



2025-2026

Registration Guide

St. Charles Public Schools Nondiscrimination Statement

The St. Charles Public Schools does not discriminate on the basis of sex/gender, sexual orientation, race, color, creed, national origin, religion, sex, disability, receipt of public assistance, or marital status and age in its programs and activities.

St. Charles High School Registration Guide

This registration manual has been prepared to assist in the planning of each student's high school education. Parents and students should read over the course outlines. Once you become familiar with the course offerings, the next step is to plan out which courses you should take this year and the rest of your years at Saint Charles High School. Please keep in mind that several courses require prerequisite courses. Prerequisite courses are those courses that must be completed prior to enrollment into another course. The next step is to fill out the online 2025-2026 pre-registration form. After we have collected pre-registrations and made the master schedule, students will register for their actual 2025-2026 classes in JMC. The decisions you make now should be based on your future goals. Make choices that are influenced by your interests, your abilities, and your past performances - all are good indicators to use as you plan your future educational goals. If you have any questions about the scheduling process or the course offerings, be sure to talk to the academic advisor.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Course changes are difficult to make once registration has been completed. Students should take the time now to plan out exactly which classes they would like to complete each year.

Graduation Guidelines

1. St. Charles High School will graduate a student who has earned the following:
 - a. 28 Credits
 - b. Passed all required courses (see below)
2. Any student failing to meet a graduation credit requirement is expected to make up the deficiency during the succeeding semester or in summer school. Students may repeat any course for which they have received a failing grade. See the counselor or academic advisor to set up your makeup opportunity by retaking the class, or taking an online makeup course.

Saint Charles High School Graduation Requirements

English - 4 credits

TOTAL - 28 Credits

- English 9 - 1 credit
- English 10 - 1 credit
- English 11 - ½ credit
- English 12 - ½ credit
- English elective (½ taken each year, 11th and 12th) - 1 credit
 - Choose from Historical Fiction, Banned Books, Creative Writing, LIFE, Lit and Philosophy, ACT Prep English

Science - 3 credits

- Earth and Space Science - 1 credit
- Biology - 1 credit
- Chemistry or Chemistry in the Community - 1 credit

Math - 3 credits

- Algebra 1.5 or Geometry - 1 credit
- Geometry or Algebra II - 1 credit
- Math elective - 1 credit
 - Students can take a combination of Probability and Stats/Precalc (highest track, required for calc); Probability and Stats/Algebra 3 (middle track) or Math Skills 1 (teacher placement)

Social Studies - 4 credits

- American History 2 - 1 credit
- World History 1 - ½ credit
- Civics - ½ credit
- World History 2 - ½ credit
- Human Geography - ½ credit
- Economics - ½ credit
- Social Studies Elective - ½ credit
 - Choose from Sociology, Psychology, CIS History 1, CIS History 2, Contemporary World History, America's State and National Parks

Business- 1/2 credit (Personal Finance, Marketing, Careers, Personal Law, Intro to Business) (Class of 2028 will need to take Personal Finance as a graduation requirement)

Art - 1 credit (Band, Choir, Art department courses, Ceramics, Drama)

PE/Health - 1.5 credits

- PE 9 (1/2)
- PE elective (1/2) (10th - 12th grade)
- Health 10 (1/2)

Electives - 11 credits

Planning for the future

It is essential that you get ready for the future starting now. The courses and tests you take, how well you do in them, and what you are involved with outside of the classroom will make a difference in your life for years to come. Whether you plan to join the military, work, do an apprenticeship, or go to a two or four-year college, the earlier you begin to plan for the future, the better.

1. Do your homework – inside and outside of the classroom
 - a. Know the courses that you need to take to graduate from high school
 - b. Know the courses you need to take to get accepted into colleges of your choice.
2. Participate in EXTRA stuff.
 - a. Consider joining a club or a sport.
 - b. Consider joining a club that requires specific responsibilities that demonstrates abilities and enhances your personality.
 - c. Get involved in the community
3. Grades **DO** matter.
 - a. Grades matter every quarter, every semester, and for every class, from 9-12th grade.
 - b. Grades are reflected in your GPA and class rank, which many local colleges base their admissions on. (Automatic admission if you have a 3.0 or higher, for example)
 - c. Your class rank is your place in the class based on GPA. This is also used for many automatic admissions colleges. GPA and Rank are used as the main basis for admission at all 4 year colleges in the U.S.
 - d. Colleges look at the difficulty of the courses you take to help them to decide whether to admit you. They want to see you challenge yourself!
4. Standardized Tests
 - a. Students should plan to take the ACT or ASVAB. The ACT is used as a strong factor in admissions to four year colleges, though it is no longer required at most. The ASVAB is a career interest inventory and can be used for placement in military careers, or to guide students to consider certain trades where they have strengths.

College Credits in the High School

A note: Concurrent enrollment and PSEO credits are college credits that affect your high school GPA and class rank, and are a part of your college record as well - affecting your college class rank, GPA and credit completion rate. These are very important to consider when determining if you are ready for higher level work!

Concurrent Enrollment

Saint Charles High School partners with the University of Minnesota – Twin Cities, Riverland Community College and Minnesota State College Southeast to offer the following college credit courses to our high school students here. Students who successfully complete these courses generate both high school and college credit from the partnering postsecondary institution. There is no cost to the student to participate in these courses, but there are entrance requirements. These courses provide high school students advanced skills today and greater flexibility when they enter the college/university setting full-time, which may include pursuing second majors and internships or studying abroad.

St. Charles High School offers:

- HIST 1307: CIS American History I
 - *American History to 1865*
- HIST 1308: CIS American History II
 - *Global America: U.S. History Since 1865*
- EPSY 3264: CIS Basic and Applied Statistics
- MATH 1110: College Algebra
- BIOL 2515 College Anatomy & Physiology I
- BIOL 2516 College Anatomy & Physiology II
- ENGL 1215 College Writing 1
- ECON 2530: Macroeconomics
- EDUC 1100: Intro to Education
- AGBS 2000: Ag Business

Advanced Placement (AP)

AP is a College Board program that offers high school students the opportunity to take rigorous, college-level courses and earn college credit while in high school. The content in AP courses is structured like college courses. Students who complete an AP course and take the end-of-course examination may qualify for college credit from postsecondary institutions, provided their score meets the institution's credit policy. These courses help prepare students for further education and many colleges look favorably on transcripts that include AP coursework. Saint Charles offers the following Advanced Placement (AP) Courses:

- ❖ AP Calculus AB
- ❖ AP Biology
- ❖ AP Literature and Composition

College-Level Examination Program (CLEP)

The College-Level Examination Program (CLEP) is a College Board program that allows students to accelerate their education by earning college credit by taking a computer-based test of their knowledge. Learning can be done through general academic instruction, independent study, extracurricular work or volunteerism. The time and money saved can be significant. Check with the postsecondary institution of your choice for their most recent CLEP credit policy. [Visit the College Board website for more information.](#)

Postsecondary Enrollment Options (PSEO)

PSEO is a program that allows students in 10th, 11th and 12th grades to earn both high school and college credit while still in high school, through enrollment in and successful completion of college-level, nonsectarian courses at eligible participating postsecondary institutions. Most PSEO courses are offered on the campus of the postsecondary institution; some courses are offered online. Each participating college or university sets its own requirements for enrollment into the PSEO courses. Eleventh and 12th-grade students may take PSEO courses on a full- or part-time basis; 10th graders may take one career/technical PSEO course. If they earn at least a C grade in that class, they may take additional PSEO courses.

There is no charge to PSEO students for tuition, books or fees for items that are required to participate in a course. Students must meet the PSEO residency and eligibility requirements and abide by participation limits specified in Minnesota Statutes, section 124D.09. If a school district determines a

student is not on track to graduate, she/he may continue to participate in PSEO. Funds are available to help pay transportation expenses for qualifying students to participate in PSEO courses on college campuses. Schools must provide up-to-date information to all students in grades 8-11 and their families by March 1, every year. Students must notify their school by May 30 if they want to participate in PSEO for the following school year.

For current information about the PSEO program, visit the [Minnesota Department of Education's Postsecondary Enrollment Options \(PSEO\) webpage](#).

PSEO for 10th Graders to take Career and Technical Education (CTE) courses

Legislation allows eligible 10th-grade students to enroll initially in one Career and Technical Education (CTE) course through PSEO. If the student earns a "C" or higher grade in this first course, she/he is eligible to take additional CTE courses while in 10th grade. In order to be eligible, a 10th-grade student must have met the proficiency level of "meets or exceeds" on the 8th-grade MCA reading test. If the student did not take the MCA, another reading assessment accepted by the enrolling postsecondary institution can be substituted.

How to Enroll in PSEO

Interested and eligible 11th- and 12th-grade students should contact the postsecondary institution to find out their eligibility requirements, which courses are offered and what the application process is at that institution. [Access the list of Participating Postsecondary Institutions at https://education.mn.gov/MDE/fam/dual/pseo/040787](https://education.mn.gov/MDE/fam/dual/pseo/040787). Interested and eligible public 10th-grade students should contact the postsecondary institution to find out which Career and Technical (CTE) courses are offered and what the application process is at that institution. See your counselor for more information about how credits transfer, and things to consider when you are looking at PSEO.

College Admission Requirements

The admission requirements for colleges and universities vary. It is the responsibility of the student to become familiar with the entrance requirements of potential institutions of interest. It is important for students to register for high school classes that satisfy the college entrance requirements. Arrange a campus visit to these institutions; this will give students the best insight.

Most four year colleges require:

- 4 years of English
- 4 years of Social Studies
- 3-4 years of Science (Some require Physics for admission)
- 3-4 years of Math (Most prefer four years of math)
- 2 years of a single second language

Admission factors considered by post-secondary institutions may include:

1. Class rank
2. Grade point average - G.P.A.
3. High school course selection
4. College entrance exam scores (ACT, SAT)
5. Participation in organizations (school and community)
6. Personal essays
7. Letters of recommendation

Vocational Education

Vocational education classes provide hands-on experiences to prepare students for technical college or entering the workforce. St. Charles Public Schools offers a variety of vocational opportunities through the Industrial Technology and Agriculture Education.

The purpose of this notice is to inform students, parents, employees and the general public that these opportunities are offered regardless of sex/gender, sexual orientation, race, color, creed, national origin, religion, sex, disability, receipt of public assistance, or marital status and age.

Admission in the specific courses is determined by grade level, and in some cases, completion of prerequisite courses.

The district has designated the following individuals to coordinate compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972.

Title IX Coordinator:

Name: Mr. Robert Routh, Superintendent

Office Address: 600 E. 6th Street, St. Charles, MN 55972 Office

Phone Number: 507-932-4420 Ex. 1152

Email Address: rrouth@schs.k12.mn.us

Alternate Title IX Coordinator:

Name: Mr. Scott McCready

Office Address: 600 E. 6th Street, St. Charles, MN 55972 Office

Phone Number: 507-932-4420 Ex. 1120

Email Address: smccready@schs.k12.mn.us

Section 504 Coordinator:

Name: Ms. Theresa Nunemacher, School Social Worker

Office Address: 600 E. 6th Street, St. Charles MN 55972

Office Phone Number: 507-932-4420 Ex. 1159

Email Address: tnunemacher@schs.k12.mn.us

Alternate Section 504 Coordinator(s):

Name: Mr. Ryan Ihrke, Elem. Principal

Office Address: 925 Church Avenue, St. Charles MN 55972 Office

Phone Number: 507-932-4910 Ex. 2104

Email Address: rihrke@schs.k12.mn.us

Name: Mr. Dustin Pautsch, HS Principal

Office Address: 600 E. 6th Street, St. Charles MN 55972 Office

Phone Number: 507-932-4420 Ex. 1153

Email Address: dpautsch@schs.k12.mn.us

St. Charles Curriculum

English Department Courses

English 9

Course #601

Grade: 9

In English 9, students will be expanding their reading and writing skills through different units, assignments, and class activities. Students will have the opportunity to:

1. Complete a short story unit in which they read a variety of fictional stories.
2. Learn to analyze literature by discussing and writing about the text.
3. Practice writing structured, formal essays--a skill which is needed not only for the GRAD writing test in the spring, but also for any writing assignments in the future.
4. Complete a research paper unit: Learn how to use the library and other media to gather information on a particular topic and present it in an organized, formal paper.
5. Read a full-length novel and study it in depth.
6. Expand their knowledge and practice of proper grammar skills.

English 10

Course #602

Grade: 10

English 10 is a diverse class with a focus on ideas gleaned from literature and composition. By examining poems, short stories, essays, plays, and novels, students develop the critical thinking skills necessary for future study. In a wide variety of compositions students work to create transition, formulate topic sentences, incorporate quotes and implement revisions. In discussions students process what they have learned while further developing their speaking and listening skills.

The student will have the opportunity to:

1. Investigate a wide variety of literary genres including plays, poems, short stories and essays.
2. Practice verbal skills through discussions and presentations.
3. Develop skills in transition between paragraphs.
4. Encounter new, useful vocabulary words.
5. Learn structure of paragraphs and longer essays.
6. Learn how to incorporate specific examples and quotes in papers.
7. Develop an appreciation for reading as an enjoyable, life-long habit.
8. Become familiar with the correct mechanical structure of sentences.

English 11

Course #603

Grade: 11

This course is designed to increase the student's familiarity with a broad array of themes and authors, primarily of American origin. Students will have the opportunity to encounter classic stories, ponder philosophy, and build upon reading and writing skills introduced in previous courses. Particularly, this course will focus on the following skills:

1. Using active, close-reading strategies
2. Developing succinct, organized writing samples
3. Formulate pieces of long-form writing with clear transitions and rich support
4. Identifying major themes of movements in American literature

English 12**Course #604**

Grade: 12

Students may take AP English as a substitute.

Students enrolled in English 12 will work to answer the following question: what does it mean for me to live a “good life” and how can technology help - or hinder - my ability to do so? Students will spend a quarter examining various philosophies on what it means to live well by exploring autobiographies, novels, and works of writing by classical philosophers. Students will then critically assess how modern and future technologies are affecting our day to day lives. This course focuses on giving students experiences in each of the language arts: reading, writing, speaking, and reading. Students will hone their writing skills through a series of short, organized essays, and practice productive discourse through multiple in depth seminar discussions.

Advanced Placement (AP) English**Course #605**

Grade: 12

(This course fulfills your English credits for your senior year.)

Prerequisite: Students have earned a grade of a B or higher in each English course taken during 9-11th grade or submission of an essay.

ADVANCED

AP English is a rigorous academic course designed to prepare students for collegiate study of literature and the nationwide AP exam. Students read a wide variety of poems, plays, short stories and novels; discuss them thoroughly and compose various personal and academic essays based on these works. It is a class that demands a love for words and ideas as well as a commitment to reading and writing. To be successful a student also needs strong organizational skills, the ability to manage time wisely and the internal motivation necessary to complete a great deal of work outside the class. The rewards of such assiduous study are numerous. Students get the chance to read and discuss some of the great works of literature including Hamlet, Catch 22, Lord of the Flies, The Glass Menagerie, A Doll's House, Cry, the Beloved Country, A Prayer for Owen Meany, The Great Gatsby and Grapes of Wrath. Because the class is composed of the brightest students in school, the depth of learning goes far beyond that of a regular English course. It allows students to strive and excel without apology. A myriad of writing assignments and activities help prepare students for college level courses. In addition, there is always the possibility of obtaining college credit by passing the AP exam given each spring by the College Board. AP English is dedicated to living in the world of the great thinkers of our time to see what we can learn from them and each other.

Historical Fiction**Course #606**

Grades: 11-12

ADVANCED

This course will focus solely on English literature. Students will study the different historical contexts and the way the events of the time shaped literature and thinking. Works will range from the earliest example of British literature, the epic of *Beowulf*, through Shakespeare, to the modern English novel. Students will read short fiction and non-fiction, poetry, and plays.

Students will have the opportunity to:

1. Explore how literature in the English language has evolved over time.
2. Examine the different themes of literature and how they reflect the society of the time.
3. Read and examine some of the key pieces of English literature from different historical time periods.

4. Be able to discuss and identify the differences in literary genres: poetry, drama, fiction, non-fiction, satire, etc.
5. Practice explaining themes and significance of the literature through writing.
6. Examine how our language has evolved since the earliest examples of English.
7. Experience Shakespeare and the influence of his works.

Banned Books**Course #607**

Grades: 11-12

This course is designed to introduce students to literary works which are considered “Banned.” The class involves an in-depth reading of several different novels, short stories, and poems from different literary genres and time periods.

Students will have the opportunity to:

1. Become knowledgeable about some of the most well-known pieces of literature that are considered “banned.”
2. Recognize the qualities of different literary genres.
3. Learn the background and writing characteristics of authors.
4. Engage in class discussions about different literary themes.
5. Understand why some literature is considered “banned.”
6. Explore the relevance of literary themes in today’s world.
7. Practice writing critical or analysis essays.

Lessons of LIFE**Course #608**

Grades: 11-12

There are innumerable current issues that we see splashed across the newspaper each day: war, greed, homelessness, sports, media, bullying, identity, and influences of technology just to name a few. These headlines come and go so quickly we forget them almost in time for delivery of the next edition. Great literature also addresses those same issues in poetry, novels, plays, and short stories. Along with films, these works of art offer us timeliness perspectives on issues as producers, poets, playwrights and novelists weigh in on the crucial aspects of society. This class will take various issues and look at them through the lens of books, poems, and movies. For example, the play *A Raisin in the Sun*, *Speak*, *The Smell of Other People’s Houses*, and *The Absolute True Story of a Part-Time Indian* and Shark Tank Unit. Students should be eager to read widely, think deeply, and write persuasively about the way in which texts present us with views of issues that might be more realistic than the ones we get from new sources.

Literature and Philosophy**Course #609**

Grades: 11-12

This course provides students with the opportunity to encounter and explore themes in literature that are constantly a part of our own lives. Students will read various literary works--*Siddhartha*, *1984*, *Moby Dick*, and *A Monster Calls*--featuring topics that are relevant to them and their lives while drawing upon the thoughts of some of the most prominent philosophers in history. Students will engage in class discussions about these themes and ideas, as well as express their own ideas through stories.

Creative Writing**Course #610**

Grades: 11-12

Creative Writing offers students a chance to explore various types of creative writing, with a particular emphasis on short story creation. Students will be introduced to the various essential elements of creative writing—such as characterization, dialogue, imagery, theme, and more—while reading stories that exemplify those elements. Students also will receive practice with the processes of idea creation and development, editing, and revision. Students will be free to produce several creative works telling stories that are meaningful to *them*, ones of their own creation and choosing. The ultimate goal of the class is not just to produce publishable creative works but specifically to *improve*, over the course of the class, one's creative writing abilities.

CIS Writing**Course #611**

Grades: 11-12

ADVANCED

This course involves expository writing based on experience, direct observation, research and reading with emphasis on critical thinking skills, rhetorical strategies, and style. This class is worth 3 credits (ENGL 1215) from Minnesota State Southeast and is transferable within the Minnesota State System.

ACT Prep English**Course #612**

Grades: 11-12

ACT Prep English" focuses on preparing students for the English portion of the ACT exam. Students will learn the technical skills behind reading and writing. The course takes a deep dive into punctuation, grammar, and sentence structure and examines the reading and writing skills tested on the ACT English and ACT Reading exams. ACT Prep English is suited for self-driven learners who are comfortable overviewing information and learning through lengthy independent work.

Mathematics Department Courses**Geometry****Course #615**

Grades: 9-10

The students will be using many different types of reasoning to solve, prove and make conjectures about the following standards.

1. Identify examples of lines, segments, rays, angles, parallel lines, intersecting lines, perpendicular lines, horizontal lines and vertical lines.
2. Find the area, volume, perimeter and circumference of various common plane and solid objects.
3. Compare areas and volumes of different shapes.
4. Construct models of various objects using a compass, ruler and protractor.
5. Develop a logical strategy for solving a problem.
6. Know the different Theorems of Congruent Triangles

Algebra II**Course #616**

Grade: 10

This course will review and extend on all topics covered in Algebra 1, as well as expose students to new concepts in algebra. We will focus our studies on linear functions, systems of equations, matrices, and properties of exponents, polynomials, radicals, exponential functions and logarithmic functions.

Algebra III**Course #617**

Grade: 11

Focuses on the continuation of study of Algebra and Trigonometry. Topics studied in this course include linear equations and inequalities, polynomials, factoring, rational expressions, trigonometric identities and functions: exponential, logarithmic, trigonometric, inverse trigonometric. It is strongly recommended that each student purchase a TI-83 or higher graphing calculator.

Advanced Placement (AP) Calculus AB**Course #618**

Grade: 12

Prerequisite: Before studying calculus, all students should complete three years of secondary mathematics designed for college-bound students: courses in which they study algebra, geometry, trigonometry, analytic geometry, and elementary functions. These functions include linear, polynomial, rational, exponential, logarithmic, trigonometric, inverse trigonometric, and piecewise-defined functions. In particular, before studying calculus, students must be familiar with the properties of functions, the algebra of functions, and the graphs of functions. Students must also understand the language of functions (domain and range, odd and even, periodic, symmetry, zeros, intercepts, and so on) and know the values of the trigonometric functions at the numbers 0, $\pi/6$, $\pi/4$, $\pi/3$, $\pi/2$, and their multiples.

AP Calculus AB is roughly equivalent to a first semester college calculus course devoted to topics in differential and integral calculus. The AP course covers topics in these areas, including concepts and skills of limits, derivatives, definite integrals, and the Fundamental Theorem of Calculus. The course teaches students to approach calculus concepts and problems when they are represented graphically, numerically, analytically, and verbally, and to make connections amongst these representations. Students learn how to use technology to help solve problems, experiment, interpret results, and support conclusions.

The class is designed to support students who plan to pass the Advanced Placement Calculus exam and/or folks who are college bound and may take a Calculus course in college. If you are at all wondering about whether it is a good fit for you, touch base with the math department.

CIS Statistics**Course #619**

Grade: 11-12

EPSY 3264 is designed to engage students using a modeling and simulation approach to inference. This course fulfills the Mathematical Thinking component of the Liberal Education requirements at the University of Minnesota. Statistics is more than just an application of mathematics or a methodology

used in some other discipline. Statistics is a principled way of thinking about the world. In particular, it is a principled approach to data collection, prediction, and scientific inference. In today's dynamic and interdisciplinary world, success in confronting new analytical issues requires both substantial knowledge of a scientific or technological area and highly flexible problem-solving strategies. This course uses pedagogical principles that are founded in research, such as daily small group activities and discussion. Upon completion of this course, students should have an understanding of the foundational concepts of data, variation and inference, as well as an appreciation for the fundamental role that statistics plays in a host of disciplines, such as business, economics, law, and medicine.

CIS College Algebra**Course #620**

Grade: 12

This course is a continuation of topics from Algebra 2 and Algebra 3. The course covers the basics of college-level algebra emphasizing understanding of the basic principles through investigation. The topics covered range from a basic algebra review to the exploration of linear, quadratic, exponential, and logarithmic functions along with a study of rational expressions, inverse relations, function operations, complex numbers, and systems of equations. This course intends to reinforce the fundamental algebra skills for college bound students. Students passing this course will earn concurrent credit with Riverland Community College.

Math Skills I**Course #621**

Grade: 11

This full year course is a review of Junior High and Senior High math concepts. We cover topics in pre-algebra, Algebra 1, Geometry, Algebra 2, Probability, and Trigonometry. Our goal is to provide a positive math experience while revisiting mathematical concepts from previous years.

Probability and Statistics**Course #622**

Grade: 11

Students learn counting methods, probability, descriptive statistics, graphs of data, the normal curve, statistical inference, and linear regression. Proficiency is measured through frequent online and offline assessments, as well as asynchronous discussions. Problem-solving activities provide an opportunity for students to demonstrate their skills in real-world situations.

Pre-Calculus**Course #623**

Grades: 11-12

This course is designed to cover topics in Algebra ranging from polynomial, rational, and exponential functions to conic sections. Trigonometry concepts such as Law of Sines and Cosines will be introduced. Students will then begin analytic geometry and calculus concepts such as limits, derivatives, and integrals. This class is important for any student planning to take a calculus class.

Science Courses

Earth and Space Science

Course #625

Grade: 9

This class is your introduction to high school science. Here, you practice essential science skills, including, experimental design, data analysis, communication of findings, and constructing scientific models. You will hone these skills by learning about earth and space related topics, including the following:

- Atmospheric Science - weather and earth's climates
- Hydrology - water systems and resources
- Geology - plate tectonics and geologic formations
- Earth and Human Activity
- Energy Conversions - Natural and Human energy use on Earth
- Space Organization - of celestial objects including solar systems and galaxies
- Space Mechanics- Understanding planetary motion
- Cosmology - history of universe, and the data used to construct this model

Biology

Course #626

Grade: 10

Biology is the study of life; how organisms function and how they are structured. During the year we examine and observe living organisms, their structures, their body functions, and their interactions with the environment. Laboratory work is interspersed with class discussion. The course is designed to provide all students with a general background about living organisms and also prepare students who are pursuing a science related career with basic information and techniques needed to be competitive.

The students will have the opportunity to:

1. Complete a wide range of experiments, including live organisms, field studies, dissections, etc. The purpose of these is to learn the scientific method of developing hypotheses and conducting experiments.
2. Explore the interaction of living things with their environment and how populations and communities respond to environmental changes.
3. Investigate and understand cellular structure and cellular activity such as respiration, photosynthesis, and cell division.
4. Become familiar with basic concepts of genetics (heredity) and how genes are passed from parent to offspring
5. Discuss the theory of evolution (biological change over time) and the evidence that supports this theory.
6. Investigate the variety of microorganisms and become familiar with their role in influencing other types of life.
7. Observe and investigate a variety of invertebrate and vertebrate animals and the similarities/differences in their anatomy and behavior.

Chemistry**Course #627**

Grade: 11

This class is structured around the student learning basic concepts, facts, formulas & principles & using these to develop critical thinking & problem solving skills.

Students will have the opportunity to:

1. Learn about basic laboratory procedures & techniques.
2. Learn about varieties of matter and forms of energy.
3. Learn about the structure of the atom
4. Become familiar with chemical formulas, equations & reactions.
5. Become familiar with the periodic table

Chemistry in the Community**Course #628**

Grade: 11

This course is designed for college bound and non- college bound students who plan to pursue careers in fields other than science. The course also is intended for students who plan to pursue a one or two year technical college program in which science is emphasized (health, lab assistant, technological fields, etc...). The emphasis is on the impact of chemistry on society by addressing chemistry related issues that are related to our community and society.

Advanced Placement (AP) Biology**Course #629**

Grade: 11-12

Prerequisites for Juniors:

- a. Previous completion of both semesters of Biology with a grade of B- or higher
- b. Concurrent registration in Chemistry.

Prerequisites for Seniors:

- a. Previous completion of both semesters of Biology.
- b. Previous completion of both semesters of Chemistry or Chem Comm.

AP Biology is an elective course that follows and expands upon 10th grade general biology. This class has three purposes: (1) to prepare you for the Advanced Placement Biology exam given in May, which can earn you college credits (2) to prepare you to do well in college science courses and (3) to teach you the reasoning and analysis skills that will be applicable to whatever future career you select.

In order to prepare students to take the AP Biology exam, you will find this course to require more work than other SCHS science classes. You must prepare yourself to be disciplined and dedicate yourself to doing well in this class. Topics covered include:

1. Introduction to Evolution
2. Cell Structure and Function
3. Biochemistry
4. Photosynthesis & Respiration
5. Cell Communication & the Cell Cycle
6. Heredity
7. Gene Expression
8. Advanced Evolution
9. Ecology

Astronomy**Course #630**

Grades: 10-12

This class is about space! Have you ever wondered what our galaxy looks like, or how our galaxy compares to the 2 trillion others in the known universe? Have you ever heard the word Quasar, and wondered what that means? Would you like to learn about the big bang, or what will happen to our sun when it runs out of fuel in 4.5 billion years? Or if there are planets like ours in some distant galaxy, and if they could harbor life? If you have wondered about any of these questions, or ones like it, then this is the class for you! Topics covered include:

1. The physical composition of stars, planets, and other celestial objects
2. Tools that astronomers use to understand space
3. Quasars, black holes, nebulae
4. Exoplanets - earth-like planets in other solar systems
5. The size and scale of the universe
6. The levels of organization of the universe
7. The Big Bang

Physics**Course #631**

Grade: 12

Prerequisites: Biology & Chemistry

Physics is the branch of science that studies the physical world. Students will use problem-solving methods to explore the nature of matter & energy. Students will learn through doing rather than memorizing.

Students will have the opportunity to:

1. Learn & become more proficient in the use of lab equipment & techniques related to physics.
2. Learn about force & motion including vectors, 1-2 dimensional motion, projectiles & forces due to gravity.
3. Study the concepts of universal gravitation, and satellite motion, waves and sound, light and color, and reflection, refraction, diffraction and interference.
4. Learn about electric circuits and current as time allows (we also have an electronics class)
5. Construction of toothpick bridges, model airplanes, Rube Goldberg, and egg drop competitions to learn about practical applications.

College Anatomy and Physiology 1**Course #632**

Grades: 11-12

Prerequisites:

- a. Previous or concurrent enrollment in Chemistry.
- b. For Seniors, a High School GPA of 2.5 or higher (alternatively: ACT reading score of 21 or higher, or Accuplacer Reading Comprehension Score of 78 or higher). For Juniors, a High

School GPA of 3.0 or higher (alternatively: ACT reading score of 21 or higher, or Accuplacer Reading Comprehension Score of 78 or higher).

Human Anatomy and Physiology I introduces the structure and function of the human body with an emphasis on normal health. Course topics covered include introduction to anatomy & physiology, tissues, the skeletal system, articulations, the integumentary system, the muscular system, and the nervous system. The course is designed to help students entering health-related careers earn a competitive edge in their post-secondary education, and gain a broad understanding of how the human body functions.

This course will earn students both high school credit and 4 credits of college credit via Concurrent Enrollment (called Connect to College, or C2C) with Minnesota State College Southeast (course BIOL 2515). As this is a college course, we will be covering more material, at a rapid pace, than a typical high school class. Students should be prepared for an academic challenge.

College Anatomy and Physiology 2

Course #633

Grades: 11-12

Prerequisites:

- a. Previous or concurrent enrollment in Chemistry.
- b. For Seniors, a High School GPA of 2.5 or higher (alternatively: ACT reading score of 21 or higher, or Accuplacer Reading Comprehension Score of 78 or higher). For Juniors, a High School GPA of 3.0 or higher (alternatively: ACT reading score of 21 or higher, or Accuplacer Reading Comprehension Score of 78 or higher).
- c. Successful completion of College Anatomy & Physiology 1 with a grade of C- or higher.

Human Anatomy and Physiology II continues the study of the structure and function of the human body with an emphasis on normal health. Course topics covered include the endocrine system, reproductive systems, blood, immunity, the cardiovascular system, the respiratory system, the urinary system, and the digestive system. The course is designed to help students entering health-related careers earn a competitive edge in their post-secondary education, and gain a broad understanding of how the human body functions.

This course will earn students both high school credit and 4 credits of college credit via Concurrent Enrollment (called Connect to College, or C2C) with Minnesota State College Southeast (course name BIOL 2516). As this is a college course, we will be covering more material, at a rapid pace, than a typical high school class. Students should be prepared for an academic challenge.

Genetics

Course #634

Grades: 11-12

Prerequisites: Passing grade in 10th grade biology

In this course, you will expand your knowledge of modern science and how it will affect the future of life on earth. You will learn basic heredity and also about the new, emerging field of genetic engineering and biotechnology. The emphasis in this class is on current, cutting-edge discoveries in genetics and on learning proper laboratory techniques.

The issues addressed in the class include:

- Genetic crosses and family inheritance of genetic traits

- How DNA instructions lead to traits
- DNA fingerprinting and Gel electrophoresis
- Transgenic animals and plants
- Designer Genes, Gene Therapy, and Genetically engineered medicines
- Prenatal diagnosis, infertility treatments, and genetic screening
- Genetic crosses of the fruit fly, Drosophila melanogaster

Zoology

Course #635

Grades: 11-12

Prerequisites: Passing grade in 10th grade biology

Zoology is the study of animals. The diversity of animal life is shown by the more than a million different species that walk, crawl, hop, swim, fly, squirm, burrow, or stay fixed in one spot. Varying in size from 1/8000 inch long parasites to whales over 100 feet long, animals have invaded almost every nook and cranny on this earth. This course will introduce you to this variety, and will also discuss how animals interact with each other.

This is an advanced science class. It will require close attention during class time, which will include lectures, individual assignments, group projects, and laboratories. In laboratory, you will be asked to humanely examine living animals to study their behavior, and correctly dissect preserved animals to study their anatomy.

Topics covered include:

- Invertebrate groups: sponges, cnidarians, flatworms, roundworms, segmented worms, mollusks, arthropods, echinoderms
- Vertebrate groups: fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds, mammals (with extended coverage of diversity within mammals)
- Classification and naming of animals
- Endangered Species
- Invading Species
- Insect collecting

Social Studies Courses

American History II

Course #640

Grade: 9

Students will examine American history from the beginning to about the year 1980. The focus of the course will be to learn about the actions taken by the American people and the various administrations during this time. Additionally, the social history of America will be presented and discussed. Heavier emphasis will be placed on 19th and 20th century history.

Students will have the opportunity to:

1. Evaluate decisions, methods used, as well as other concepts that deal with American heritage.
2. Look at legislation passed and the effect of legislation over a period of time.
3. Learn where our country has come so that we may be able to determine where it is we want to go as a nation.

World History I/II

Course #641 & Course #642

Grades: 10 (I) & 11 (II)

Students will examine the significance of historical events and themes that have taken place throughout history and across cultures. Students will evaluate the events and actions from the perspective of the US and other nations and people of the world.

Students will have the opportunity to:

1. Gain a better understanding of history through the study of various epochs and regions of the world. These will include the Middle East, India and South Asia, China and Southeast Asia, North Africa, and Europe.
2. Learn about the major world religions. Special emphasis in World History I will be placed on the basics of the faiths of the world they will likely encounter: Judaism, Christianity, Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism, Confucianism, and Taoism.
3. Learn about the major developments in the formation of Western Civilization. Special emphasis on the development of modern Western civilization (beginning in the Middle Ages) will happen in World History II.
4. Read from primary sources, secondary sources, and the textbook. Other methods will include videos, simulations, group projects, individual research and writing assignments.

Human Geography (HuG)

Course #643

Grade: 10

In Human Geography (HuG) learning the locations of other countries on a map is only a small part of finding ***YOUR PLACE*** in a world that is becoming globally interconnected ecologically, culturally, economically, and politically. Although you will add to your knowledge of places, this course will exercise your geographic understanding of the world on local, national, regional, and global scales.

This course is designed to introduce students to the systematic study of patterns and processes that have shaped human understanding, use, and alterations of the Earth's surface. Students will employ spatial concepts and landscape analysis to explore human social organization and environmental consequences. They will also learn about the methods and tools used by geographers in science and practice. The course is structured to address human geography's seven core topics: the nature of geography, population, cultural patterns and processes, the political organization of space, agricultural and rural land use, industrial and economic development and cities and urban land use.

Civics

Course #644

Grades: 11-12

Students will study the structure of the United States government and the political philosophies behind this structure. Students will have the opportunity to:

1. Examine the roles, responsibilities, and rights of citizens.
2. Discuss current events and their relationship to politics.
3. Gain an understanding of the U.S. Constitution.
4. Identify ways in which government affects their lives.
5. Develop a set of political beliefs and ideals.

Economics**Course #645**

Grades: 11-12

Students will study how people interact to satisfy unlimited wants in a world with limited resources. Economics is a rigorous course of study. For many students the theories and material are abstract. Students will have the opportunity to :

1. Describe scarcity and why people have to make choices.
2. Explain how demand and supply set market prices.
3. Describe the characteristics of the different types of market structures and analyze how those structures affect competition.
4. Explain the main economic goals for our country and how economic growth is measured.
5. Explain why nations trade with one another.

America's State & National Parks**Course #646**

Grade: 10-12

This course is an elective that is meant to develop an understanding and appreciation for our state and national parks. In this course, students will learn about the history, politics, and geography of our State and National Park Services. You will be expected to read a variety of books and other literature related to our state and national parks. In addition, you will establish communication between yourself and a ranger from an assigned park with which you will gather information to write a research paper. Students taking this course need to be willing to miss all or part of a few school days to perform potentially laborious tasks at Whitewater State Park such as cleaning trails, removing Buckthorn, and helping with basic maintenance tasks.

CIS (College In the Schools) American History I**Course #647***Authority and Rebellion: American History to 1865*

Grades: 11-12

Prerequisite: Need to be in the top 30% of your class.

This course is taught through the University of Minnesota and students will earn 3 college semester credits after successfully passing this course.

This course will cover American History to 1865. Additional course information includes: Issues, events, and ideas in the social, economic, political, and intellectual history of the United States, from the moment of earliest European contact through the Civil War and Reconstruction. Indigenous America before 1492, European conquest and colonization, revolution and nation-building, national expansion, political culture and reform movements, slavery, immigration, industrialization and labor, family and gender roles, religion and culture.

CIS (College In the Schools) American History II**Course #648***Global America: U.S. History Since 1865*

Grades: 11-12

Prerequisite: Need to be in the top 30% of your class.

This course is taught through the University of Minnesota and students will earn 3 college semester credits after successfully passing this course.

This course will cover US history since 1865. Additional course information includes: Forces that shaped the emergence of modern and global America from the end of Civil War to present. Shaping of the modern industrial/post-industrial economy. Work and everyday life. Race relations and immigration. Popular culture. Politics and reform movements. Impact of war on American society. Role of the United States as a world power, before, during, and after the Cold War.

Contemporary World History

Course #649

Grade: 12

Students will examine the significance of historical events and themes that have taken place across cultures from the 1960s to 1990. Students will evaluate the events and actions from the perspective of the US and other nations and people of the world. Students will have the opportunity to:

1. Read and analyze sources concerning World History from the 1960s to the present. Some topics covered include: the Vietnam War, Watergate, the energy crises of the 70s, the Nixon, Ford, Carter, and Reagan administrations, and much more.
2. Gain a more grounded and “real life” picture of the contemporary world. This includes special emphasis on social and pop history including social groups and social movements, women, the family, fashion and music, sports and leisure, urban culture, etc.

C2C Macroeconomics (Econ 2530)

Course # 650

Grades: 11-12

Students interested in an advanced economics class for college credit can take Econ 2530 through Minnesota State College Southeast’s Connect to College program. This course would be taken instead of Economics (Course #440). The class offers 3 college credits from Minnesota State College Southeast that are transferable throughout the Minnesota State System and to many colleges in the United States. This is a macroeconomics course that focuses on the economy as a whole and studies how the government can affect the economy. After starting with principles of markets, the price system and supply and demand, the course covers national income accounting, business cycles, inflation, unemployment, fiscal policy, monetary policy and the Federal Reserve System, different approaches to economic growth and the foundations of international trade. There will be an emphasis on forces influencing employment and inflation. Current problems of the economy are stressed along with the tools the government has to cope with them. (Meets MnTC goals 5 & 8)

C2C Microeconomics (Econ 2520)

Course #651

Grades: 11-12

Students interested in an advanced economics class for college credit can take Econ 2520 through Minnesota State College Southeast’s Connect to College program. This course would be taken instead of Economics (Course #440). The class offers 3 college credits from Minnesota State College Southeast that are transferable throughout the Minnesota State System and to many colleges in the United States. This is a microeconomics course that focuses on the interactions and decisions between the consumer and the producer. The course starts with the topics of supply and demand, the price system, and demand elasticity. Students will then learn about the cost of production including the various factor inputs, the four major market structures (pure competition, monopolistic competition, oligopoly and monopoly), and the ways to increase market competition. This course develops a theoretical framework for microeconomic analysis and applies this theory to practice domestic and international economic policy problems. (Meets MnTC goal 5)

Psychology**Course #652**

Grades: 11-12

Psychology is the study of the human mind and behavior.

Some examples of the possible topics that may be included are:

The various theories of psychology, from Freud to contemporary ideas.

1. States of consciousness, including dreaming, hypnosis, and drug induced hallucinations.
2. Theories on the development of personality.
3. The ways in which people learn.
4. The ways in which our mind interprets sensory input to create our perceptions.
5. Psychological disorders/mental illnesses

Sociology**Course #653**

Grades: 11-12

Sociology is the scientific study of human social behavior and its origin, development and relationship to social interaction.

Some examples of the possible topics that may be included are:

1. Learn about world cultures and their values and norms
2. Study a variety of subcultures within the U.S.
3. Discuss the origins and impacts of RACE
4. Examine the effect of social class on our lives
5. Identify theories of deviance and proposed prevention plans

Business Department Courses**Introduction to Business****Course #655**

Grades: 9-12

The purpose of this course is to help students become knowledgeable consumers, informed citizens, and productive workers in today's changing world. Through projects, reports, and classroom discussions students learn to develop an awareness of business practices and procedures. Including: business terminology, business functions, methods of business operation, types of business ownership and the role of business in society.

Business and Personal Law**Course #656**

Grades: 9-12

This class discusses origins of the law, the US Constitution, and our Court System. We will discuss your rights and how to protect them. A unit on contract law – requirements, capacity, and legal validity will be covered.

More specifically, this course should enable the student to:

- Understand basic terms and concepts related to personal and business law
- Identify and describe crimes and torts

- Analyze ethical and social issues related to business operations
- Identify contract requirements

Careers and Money Management

Course #657

Grades: 10-12

Tired of being asked “What are your plans after High School?” or wondering “What classes should I be taking?” or “How do I do my taxes?” Well this is the class for you. Through Dave Ramsey’s Foundations to Financial Freedom, you will learn about budgeting, credit, consumer awareness, career readiness, college planning, insurance, taxes, housing, and investing. You will take the Myers-Briggs Personality Test, and listen to guest speakers. We will also investigate how to complete the FAFSA, completing job and college applications, scholarship writing, and interviewing skills.

Sports and Entertainment Marketing

Course #658

Grades: 9-12

This course is designed to develop a thorough understanding of the marketing concepts and theories that apply to sports and event planning. This course is based on the business and marketing cores that includes communication skills, distribution, pricing, product, promotion, selling, and human resource management.

Accounting I

Course #659

Grades: 10-12

Accounting...the language of business. Success in the business world begins with an understanding of accounting. This course covers basic accounting procedures, including preparing financial reports for starting, running and managing a business. If you have plans to attend college to pursue a degree in any area of business (Marketing, Administration, Management, Finance, Law, etc.), this course is for you.

Marketing

Course #660

Grades: 9 - 12

Students find out what it takes to market a product or service in today’s fast-paced business environment. They learn the fundamentals of marketing using real-world business examples. They learn about buyer behavior, marketing research principles, demand analysis, distribution, financing, pricing, and product management. We will answer the question: Why do people choose the items and brands they choose.

Entrepreneurship and Business Management

Course #661

Grades: 10-12

Prerequisites: Introduction to Business, Marketing, Sports Marketing

This course offers students a comprehensive exploration of entrepreneurship and business management. Students will delve into the fundamental principles of starting and running a business, including business planning, marketing strategies, financial management, and leadership skills. They will analyze case studies of successful leaders and businesses, gaining insights into effective decision-making and problem-solving in the business world. Through hands-on projects and simulations, students will develop practical skills in business plan development and pitching. By the end of the course, students will be equipped with the knowledge and tools necessary to pursue entrepreneurial endeavors and manage businesses effectively.

Computer Applications and Keyboarding

Course #662

Grades: 9-12

This course is designed to equip students in grades 9-12 with essential keyboarding and computer application skills necessary for academic and professional success. Students will learn touch typing techniques to increase speed and accuracy in keyboarding. Additionally, they will develop proficiency in using word processing, spreadsheet, presentation, and database software. The class will also cover topics such as file management, internet research skills, and digital citizenship. Through hands-on projects and practical applications, students will acquire the foundational skills needed to navigate and excel in the digital age.

Personal Finance Courses

Personal Finance

Course #665

Grades: 11-12

Personal Finance is an introductory course in which students are given an opportunity to learn life skills in the areas of college and career planning, earning an income, paying taxes, banking and investing, using and managing credit, and creating and maintaining a budget. The purpose of the course is to assist students in learning to make well-informed and researched financial decisions. Personal Finance is a MN State graduation requirement starting with Class of 2028. It does not count toward the 4 credits in Social Studies required to graduate from SCHS.

Students will be able to:

1. Students will learn how their personal values impact their financial decisions.
2. Students will learn about hard and soft skills and how they are used in different careers.
3. Students will be able to read a pay stub and explain the differences between gross and net pay.
4. Students will be able to explain the different services banks offer and understand the benefits and opportunity costs of saving and investing for the future.
5. Students will be able to identify the major types of credit and learn how to manage debt.
6. Students will be able to describe the purpose of a budget and explain how insurance mitigates risk.

Physical Education/Health Education Courses

Physical Education 9

Course #670

Grade: 9

This course will introduce students to a wide variety of activities & sports that promote positive attitudes towards fitness & foster cooperation & leadership skills.

Students will have the opportunity to:

1. Develop & maintain a level of physical fitness that meets the needs of each student.
2. Acquire knowledge of safety skills & habits & develop an awareness of safety with respect to themselves & others.
3. Learn stretch and strength exercises for different muscle groups in order to become your own “personal trainer”. Students will also be able to identify various bones of the human body.
4. Develop physical skills that allow them to participate in & derive enjoyment from recreational activities throughout their lifetime.

Health 10

Course #671

Grade: 10

This course will challenge students on what it means to be “healthy” and challenge them to improve their individual wellness.

Students will have the opportunity to:

1. Students will *comprehend concepts* related to **health promotion** and **disease prevention**.
2. Students will *demonstrate the ability to access* **valid health information** and **health-promoting products** and **services**.
3. Students will *demonstrate the ability to practice* **health-enhancing behaviors** and **reduce health risks**.
4. Students will *analyze the influence* of **culture, media, technology** and other factors on health.
5. Students will *demonstrate the ability* to use **interpersonal communication skills** to enhance health.
6. Students will *demonstrate the ability* to use **goal setting** and **decision-making** skills to enhance health.
7. Students will *demonstrate the ability to advocate* for **personal, family** and **community** health.

CPR & First Aid

Course Fee: \$40-\$45

Course #672

Grades: 11-12

CPR/First Aid/AED will give students a first hand glimpse of what is entailed in being a first responder to the scene of someone in need of medical assistance. The curriculum will follow the American Red Cross.

Students will have the opportunity to:

1. To become fully certified in CPR/First Aid/AED use in accordance with the American Red Cross.
2. Acquire desirable skills and confidence to handle an emergency situation while offering medical assistance.

3. To provide lay responders with the knowledge and skills necessary to sustain life and minimize the consequences of injury or sudden illness until advanced medical personnel arrive.

Advanced Health/Wellness*Course Fee: \$20***Course #673**

Grades: 11 & 12

Prerequisite: Received at least a C in Health 10

In this class we will be diving deeper into improving our own health and wellness. We will be doing a variety of goal setting and planning to improve currently and then also exploring different things that will help us keep up with our health/wellness after high school. There will be in class learning, food lab work, and also fitness days. All activities we do will be catered to the goals that are set and the plans that are created to reach those goals. We will also be doing various advocacy lessons to promote Health/Wellness within our District and Community. In order to be successful in this class you must have a passion for health/wellness. This would also be a great fit for someone who is looking into some sort of Health/Wellness career.

Sports Management*Course Fee: \$10-\$15***Course #674**

Grades: 10 - 12

Sports Officiating, Planning for a Career in a Sports-Related Field, Sports Medicine research, Public Sport images, Sports Marketing, Legal issues with Sports, Parental issues with Sports and more topics will be covered.

Individual/Dual Sports**Course #675**

Grades: 10 - 12

Physical Education course offered both Fall and Spring Semester. This course will engage in sport/game/recreation from an individual and dual manner. There will be NO team sports offered in this course. A potential list of activities includes: Archery, Pickleball, Badminton, Biking, Yoga, Tennis, Horseshoes, Frisbee Golf, Golf, Bean Bags, Spikeball, Bocce Ball, Croquet, Table Tennis, Eclipse Ball, Hiking, Kuub, etc.

Team Sports**Course #676**

Grade: 10 - 12

Physical Education course offered both Fall and Spring Semester. This course will engage in sport/recreation games from a team aspect. There will be tournaments for the different units and the focus will be on team strategies and teamwork to achieve the goal of the activity. A potential list of activities: Flag Football, Ultimate, Soccer, Speedball, Softball/Baseball, Sand Volleyball, Rugby, Lacrosse, Volleyball, Basketball, Angle Ball, Dodgeball, Broomball, Various Recreation Games, Hoop Football, Handball, Floor Hockey, Water Polo, etc.

Weightlifting**Course #677**

Grades: 10 - 12

Physical Education course offered both Fall and Spring Semester. This class is an introductory weight training class. Weightlifting is designed to enhance the student's knowledge and skills regarding the basic techniques of weight training using barbells, dumbbells, and machines. This class includes

instruction and practice in safety techniques, weight room etiquette, basic weight training exercises, how to create an individualized weight training program, and basic anatomy.

Art Department Courses

Art I - Beginning Drawing and Painting

Course fee: \$10

Course #680

Grades: 9-12

This course is an introductory class for Drawing and Painting in the Art department. Students will complete a rigorous study that will build their artistic & creative minds. Drawing skills from direct observation of the figure, still-life, landscape, and architectural forms will be emphasized along with a further understanding of design principles, color theory, critical thinking, and problem solving. These concepts will be introduced and illustrated throughout the course through the exposure and analysis of art movements and styles from history. A variety of drawing and painting techniques and media will be explored, including pencil, ink, charcoal, pastel, acrylic, collage, and watercolors.

Students will have the opportunity to:

- Learn drawing & 2-dimensional art with the use of graphite, pen, & ink, charcoal, and beginning painting. Learn skills that will enable them to express & develop ideas in visual form using a variety of mediums.
- Gain knowledge of the arts of past & present cultures.
- Become aware of methods for viewing, responding to, talking about, and writing about art.

Art II - Mixed Media, Intermediate Painting and Sculpture

Course Fee: \$10

Course #681

Grades: 10-12

Prerequisite: Art I

Students will expand skills acquired in Art I with more of an emphasis on Advanced Painting, Mixed Media, and Sculpture. Students will explore new mediums, techniques, and materials. Opportunities will be given to students for experimentation with specific mediums as well as subject matter more in depth as the development of personal style evolves throughout the course.

Students will have the opportunity to:

- Know, use, & analyze visual information & concepts in his/her work & work of others.
- Demonstrate original thinking to creatively solve design & structure problems.
- Develop and expand visual arts knowledge and skills to express ideas imaginatively.
- Develop a base for making informed aesthetic judgments.
- Develop a common core of knowledge that transcends subject areas.

Ceramics I

Course fee: \$10

Course #682

Grades: 9-12

Students will explore the medium through both functional & sculptural ideas. Methods that will be used are pinch and pull, coil, slab, carving, molding, and the pottery wheel.

Students will have the opportunity to:

- Explore a variety of surface textures.
- Learn about the firing & glazing process.
- Learn the importance of safety when dealing with all types of clay materials.
- Evaluate the difference between craft and art, functional and non-functional, and abstract and realistic ceramic art.

- View and understand the works of other artists and cultures to help in defining their own artwork.
- Learn to use the potter's wheel.

Ceramics II

Course fee: \$10

Course #683

Grades: 9-12

Prerequisite: Ceramics I

Students will explore this medium through both functional and sculptural ideas. Methods that will be used are pinch and pull, coil, slab, carving, and molding.

Students will have the opportunity to:

- Learn about the firing and glazing process.
- Gain an understanding of the importance of safety when dealing with all types of clay materials. Projects will include: figurines, relief sculptures, and self portrait mug as well as a chemistry unit about making a glaze.
- Continue learning to use the potter's wheel with making vases and plates. .
- View and understand the works of other artists and cultures to help in defining their own artwork.
- Evaluate the difference between craft and art, functional and non-functional, and abstract and realistic ceramic art.
- Select and adapt techniques to use with clay to develop a personal style.

Art 3/4/5 Advanced Painting/Drawing/Ceramics

Course fee: \$10

Course #684

Grades: 11-12

Prerequisite: Art 2 and/or Ceramics 2

Students will expand skills acquired in Art 2 or Ceramics 2 with more of an emphasis on Advanced Painting or Advanced Ceramics. Students will explore new mediums, techniques, and materials.

Opportunities will be given to students for experimentation with specific mediums of their choice to develop a personal style.

Students will have the opportunity to:

- Know, use, & analyze visual information & concepts in his/her work & work of others.
- Demonstrate original thinking to creatively solve design & structure problems.
- Develop and expand visual arts knowledge and skills to express ideas imaginatively.
- Develop a base for making informed aesthetic judgments.
- Develop a common core of knowledge that transcends subject areas.

Music Department Courses

Band Department

Senior High Band

Course #690

Grades: 9-12

Prerequisite: Middle School Band or student must make adequate progress in a semester of lessons.

Senior High Band is a continuation of the band program at Saint Charles Public Schools. In Senior High Band, students will continue to hone their musical abilities through the evaluation, preparation, and performance of musical pieces. On a regular basis students will be challenged with furthering their individual ability on their instrument. Each student works towards understanding how to create a

characteristic tone on their instrument. Through the use of performance preparation, students will be given an opportunity to apply their musical knowledge and instrumental skills in at least three concerts, various parades, and Fall and Winter Pep Band Events. Students in the Senior High Band will also have the opportunity to perform in various honor bands, High School Jazz Band, and take part in a solo and small group ensemble competitions. Grading is based on self-reflections, rehearsal skills, and performances. Senior High Band is a year long course and requires a year long commitment

Advanced Senior High Band

Course #691

Grades: 10-12

Prerequisite: Instructor Approval

Advanced Senior High Band is designed to allow students to still participate in Senior High Band while also going more in depth on their personal instrumental and ensemble abilities. Students who are enrolled in this course will have all of the same requirements as Senior High Band (listed above). On top of those requirements students will be asked to take individual lessons where they will be assigned individualized assignments to continue their progression on their instrument. This class will be project based. Projects may include but are not limited to, performing a solo or small ensemble piece, and assisting with elementary and middle school band lessons. Students may also be asked to perform for solo/ensemble and may perform at other various events throughout the school year.

Music Theory and Performance

Course #692

Grades: 10-12

Prerequisite: Students need to have completed one year of a high school performing ensemble.

Music theory and performance is a semester-long course. During this course students will learn the basics of music theory and music analysis. Students will use that theory and analysis to explore compositional techniques and performance practice. Students will also have the opportunity to use music writing and production software to explore music technology.

Choral Department

Concert Choir

Course #693

Grade 10-12

Prerequisite: Approved Audition with Director

The Concert Choir is comprised of students in grades 9-12 as an elective. It is an auditioned ensemble. Students taking this class should have a reasonable background in music and be capable of reading musical notation, have a sense of pitch and knowledge of rhythmic notation. Four part (SATB) and greater music is performed by this ensemble. Repertoire selections come from throughout music history ranging from Medieval and Renaissance music to 20th Century selections. In order for you to be the best singer you can be, you will engage in studying intermediate vocal techniques and exercises, vocal health, the human voice, intermediate sight-singing, basic theory and music terminology. All students enrolled in Concert Choir are required to participate in private voice lessons with the director during the school day. The culmination of your experiences in class will result in three to four concerts performed outside of the school day. It is expected that students in Concert Choir will develop strong social skills, responsibility, self-esteem, self-discipline and leadership. All students are encouraged to participate in solos and small ensembles and have the opportunity to participate in both large group and

small group contests in the Spring. All Senior High Choir students may audition and be considered for acceptance in select ensembles like A Cappella Choir, Treble Choir, and TIIB, as well as various honor choirs and festivals throughout the year. The class is graded on self-assessment, assignments, performance tests, private lessons, and an understanding of intermediate music skills. Concert Choir is a year long class and requires a year long commitment.

Varsity Choir

Course #694

Grades: 9-12

The Saints Choir is comprised of 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th grade students as an elective. It is a non-auditioned ensemble. Students in this choir will meet five days per week. Upon joining this class, it is expected that you enjoy music and will bring a positive attitude with you every day. In order for you to be the best singer you can be, you will study beginner vocal techniques and exercises, vocal health, the human voice, beginner and intermediate sight-singing, basic theory and basic terminology. In order to help you become a well rounded musician with an ear for a variety of music, you will perform various styles of vocal music and study their historical significance. The culmination of your experiences in class will result in three concerts performed outside of the school day. Social concerns, such as working with others to accomplish a particular goal, self-discipline, leadership and self esteem are developed. The class is graded on self-assessment, assignments, public and private performance evaluations, and an understanding of basic music skills. Saints Choir is a year long class and requires a year long commitment.

Foreign Language Department Courses

***Students with Spanish as their first language or prior knowledge may have the opportunity to test out of a Spanish Level upon instructor approval.**

Spanish I

Course #701

Grades: 9-12

Prerequisite: Have obtained a B average in school and/or meet teacher approval. Due to enrollment, students may be placed on a waiting list.

Some topics in Spanish I include: greetings, calendar, numbers, telling time, parts of the body, weather, talk about activities you like and don't like to do, personality traits, school schedules and subjects, indicate where things are located, foods and beverages for breakfast and lunch, health and exercise choices. Students will begin to develop their ability to understand and speak Spanish.

Students will have the opportunity to:

1. Begin to develop proficiency in comprehending, speaking, reading and writing Spanish.
2. Learn the Spanish structure and grammar through conversation, listening and writing.
3. Explore, understand and investigate other Hispanic cultures.
4. Understand the immediate and long range benefits of acquiring a second language.
5. Demonstrate knowledge of the language through projects and presentations.

Spanish II

Course #702

Grades: 10-12

Prerequisite: Passed Spanish I and had at least a B- average in school and/or meet teacher approval. Due to enrollment, students may be placed on a waiting list.

Students will continue to develop their ability to understand and speak Spanish.

Students will have the opportunity to:

1. Develop conversational fluency in Spanish.
2. Understand and interpret written and spoken communication in a variety of topics in Spanish.
3. Develop the ability to read short selections in the Spanish language.
4. Study grammatical and idiomatic structures in Spanish.
5. Become aware of cultural themes within Hispanic culture.
6. Present information and ideas in Spanish.

In Spanish II students engage in oral and written exchanges which include providing and obtaining information, expressing feelings and preferences, and exchanging ideas and opinions in Spanish. Speaking assessments will be given throughout the semester formally and informally.

Some topics in Spanish II include: leisure activities, talk about where you go and with whom, learn how to ask questions, talk about activities outside of school, tell when an event happens, describe families, ask and tell ages, express possession, family celebrations, make comparisons, tell where you live, talk about shopping, talk about what you want and what you prefer.

Spanish III

Course #703

Grades: 11-12

Prerequisite: Spanish I, II and had at B average in Spanish I and II and/or meet teacher approval.

Due to enrollment, students may be placed on a waiting list.

Some topics in Spanish III include: talk about buying gifts, vacations, volunteer work, what people did for others, movies, television, technology, give directions for getting places, driving habits, daily routines. **Speaking Assessments** will be given throughout the semester formally and informally. Students will achieve proficiency in comprehending, speaking, reading, and writing Spanish.

Students will have the opportunity to:

1. Devote more time to Spanish conversation, reading and writing.
2. Study of Spanish, literature, and culture.
3. Learn writing skills in Spanish such as letters, diaries, short stories and short essays.
4. Become aware of cultural themes within the Hispanic culture.
5. Gain skills to perform well on the college entrance competency test.

Spanish IV

Course #704

Grade: 12

Prerequisite: Spanish I, II, III and had at B average in Spanish I, II, III and/or meet teacher approval.

Due to enrollment, students may be placed on a waiting list.

This course is recommended for those students who wish to continue improving and maintaining their fluency in speaking, understanding, reading and writing Spanish. This course is also recommended for students who wish to pursue a major/minor in Spanish at a post- secondary level. Students will have the opportunity to:

1. Devote time to Spanish conversation, reading and writing.
2. Study and practice grammar intensely.
3. Run for Spanish Club officers.
4. Become involved in planning Spanish Club events.
5. Gain sufficient skills to perform well on the college entrance competency test.

Agriculture Department Courses

**Students will have an opportunity to participate in FFA and SAE programs as part of enrolling in Agricultural Education Courses.

**FFA members are required to have one Agricultural Education class each year.

Intro to Ag, Foods, and Natural Resources (AFNR)

Course #710

Grades: 9-12

Where would you be without agriculture? In this course, students will explore agricultural education, the history behind agriculture, plants, soil, animals, meat and dairy products, ag business and financial recordkeeping, parliamentary procedure, and agriculture careers.

Food Basics

Course #711

Grades: 9-12

This consumer education course will expose students to the nutritional aspects of food with attention to the preparations and processing of various foods including fruits, vegetables, carbohydrates, proteins, and dairy products. Students will learn about proper measuring and food safety. Students will spend time meal planning and analyzing grocery budgets. Students will spend much time growing their experiences hands-on with a diversity of culinary experiences.

Food Science

Course #712

Grades: 10-12

This course will introduce students to the food science industry, sensory evaluation, and the scientific process behind food products. This course explains how water, carbohydrates, lipids, proteins, vitamins, and minerals react in foods; biochemical and functional properties, enzymes, food additives and texture as related to properties in food systems and during processing. Students will also be introduced to food science through safety, supply chain, trends, and product development.

Horticulture

Course #713

Grades: 9-12

This course will introduce students to the plant science industry, more specifically the fruit, vegetable, and ornamental side. The students will be exposed to a broad understanding of the industry and career opportunities, learning the application of plants and how to tend to their basic needs and manage them in their environment. Students will learn to identify common plants and learn the business of producing and selling plants through the FFA plant sale. Managing common pests and understanding how to plan landscapes and care for them will wrap up the course.

Greenhouse Management

Course #714

Grades: 10-12

Recommended Courses: Horticulture

This course will take a deeper look at the plant growth factors, greenhouse operations, and business management of a greenhouse. Students will learn about plant growth factors and the unique needs of

specific greenhouse plants and crops. Students will study landscaping and hydroponics industries. Students will be equipped with skills to enter a career path in plant production and business operations with a Horticulture twist.

Ag Business**Course #715**

AGBS 2000 - 3 credit articulation with Riverland Community College

Grades: 10-12

Did you know 45% of careers relate to agri-business? In this course, students will spend time studying agriculture business types, developing entrepreneurial business plans, and agricultural sales/marketing techniques. The course will emphasize record keeping and financial statements needed to be successful in agri-business.

Minnesota Outdoors**Course #716**

Grades: 9-12

Do you enjoy the outdoors? In this course, students will develop an understanding of Minnesota's natural resources including a study of uses of natural resources, history of conservation, ecosystems and biomes of Minnesota, forestry, soils, land, water, air, and fish and wildlife. Students will also explore careers in the industry.

Woods and Water**Course #717**

Grades: 9-12

This course will help students make connections to careers that involve the maintenance and management of forest and water resources. Students will also assist in contributing to the vitality of the school forest with on-site work based skills. Safe use of chainsaws and other various tools will be taught to help learn about careers that involve natural resources. This course will include time outside during warm and cool months through hands-on activities. The in class time will include independent research projects and learning in teams.

Small Animal and Veterinary Science**Course #718**

Grades: 10-12

Do you enjoy animals? This course will highlight the care and management of small animals including tropical fish, cats, dogs, and many others. Students will develop an understanding of veterinary terminology, anatomy, health, nutrition, animal behavior, animals in society, and career opportunities within the field.

Large Animal Science *(not offered in 2025-26)***Course #719**

Grades: 9-12

Students will learn about care and management of large animals including beef, dairy, goats, sheep, swine, poultry, and horses. Students will also explore livestock handling and ethics, health and nutrition, genetics and reproduction, products, and careers in animal science.

Ag Mechanics Exploration**Course #720**

Grades: 9-10

Students will be exposed to principles of agricultural tractors and equipment, engine systems, metal fabrication, electrical circuits, building construction, plumbing, concrete and land leveling. Students will utilize the tools and equipment of the shop to enhance their learning experience.

Welding I**Course #721**

Grades: 10-12

Students gain basic skills in various processes used to join and cut metals (such as oxyacetylene, shielded metal, and metal inert gas.) and experience in identifying, selecting, and rating appropriate techniques. Students learn to read and interpret basic weld blueprints in order to identify, select, and rate appropriate techniques.

Welding II**Course #722**

Grades: 10-12

Prerequisite: Welding I or AgMechanics

Welding II enables students to master their techniques in welding. Students gain skills in various processes used to join and cut metals (such as oxyacetylene, shielded metal, metal inert gas, and tungsten arc processes) and experience in identifying, selecting, and rating appropriate techniques. Students read and interpret blueprints in order to identify, select, and rate appropriate techniques for independent projects.

Small Engines*(not offered 2025-2026)***Course #723**

Grades: 10-12

Students will be introduced to small engine design and theory, small engine tools, small engine teardown and rebuilding, and troubleshooting, maintenance and repair.

Work Experience Seminar**Course #724**

Grades: 10-12

Students will earn classroom credit for career knowledge/skills and on-the-job-training. Students will engage in employment law, safety, soft skills, and career exploration assignments.

Work Experience**Course #725**

Grades: 11-12

Prerequisite: Work Experience Seminar

Students are required to maintain a paid or unpaid experience of five hours per week per ½ credit. Students are responsible for coordinating their experience, either paid or unpaid. Students will be required to document their experiences. The instructor will collaborate with the student and supervisor at place of work to conduct formal visits and evaluations throughout the semester. *Prior approval is required to enroll from the employer and work experience coordinator.*

Ag Experience**Course #726**

Grades: 10-12

The project needs to focus on one of the eight pathways in agriculture including Agribusiness Systems, Animal Systems, Biotechnology, Environmental Service Systems, Food Products & Processing Systems, Natural Resource Systems, Plant Systems, Power Structural and Technical Systems. Service Learning, FFA, and SAE Projects are also eligible. They will complete assignments throughout the semester documenting their time spent in their project. More information on Ag pathways can be found at www.agexplorer.com. *Prior approval is required to enroll from the instructor.*

Industrial Technology Department Courses**Trades Exploration****Course #730**

Grades: 10-12

Trades Exploration class will expose students to the opportunities available in the construction industry, including occupations such as heavy equipment operation, building and road maintenance, landscaping and grounds crew, electrician, plumber, heating/air conditioning technician and other occupations. Students learn about the processes involved in construction projects and may engage in a variety of small projects around the school campus. This course will emphasize responsibilities, qualifications, work environment, rewards, and career paths within construction-related fields for students to explore. Opportunities to meet with Industry professionals will be included in this class.

Industrial Technology I**Course #731**

Grades: 9-10

Industrial Technology introduces students to emerging technologies within Construction, Manufacturing, Transportation, and Communications. This course will help students understand technology systems, technology resources, and problem solving. The course covers topics and hands-on learning such as: electronics & soldering, CAD, construction, 3D printing and woodworking.

Using Technology in Woodworking**Course #732**

Grades: 10-12

Prerequisite: Industrial Technology I

This course is an advanced course in working with wood, lasers, and the CNC router. Students will learn to design projects using a variety of CAD programs and then use the technology to direct tools in creating the woodworking project. Students will be asked to design projects that incorporate the use of the laser and CNC router. Projects will include wooden signs and woodworking projects incorporating CAD designs. This course may have costs involved, but the costs can be offset by selling of projects or by building things for other people.

Wood Construction**Course #733**

Grades: 11-12

Prerequisite: Industrial Technology I

This is a course that introduces and strengthens students skills and interest in woodworking. The purpose of the class is to introduce students to the machines, machine safety, tools, wood identification and woodworking terminology. Students will gain confidence in advanced joinery, assembly, and finishing. Students will be encouraged to continue woodworking activities as a lifelong hobby. The class will guide the student in the making of a mantel clock, a mechanical wooden toy, and a student selected woodworking project.

Pre-Engineering**Course #734**

Grades: 11-12

Prerequisite: Industrial Technology I

This course is designed to engage students in the engineering design process to create systematic solutions and products. Students will develop critical thinking skills needed to analyze opportunities and problems accurately so that they design and create valuable solutions. Students will engage every aspect of Industrial Technology and have full use of the Shop equipment and computer programming to create their solutions. Projects will include creating adaptive recreational equipment, project redesign, reverse engineering, and product innovation.

Home Building with Habitat for Humanity**Course #735**

Grade: 11-12

Prerequisite: Industrial Technology I

This course offers students an experiential learning opportunity to build homes in partnership with Habitat for Humanity serving Winona County. This course will be a blend between classroom learning of construction principles and onsite building, putting those principles into practice. Students will gain experience in advanced home building techniques (ex: ICF constructed homes), carpentry, mechanical trades, and finishing trades. Students will experience the power of education paired with community service that invests in the St. Charles community. This class is a two-period block class for 7th & 8th periods.

Drama Courses**Drama (Intro to Drama)****Course #740**

Grades: 9-12

Students will be introduced to Drama and the Theater in this elective course. There is a performance element built into this class (monologues/dialogues)... but don't worry, you will only be supported and uplifted by the instructor and the class! Topics covered can include:

- What is Theater?
- What is a Play?
- Types of Plays
- Reading and Viewing Plays for Understanding
- Genres of Drama
- The Musical Theater

- Film Comparison & Analysis
- The Actor and Beginning Acting
- The Director and Beginning Directing
- The Designer, the Technician & Tech Elements of Theater
- Improv (Improvisation)

Extra Elective Courses

Teacher Assistant

Course #741

Grade: 12

Students at St. Charles High School will have the opportunity to serve as a teacher assistant at the elementary or high school during their senior year. The duties and expectations of a Teacher Assistant are the following:

1. Daily attendance is required; if you plan to be absent, you must inform your teacher prior to the absence.
 - a. Students must be in the supervising teachers classroom; not in the library or the hallway.
2. Respect confidentiality in all appropriate aspects.
3. Have effective communication with counselor and teacher supervisor regarding position.

Introduction to Education (College in the Schools)

Course #742

Grades: 11-12

In this course, students will explore the education profession. Students will learn about the roles of teachers in schools including characteristics of effective teachers; study historical and philosophical factors in shaping U.S. K-12 education; examine critical current educational issues including diversity and the opportunity gap; and explore the rationale and practice of reflective teaching as well as personal motivations. Additionally, students will design a plan for achieving a passing score in the MN NES Essential Academic Skills(EAS) subtests in Reading, Writing and Math, required for teacher licensure in Minnesota. Finally, students will complete a 10-hour field experience and begin an electronic teaching portfolio to be developed throughout the Elementary Education Pathway.

Community Outreach

Course #743

Grades: 11-12

Community Outreach is a class for students who are interested in helping our community and spreading the positive vibe of SCHS. We volunteer at the elementary school, helping our future Saints with their reading skills and being a positive role model. From time to time special events come up and we jump right in to help out. This may include completing tasks for teachers, doing yard work for the elderly, or cleaning up around the school grounds.