will continue to experiment with a variety of media of choice. Portfolio development will be emphasized, based on technical quality, personal style and intended purpose.

Level: 10-12

Length: 1 year

Prerequisite: Beginning Art

Credit: 1

ADVANCED ART#535

Students will use the skills they learned in Beginning and Intermediate Art to create complex works of art. Students will begin to develop a personal vision and preference for certain media. Students in this class demonstrate self-motivation and the ability to work independently. Portfolio development will be emphasized, based on technical quality, personal style and intended purpose.

Level: 11-12

Length: 1 year

Prerequisite: Intermediate Art

Credit: 1

SENIOR ART #545

Students will use the skills they learned in Beginning, Intermediate, and Advanced Art to create complex works of art. Students will refine their personal vision and preference of media, technique and style. Students in this class have a high degree of self-motivation and the ability to work independently. Portfolio development will be emphasized, based on technical quality, personal style and intended purpose.

Level: 12

Length: 1 year

Prerequisite: Advanced Art

Credit: 1

Computer Education Courses

YEARBOOK I – II #715 (I) #716 (II)

This course is designed to develop the basic skills necessary to produce a school yearbook or other such publications. General topics include headlines, proofreading and text editing, copy writing, page layout and design, photography, advertising sales and video and DVD editing. This class is designed for individuals with high levels of self-motivation, responsibility, and organizational skills. Bringing fresh and creative ideas as well as a creative eye for design is a bonus! The class is taught by means of discussion, workshops, and extensive work experience. Yearbook II is an extension of Yearbook I. Students will gain further experience.

Level: 11-12

Length: 1 year

Prerequisites: 2 years of English, Intro to Computers, Multi Media I

**Course grades of “C” or above required.
Credit: 1**

MULTIMEDIA I #726

Multimedia I is a year long course introducing students to Adobe Photoshop CS#, Aperture, and iPhoto. Students will learn how to digitally manipulate and edit photographs using various techniques associated within the Photoshop, Aperture, and iPhoto Programs. Second semester students will use In-Design CS3. This program is used for such applications as creating magazines, newsletters, calendars, and greeting cards along with many other forms of published media.

Level: 9-12

Length: 1 year

Prerequisites: None

Credit: 1

MULTIMEDIA II #727

Multimedia II is a year long course designed as a continuation of Multimedia I with an introduction to video and sound editing. Students will be shown how to generate and develop multimedia projects using audio, video, and photography. Some of these projects include, magazines, posters, videos, slideshow presentations, and many other media works.

Level 11-12

Length: 1 Year

Prerequisites: Grade of “C” or better in Intro to Computers and Multimedia I

Credit: 1

MULTIMEDIA III #728

Multimedia III is a continuation of classroom instruction regarding multimedia software programs. The main emphasis of this course is designed towards job applications creating multimedia works in the graphics design, and website design fields.

Level: 12

Length: 1 Year

Prerequisites: Grade of “C” or better in Intro to Computers, Multimedia I and Multimedia II

Credit: 1

World Language Courses

SPANISH I #415

This course will encompass the four language skills of reading, writing, speaking, and listening in Spanish. Students will learn, but not limited to, subject pronouns, nouns, adjectives, infinitives, present tense indicative, irregular “yo” verbs, stem-changing verbs, ser/estar, gustar, near future, possessive adjectives, and demonstrative adjectives. Students will apply their knowledge of these concepts through the use of their online textbook, videos, Spanish music, games, podcasts, newspaper articles, PowerPoint presentations, and much more! In addition to acquiring the Spanish language, students will gain understanding/appreciation of the Hispanic and Spanish cultures, history, music, and art.

Level: 9-12 (grades 9 & 10 preferred because of consecutive course progression)

Prerequisite: None

Length: 1 year

Credit: 1

SPANISH II #425

This course is a continuation of Spanish I and is recommended that they be taken consecutively. Students will strengthen and expand upon the four language skills of listening, reading, writing, and speaking in Spanish, in addition to a review of the material learned in Spanish I. Students in Spanish II will learn how to conjugate –ar, –er, and –ir verbs in the preterit and imperfect past tenses, learn reflexive, indirect, and direct pronouns, present progressive & past progressive, and increase their use of verbs and vocabulary. The course will begin to focus on the full acquisition of the Spanish language in listening, reading, writing, and speaking through their online textbook, essays, podcasts, journaling, reader’s theater, PowerPoint presentations, movies, music, art, and more! This class will also have a focus on Hispanic culture & history and its role in today’s society. (robation, court reporting, paralegal services, and expanded use of computer systems. Students will learn search and custody procedures as well as standard police security procedures. The development of employability skills, as well as transition skills and vocational ethics, will also be included in the course.