

2025-26 PECK JR/SR HIGH COURSE CATALOG

Language Arts

Course	Course Description
English 6	English 6 is a year- long course that builds upon students' prior knowledge of grammar, vocabulary, word usage, and the mechanics of writing, and includes the four aspects of language use: reading, writing, speaking, and listening. These courses may emphasize the use of language for different effects, in different contexts, and for different purposes. Specific content depends upon state standards for grade 6.
English 7	English 7 is a year- long course that focuses on language, writing, speaking and listening. Students will learn the command of the conventions of standard English grammar. They will write to show relationships among ideas while expressing their thoughts precisely and concisely. In literature, students will analyze various elements of a story as well as how an author develops and contrasts points of view of different characters. When writing, students will support claims with logical reasoning and relevant evidence using accurate, credible sources. Throughout this course, students will engage in collaborative discussions, acknowledge new information expressed by others and modify their own views.
English 8	English 8 is a year-long course that focuses on language, literature, writing, speaking and listening. Students will continue to develop their command of the conventions of the standard English language. They will also apply knowledge of language to understand how language functions in different contexts, to make effective choices for meaning or style, and to comprehend more fully when reading. In literature, students will determine a theme or central idea of a text and analyze its development over the course of the text. Concerning writing skills, students will develop their ability to support claims, use words, phrases, and clauses to create cohesion, establish and maintain a formal style and develop a topic

	with relevant, well-chosen facts, definitions, concrete details and quotations. Throughout the course, students will make strategic use of digital media and visual displays to express information and engage in a range of collaborative discussions on various topics, texts, and issues.
English I	This course of study exposes the student to the various forms of literature from all parts of the world and deals with the universal problems of human nature. The student is expected to master various forms of communication. He/she also develops knowledge of essay coherence, sentence skills and organization, and skills of analytical and descriptive writing. The culminating writing activities are embedded in writing a well-documented MLA research paper.
English II	The primary purpose of this course is to improve students' composition and literary analysis skills. Students will study a variety of reading material from a wide range of authors to familiarize them with American, English, and World Literature. They will be asked to write in a variety of forms in response to that material. In addition, students will be required to complete Book Talk presentations. This course is designed to develop and enrich students' reading, writing, speaking, and critical thinking skills in English.
English III	Literature and Composition is an integrated English course that utilizes the Michigan framework and incorporates both the Common Core State Standards for English/Language Arts and Peck Community School's Academic Standards for English/Language Arts. The course is a study of language, literature, composition, and oral communication with a focus on exploring characterization across universal themes, such as the American Dream. Students use literary interpretation, analysis, comparison, and evaluation to read and respond to representative works of historical or cultural significance. Classic and contemporary literature are balanced with nonfiction--but the major focus is on American literature and non-fiction texts. Students examine and compose various types of writing, but rhetorical analysis is the major thrust. The ability to access, analyze, and evaluate both printed and online sources is paramount. Successful completion of this course will prepare students for rigorous senior-level courses focused in critical reading and effective written expression.
English IV	This course is designed to expose students to an overview of major

	works in World, American, and English Literature starting with ancient Greece and ending with the contemporary world. Through involvement in World Literature, students will develop a familiarity with some major works and develop an appreciation for the culture, aesthetics and history of other societies. Students will learn to relate this knowledge to their own society and personal growth. In addition, students will be focusing on their writing skills through various required writing applications while also preparing for post-secondary school and career fields through a final portfolio assignment.
Foundational English	Supplemental courses, designed to be taken in addition to or in coordination with other English language and literature courses, provide instruction to assist students in acquiring English language arts skills so that students attain necessary grade-level skills or reach a desired competency level.
History	
Social Studies 6	Social Studies (grade 6) courses provide a greater understanding of social studies disciplines, including history, geography, civics and government, and economics. These courses often focus on the history, culture, and government of various specific world societies. Typically, students develop skills used in the social studies disciplines. Specific content depends upon state standards for grade 6.
Social Studies 7-Early World History	Geography is the study of spatial patterns of the human and physical dimensions of the world. Students will explore how these spatial patterns form, change over time, and relate to one another throughout various regions. Students will examine the cultural, political, and economic developments, physical geography, and population distribution for each region. The course culminates in a huge country project made available to the public.

Social Studies 8-Integrated US History	This course examines the history of the United States beginning with colonization and continuing through The Civil War. Students will learn that the history of the US is really a series of events that center on conflict and compromise. Emphasis will be placed on cause-and-effect scenarios as they relate to the social and political growth of the nation.
US History & Geography	U.S. History courses examine the history of the United States from the Civil War or Reconstruction era (some courses begin at a later period) through the present time. These courses typically include a historical review of political, military, scientific, and social developments.
Government	United States Government provides a close look at the basic structure of our democratic society and how we are led. It is a glimpse at the individuals and groups holding political power and what it takes to make important changes. You will learn how the government relates to your everyday world. You will also become aware that your country's success as a democracy and leading voice for freedom in the world depends on your understanding of and participation in government
Economics	Economics looks at how people strive to live abundant lives and provide for their needs in the face of limited resources. You will study many aspects of economics in this one-semester class, including different economic systems, money, markets, supply, demand, competition, and governmental policies.
Current Events	Current Events courses study the political, economic, and social issues facing the United States, with or without an emphasis on state and local issues. These courses may focus on current issues or may examine selected issues that span throughout the 20th century to the present.
Mathematics	

Math 6	<p>Mathematics (grade 6) courses typically emphasize skills in numerical operations (including basic operations and their proper order); measurement; patterns; simple functions; geometry; and concepts of data analysis, including statistics and probability. Specific content depends upon state standards for grade 6.</p>
Math 7	<p>In seventh grade, students draw, construct, and describe geometric figures. They use knowledge of angles and writing equations to describe relationships between figures and to solve problems. Students continue developing knowledge of the number system as they extend their previous understandings of operations with fractions to add, subtract, multiply, and divide positive and negative rational numbers. For the first time, students are introduced to probability. They investigate chance processes and develop, use, and evaluate probability models. Students continue analyzing one variable statistics and use random sampling to think about data sets and use mathematical tools to compare two data sets</p>
Math 8	<p>Building on their study of proportionality in the previous course, students begin to develop the concept of functions and how to explore and represent them with tables, equations, and graphs. They analyze linear functions and solve linear equations. These equations include those with infinitely many solutions, no solutions, or one solution. Also, linearity is extended to include systems of linear equations. Understanding of linearity and functions is further developed by examining nonlinear functions including exposure to inverse variation, exponential patterns of changes, and quadratic patterns of change. Exploring exponential functions also prompts the use of scientific notation and rules of exponents.</p>
Algebra I	<p>Building off the notions of function first introduced in middle school, Algebra I begins with a general exploration of functions and tools that students use to study specific functions in more depth throughout the course. Students model linear, exponential, quadratic, and polynomial functions. In the process of modeling, students use tables, graphs, and equations to solve problems like compounding interest, and projectile motion. The course concludes with a culminating unit on bivariate statistics where students not only study categorical data but also use scatter plots and their knowledge of functions to fit functions to data. As in all mathematics courses, the Standards for Mathematical Practice are the</p>

	“processes and proficiencies” by which all other mathematics standards are taught.
Algebra II	<p>The study of functions that began in eighth grade and Algebra I continues in Algebra II, as students connect familiar linear and exponential functions to make sense of sequences and series. In addition, students are introduced to functions that have new features like limiting end behaviors, asymptotes, amplitude, and periodicity (i.e., rational, logarithmic, and trigonometric functions). Quadratic functions and conic sections provide a context for students to work with complex numbers, examine new features like the focus and directrix, and make connections between algebraic and geometric representations.</p> <p>Students also engage in a more mathematically sophisticated study of statistics and probability that began in middle school. Students continue to summarize, represent, and interpret one variable statistics. In addition, they make inferences and justify conclusions from surveys, experiments, and observational studies. They work with independent and conditional probability, use rules to compute probabilities, and use probability to evaluate outcomes of decisions.</p>
Geometry	<p>High School Geometry affords students opportunities to build facility with reasoning and proof and use geometric methods to model the world around them. The course begins with explorations that acquaint students with definitions, constructions, and features of geometric language (e.g., if/then statements) that they use throughout the course. They engage with familiar coordinate contexts (e.g., slope, perimeter) to prove geometric theorems algebraically. Next, students study transformations that, along with the first unit, lay a foundation for proof and reasoning that is developed and applied contextually in subsequent units on triangles, quadrilaterals and circles. Students also use ideas of transformations to define trigonometric ratios which, with the Pythagorean theorem, are used to solve for unknown angles and side lengths. The culminating unit provides students an opportunity to apply geometric concepts in modeling three dimensional figures.</p>
Pre-Calculus	<p>Pre-Calculus courses combine the study of Trigonometry, Elementary Functions, Analytic Geometry, and Mathematic Analysis topics as preparation for calculus. Topics typically include the study of complex numbers; polynomial, logarithmic, exponential, rational,</p>

	right trigonometric, and circular functions, and their relations, inverses and graphs; trigonometric identities and equations; solutions of right and oblique triangles; vectors; the polar coordinate system; conic sections; Boolean algebra and symbolic logic; mathematical induction; matrix algebra; sequences and series; and limits and continuity.
Calculus	Calculus courses include the study of derivatives, differentiation, integration, the definite and indefinite integral, and applications of calculus. Typically, students have previously attained knowledge of pre-calculus topics (some combination of trigonometry, elementary functions, analytic geometry, and mathematic analysis).
Foundational Math	Mathematics—Supplemental courses, designed to be taken in addition to or in coordination with other mathematics courses, provide instruction to assist students in acquiring mathematic skills so that students attain necessary grade-level skills or reach a desired competency level.
Science	
Science 6	Science (grade 6) courses typically include subject matter from several strands of science, including earth/space sciences, physical sciences, and life or environmental sciences, and may organize material around thematic units. Specific content depends upon state standards for grade 6.
Science 7	Science 7 is composed of all the sciences, primarily units based on photosynthesis; ecosystems; relationships between living and nonliving things; Earth's dynamic interior and surface; and the solar system.
Science 8	Science 8 is composed of all the sciences, primarily units based on structures and properties of matter; motion, force, and energy; electricity and magnetism; and evolution, reproduction, heredity, and genetics.
Biology	Biology courses are designed to provide information regarding the fundamental concepts of life and life processes. These courses

	include (but are not restricted to) such topics as cell structure and function, general plant and animal physiology, genetics, and taxonomy.
Chemistry	Chemistry is a basic course about the various chemical principles and ideas. The students will become familiar with the Periodic Table, chemical formula operations and basic laboratory techniques. Emphasis is placed on identification of characteristics and principles concerning various chemicals. Students will work toward understanding chemistry as it relates to the modern world.
Adv. Zoology	Zoology courses provide students with an understanding of animals, the niche they occupy in their environment or habitat, their life cycles, and their evolutionary relationships to other organisms. These courses should also help students develop an awareness and understanding of biotic communities.
Physical Education	
JH Physical Education	Physical Education (Junior High) courses typically involve the acquisition of knowledge and skills that provide the foundation for sport, a physically active lifestyle, and social development through physical activity. Activities typically include those that increase strength, endurance, and flexibility; reinforce safe technique; teach the rules and conventions of games and sports; and explore the relationship between physical activity and health. Health topics (such as the effects of drugs and alcohol, sexual education, and healthy lifestyles) may also be included. Specific content depends upon state standards for grades 6-8.
Physical Education	The Physical Education program provides each student with the opportunity to participate in a comprehensive program consisting of skill development, lead up games, team sports, and physical fitness activities. The students receive instruction in rules, skills, and strategies associated with the different sports as well as learning experiences involving physical conditioning activities. The students will also have opportunities to become involved in life-long physical activities through individual sport units. The program promotes the spirit of cooperation, leadership, fair play, and friendly competition.

Personal Fitness	Fitness Education courses emphasize acquiring knowledge and skills regarding lifetime physical fitness; content may include related topics such as nutrition, stress management, and consumer issues. Students may develop and implement a personal fitness plan.
Health	Health Education—General courses involve health-related content that is not grade differentiated and may apply to a range of consecutive grades (e.g., "by third grade, students should know and be able to do..."). These courses include content that may be applicable to states or localities that do not employ grade-level content standards. [These courses provide broad content that is not organized as described elsewhere (i.e., Health Education, early childhood education through grade 8).]
Nutrition	This health class is designed to help you better understand healthy living means and its importance throughout life. Many topics discussed include nutrition, eating disorders, stress, death, suicide, illegal drugs, tobacco, alcohol, reproductive health, STDs, HIV/AIDS, first aid, and CPR.
Fine Arts/Technology	
Content Creator	Technology/Electronic Music courses emphasize current technology as a means to create, record, mix, and otherwise interact with music and music media. These courses focus on experimenting with electronic music technology as part of the process for creating music.
Computers	In Computer Applications courses, students acquire knowledge of and experience in the proper and efficient use of previously written software packages. These courses explore a wide range of applications, including (but not limited to) word-processing, spreadsheet, presentation, graphics, and database programs. Courses may also cover the use of electronic mail and online collaborative software.
Publications	Publications provide students with the knowledge and skills necessary to produce the school newspaper, yearbook, literary magazine, or other printed publication. Students may gain experience in several components (writing, editing, layout,

	production, and so on) or may focus on a single aspect while producing the publication.
Band	<p>Band is an ensemble that provides students with learning and performance opportunities on wind and percussion instruments. The primary focus is on the development, continuation, and expansion of basic skills begun the previous year that are necessary for effective instrumental music performance. In addition to large group ensembles, individual growth and achievement are encouraged through participation in adjudicated solo and ensemble contests, honor bands, and private lessons. Topics/skills covered include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Embouchure and Tone Development • Counting, timing, and rhythmic development • Reading and notation skills, including sight reading • Introduction of Scales • Simple Music Theory • Development of an extensive vocabulary of musical terms and symbols • Ear training and listening skills • Equipment care and maintenance • Effective practice habits <p>Students in the Band perform in at least two home-based concerts a year as well as a County Festival and District Festival performance. Although the curriculum is designed for students with at least one year of playing experience, students with no prior experience are welcome to participate provided they receive extra assistance outside of class. This is a performance-based class. Participation in concert performances outside of regular class hours is required.</p>
JH Band	General Band courses help students develop techniques for playing brass, woodwind, and percussion instruments and their ability to perform a variety of concert band literature styles. These courses may emphasize rehearsal and performance experiences in a range of styles (e.g., concert, marching, orchestral, and modern) and also include experiences in creating and responding to music.
Enrichment/College and Career Readiness	
JH Homeroom	A Homeroom period takes care of the social, emotional and academic wellbeing of a student. Administrative documents are distributed, attendance is marked, announcements are made, and students are given the opportunity to plan for the day.
JH Exploration	Exploratory courses provide a brief introduction to a variety of

	<p>topics, typically elective subject areas, often in the form of discrete units or modules. Students may choose to take courses later that allow them to pursue the topics introduced in more depth. Topics may vary widely and span multiple subject areas within one course.</p>
JH Reading	<p>Strategic Reading courses are intended to improve a student's vocabulary, critical-thinking and analysis skills, or reading rate and comprehension level. Although these courses typically emphasize works of fiction, they may also include works of nonfiction (including textbooks). Strategic Reading courses often have a time-management focus, offering strategies for note-taking or for understanding and evaluating the important points of a text.</p>
Study Habits	<p>Course topics may vary according to the students involved, but typically include reading improvement skills, such as scanning, note-taking, and outlining; library and research skills; listening and note-taking; vocabulary skills; and test-taking skills. The courses may also include exercises designed to generate organized, logical thinking and writing.</p>
Creative Writing	<p>Creative Writing courses offer students the opportunity to develop and improve their technique and individual style in poetry, short story, drama, essays, and other forms of prose. The emphasis of the courses is on writing; however, students may study exemplary representations and authors to obtain a fuller appreciation of the form and craft. Although most creative writing classes cover several expressive forms, others concentrate exclusively on one particular form (such as poetry or playwriting).</p>
Entrepreneurship	<p>Entrepreneurship courses help students develop the knowledge and skills necessary to own and operate their own businesses. The course content typically covers topics from a number of fields: economics, marketing principles, human relations and psychology, business and labor law, legal rights and responsibilities of ownership, business and financial planning, finance and accounting, communication, information management, risk management, and strategic management. Several topics surveyed in Business Management courses may also be included.</p>
Online Learning-Credit Recovery	

Online Learning-Enrichment
Dual Enrollment
CTE Programs