

# **RIDGEVIEW HIGH SCHOOL COURSE DESCRIPTION GUIDE**

**2026-2027**

**GRADES 9-12**



**RIDGEVIEW CUSD 19**

**COLFAX, IL**

**MR. ERIK YOUNG, SUPERINTENDENT**

**MR. ZACH FREED, PRINCIPAL**

**MRS. JENNIFER JAMISON, CURRICULUM DIRECTOR**

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## Ridgeview Jr./Sr. High School

202 E Wood St  
Colfax, IL 61728  
Ph. 309-723-2951

## INTRODUCTION

This course description guide is a valuable tool for students deciding on their high school and post-graduate plans. Students and their families need to make sure that they have all the necessary information to make intelligent choices when it comes to course selections. Read the descriptions and select courses based on graduation requirements, interests, and future planning. We believe that a strong background in all academic disciplines provides a well-rounded education for high school students and keeps options open while providing for a complete general education regardless of career choices. Please take time to read over each course description carefully and consider the recommendations made by your counselor, teachers, and parents, as well as college recommendations.

## HOW TO BEST USE THIS GUIDE

In this guide, you will find the description of each course available at Ridgeview High School. Courses with not enough student interest will not run for the school year as the master schedule is built based on course requests from students. **If we do not have enough students to fill a course, the course will be dropped and the students' alternative will be chosen.**

To the left of each course, you will find a course number used for computer scheduling. Below the course number, you will find the following: credit allowed, length of course, prerequisite(s), and the grade levels allowed in the course. Prerequisites are conditions that are met before enrollment, typically for courses that run sequentially. When prerequisites have been indicated, it is understood the course must be passed.

Courses that are weighted will state "Academic Weighted Credit" next to the credit offered.

## GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Credits are earned at the rate of  $\frac{1}{2}$  credit per semester for all academic courses. To graduate from Ridgeview High School, students must meet the requirements listed below.

Required courses are:

<b>English</b>	4 credits
<b>Mathematics</b>	3 credits
<b>Science</b>	3 credits
<b>Social Science</b> *1 year US History * $\frac{1}{2}$ year Government, $\frac{1}{2}$ year Civics *1 year SS elective	3 credits
<b>Fine or Applied Arts</b> *Art, Foreign Language, Music, Vocational Education	2 credits
<b>Health Education</b>	$\frac{1}{2}$ credit

<b>Consumer Education</b> *Ag Business Management *Consumer Economics *Economics *SCED 105	½ credit
<b>Academic Electives</b>	6 credits
<b>Driver Education</b>	½ credit
<b>Physical Education</b>	1½ credits
<b>Total Required Credits</b>	
<b>Academic Credits</b>	22 credits
<b>Grand Total Credits</b>	24 credits

## CLASSIFICATION OF STUDENTS

Students are classified according to the number of credits they have earned according to the following scale:

Freshmen: Students who have earned less than 6 academic credits

Sophomores: Students who have earned 6 academic credits

Juniors: Students who have earned 12 academic credits

Seniors: Students who have earned 18 academic credits

## EARLY GRADUATION POLICY

It is the policy of the Board of Education that eight semesters of attendance shall be the normal requirement for graduation from Ridgeview High School. However, the board recognizes that special conditions might arise which could require consideration of an alternative to the eight-semester attendance requirement.

In order for a student to be eligible for seven-semester attendance, the following must be completed:

1. The student must have met all graduation requirements.
2. The student must have a special need and an appropriately planned educational experience (vocational school, college, military service, or on-the-job training) for the remainder of the four-year period.
3. The student must have written evidence of approval and acceptance of the planned educational experience including, in writing, parental consent, school or employer verification, and local administrative approval.

## GRADING SYSTEM

All courses at Ridgeview High School are graded according to the following scale:

A	EXCELLENT/OUTSTANDING	90-100%	CREDIT EARNED
B	ABOVE AVERAGE	89-80%	CREDIT EARNED
C	FAIR	79-70%	CREDIT EARNED
D	POOR	69-60%	CREDIT EARNED
F	FAILING	0-59%	NO CREDIT EARNED

## HONOR ROLL

Students enrolled in at least five (5) academic courses will be eligible. Band, chorus, physical education, and driver education are not used in computation. Honor roll recognition will be granted to all students with a grade point average (GPA) of at least 80%, but less than 90% and no grade below 70% in any subject, including band, chorus, physical education, and driver education.

## ILLINOIS VIRTUAL SCHOOL

Ridgeview students may enroll for Internet courses offered by Illinois Virtual School (IVS). IVS has course offerings available in Business, Career Planning, Computer Science, Fine Arts, Science, Study Skills, Social Sciences, Health, Language Arts, Mathematics, and World Languages. Registration for these courses must take place through and with the approval of the guidance office and principal. In general, the only IVS courses that will be approved are courses that are not available for the student to take in person at Ridgeview. Credit toward graduation will be granted by following School Board established policies.

## NORMAL COURSE LOAD

Students will be expected to take at least six classes each semester they are enrolled unless considered for a partial day. To receive a partial day, students must have an internship/job or begin taking college courses early. Within these six classes, students must be enrolled in five academic courses and Physical Education (or Health/Driver Education). Students, under all circumstances, are limited to a maximum of two study hall periods.

## SCHEDULE ADJUSTMENTS

Students should carefully consider their educational and career goals and develop a program of study that allows students to work towards these goals. Parents are encouraged to be involved with their student(s) in the selection process.

**Beyond the initial registration period, small changes will be made in schedules up to 3 days after the semester begins for reasons of career change, level change (honors to regular or vice versa),**

**scheduling conflicts, or personal emergencies.** Students will need to fill out the appropriate form in order for their schedule change to be considered. No class can be dropped after the first three days of each semester without the recommendation of the instructor and approval of the parents/guardian, counselor, and principal without the course showing up on your transcript as a WP (withdrawal pass) or WF (withdrawal fail).

## PHYSICAL EDUCATION EXEMPTION POLICY

In order to be excused from participation in physical education, a student must present an appropriate excuse from his or her parent/guardian or from a person licensed under the Medical Practice Act. The excuse may be based on medical or religious prohibitions. An excuse because of medical reasons must include a signed statement from a person licensed under the Medical Practice Act that corroborates the medical reason for the request. An excuse based on religious reasons must include a signed statement from a member of the clergy that corroborates the religious reason for the request. Upon written notice from a student's parent/guardian, a student will be excused from engaging in the physical activity components of physical education during a period of religious fasting.

1. A student in grades 9-12 may submit a written request to the building principal requesting to be excused from physical education courses for the reasons stated below.
2. Enrollment in a marching band program for credit;
3. Enrollment in Reserve Officers Training Corps (ROTC) program sponsored by the District;
4. Ongoing participation in an interscholastic athletic program;
5. Enrollment in academic classes that are required for admission to an institution of higher learning (student must be in the 11th or 12th grade); or
6. Enrollment in academic classes that are required for graduation from high school, provided that failure to take such classes will result in the student being unable to graduate (student must be in the 11th or 12th grade).

## WEIGHTED GRADING SYSTEM AND WEIGHTED COURSES

Numerical grades are issued to students as a determination and reflection of the quality of their work. Ridgeview has a system of ranking students, based upon their academic performance. Three grade determinants are based on the individual student's level of academic course enrollment. They are:

**Regular Grading Scale:** Grades are based on a 4.0 grading scale. Any regular-level course will use a 4.0 grading scale for a letter grade of A. Most courses at Ridgeview High School are graded on a 4.0 scale.

**Weighted Grading Scale:** Weighted courses involve greater student preparation and are more rigorous in their academic demands and requirements. Grades are on a 5.0 scale meaning a 4.0 is equivalent to the letter grade B.

**Courses that are graded on the Weighted Grading Scale are:**

- Art 4
- Anatomy & Physiology
- Biology II
- Physics
- Spanish 4
- Calculus (AP)
- English Language and Composition (AP)
- English Literature and Composition (AP)
- Precalculus (AP)
- Bio114: Contemporary Biology (Dual Credit with HCC)
- Chem 120: Chemistry 2 (Dual Credit with HCC)
- Music Appreciation (Dual Credit with HCC) (offered every other year)
- SCED 105: Life Success (Dual Credit with HCC)

\*The Ridgeview valedictorian and salutatorian will be determined based on 7 semesters of academic work. Calculation for Valedictorian & Salutatorian will be figured at the conclusion of 7 semesters.

Valedictorian and Salutatorian will be based on a 4.0 scale and include weighted courses. In the event there is a tie for Valedictorian or Salutatorian, multiple students will receive the respective designation.

## EDUCATIONAL PLANNING

To provide for a wide variety of individual student goals, interests, and abilities, Ridgeview High School offers more courses than it will be possible for students to take during their high school years. Therefore, students must make educational plans carefully and keep plans up to date.

In developing your educational plan, you will want to select courses with four purposes in mind:

1. To meet the requirements for graduation
2. To achieve competence in the basic knowledge and skill areas important to continued learning and functioning in adult life
3. To reach specific post-high school goals
4. To pursue a current interest or to allow the development of a special talent

You are encouraged to make full use of the assistance available from your school counselor and teachers and to seek parental advice in the development of your plans.

## COLLEGE PREP CURRICULUM

Many students are uncertain about attending college. Therefore, we recommend that undecided students follow a college prep curriculum, keeping all options open (college, trades, armed forces, etc.).

Most 4 year universities have adopted a minimum course requirement plan for incoming freshmen. If a student's academic profile does not meet the minimum requirements, they will be ineligible for acceptance. However, beginning at a community college bridges the gap in credits, allowing students to transfer to a 4-year university easily.

- 4 years of English (emphasizing written & oral communications and literature)
- 3-4 years Mathematics (Math 1, Math 2, Pre-Calculus, Calculus)
- 3-4 years Science (laboratory sciences including Biology & Chemistry)
- 3-4 Years of Social Science (emphasizing history and government)
- 2-4 Years Foreign Language (the same language)
- 2 Years of Music, Art, and/or Vocational (Business, Computer, Industrial Technology)

A combination of grade point average and college entrance examinations (ACT and/or SAT) is used to determine most admission requirements for colleges and universities. Colleges may vary in their entrance requirements, but the above-listed academic credits will help students become admitted to the majority of four-year colleges. Admission requirements for any specific college are available in the guidance office or by contacting the college directly.

## NCAA

Student-athletes must complete appropriate coursework to qualify for NCAA programs and scholarships. Therefore, you and the school's coaches must monitor changes in NCAA coursework requirements and communicate such changes to your student-athletes. To play sports at the D1 or D2 level, you must graduate from high school, complete 16 NCAA-approved courses, earn the minimum GPA, and earn a SAT score matching your GPA.

<b>Division I: 16 Core Courses 2.3 minimum core GPA</b>	<b>Division II: 16 Core Courses: 2.2 minimum core GPA</b>
<b>4</b> years of English	<b>3</b> years of English
<b>3</b> years of math (algebra 1 or higher level)	<b>2</b> years of math (algebra 1 or higher level)
<b>2</b> years of natural or physical science (including one year of lab science if offered)	<b>2</b> years of natural or physical science (including one year of lab science if offered)
<b>1</b> extra year of English, math, or science	<b>3</b> extra year of English, math, or science
<b>2</b> years of social science	<b>2</b> years of social science
<b>4</b> years of additional core courses (from any category above, or in a foreign language, nondoctrinal religion, or philosophy)	<b>4</b> years of additional core courses (from any category above, or in a foreign language, nondoctrinal religion, or philosophy)

### NCAA core courses definition

To meet NCAA eligibility requirements to compete at the college level, athletes must complete 16 core courses (core classes) identified by the NCAA. These courses include: English 1-4, American literature, Creative Writing, Algebra 1-3, Geometry, Statistics, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, American History, Civics, Government, Comparative Religion and Spanish 1-4.



## Sample high school class schedule for NCAA eligibility

Below is a sample high school course schedule that would ensure a student-athlete was on track to meet all of the DI and DII core course requirements. These are generic course names, and they may or may not match up with the list of courses for your high school. It is important you sit down with your high school counselor and put together a similar plan with the courses that are approved for your high school.

EXAMPLE HIGH SCHOOL COURSE SCHEDULE FOR NCAA ELIGIBILITY			
FRESHMAN YEAR		JUNIOR YEAR	
ENGLISH I		ENGLISH III	
ALGEBRA I		ALGEBRA II	
SPANISH I		CHEMISTRY I	
AMERICAN GOVERNMENT		ECONOMICS	
SOPHOMORE YEAR		SENIOR YEAR	
ENGLISH II		ENGLISH IV	
GEOMETRY		PRE-CALCULUS	
BIOLOGY		PHYSICS	
SPANISH II			
SOCIAL SCIENCE			

Meeting NCAA admission requirements does not guarantee admission into college — it simply determines whether students may participate in athletics during their freshman year. Students must follow each member college's admission policies and apply directly to that college.

## SELECTING A COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY

When selecting a college or university, keep the following in mind:

1. Apply early! Apply by November 1st to a four-year college for a priority deadline. Using CommonApp.com will allow you to complete one application for most four-year universities. School Counselors upload academic profiles, recommendation letters, and transcripts to CommonApp, and students can see when colleges view their applications. **An application with an early decision is the only application type that locks you into attending that school.**
2. Understand that class rank, grade point average, and test scores for the *initial* application are based upon only the freshman, sophomore, and junior years. Some schools delay admission until after a student's seventh semester or even eighth semester, or can rescind previously granted acceptance with poor performance in the senior year; therefore, each school year is important.

3. Know your scholastic ability. Are you capable of meeting the academic standards of a particular school?
4. Have a general idea of your career plans.
5. Apply for FAFSA to receive financial aid. Get free grant money from the government!
6. Gather information. Visit several campuses, and determine your preferences for size, location, housing, co-education, and religious affiliation.
7. Determine your interest in living at home or away.
8. Consider possible effects of military service. Being in an armed force has several benefits, including experience, money, etc.
9. Weigh your desire for certain extra-curricular activities. Do you want to play a sport recreationally or join Greek life?
10. Ascertain the strength of a college's offerings in your field of interest. Will this school prepare me well enough for the field I want to pursue?
11. Ask what percent of graduates are employed in their chosen field of study within a year of graduation. How likely am I to find a job after graduation from this school?

## COMMUNITY COLLEGE/JUNIOR COLLEGE

Public two-year institutions are normally open to all graduates of a recognized high school. Applications for 2-year schools can be found on their prospective sites.

1. They provide college transfer courses and programs designed to meet individual educational goals or the goals of students who wish to pursue education beyond the community college.
2. They provide vocational/technical courses and programs designed to meet individual and/or community objectives for job upgrading or career advancement.
3. They provide courses and programs designed to meet the general education and/or special needs of students.

## HEARTLAND/PARKLAND AGREEMENT

The Ridgeview School District is in the unique position of being within the attendance boundaries of two community colleges. Due to the agreement between Heartland and Parkland, Ridgeview students may pay in-district tuition regardless of which community college district they reside in.

## VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND SCHOOLING

Not all students desire or need to attend a four-year college or university. However, almost all careers today require some kind of additional training beyond a high school diploma. Most students will need additional training to qualify for jobs in today's changing workplace. Therefore, students should look for training opportunities that will help them develop the skills, attitudes, abilities, and work habits necessary for success in a rapidly changing work world.

### ***Selecting a Vocational School***

When selecting a vocational school, keep the following in mind:

1. The school, and its agents, should have the approval of the Illinois Office of Education (or the appropriate state agency for out-of-state schools). The school must have the proper accrediting credentials.
2. Determine if the school participates or is eligible for federal financial aid programs; most trades and technical schools partner with FAFSA now!
3. Study the school catalog for curriculum and course study information.
4. Check for the job placement success statistics for the school
5. Visit the school to see the building, facilities, and activities. Observe classes.
6. If you are considering more than one school, compare programs and costs.
7. When enrolling or signing a contract, be sure you understand the terms of the agreement or contract.

# AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT

## **AG100 Introduction to the Agricultural Industry – 18001A001**

**Credit:** 1 academic credit, year

**Prerequisite:** None

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

## **AG250: Landscape Design- 18051A002**

**Credit:** .5 academic credit, semester

**Prerequisite:** Intro to the Agricultural Industry

This course will expand student's knowledge of landscape plants, designing landscape plans, hardscape construction techniques, and installing landscape plants. Also included are nursery production, and maintenance of existing landscapes. Agribusiness units will cover calculating prices for work, managing a horticulture business, advertising, and sales. Improving computer and workplace skills will be a focus. Participation in FFA student organization activities and Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) projects is an integral course component for leadership development, career exploration and reinforcement of academic concepts

## **AG300: Agricultural Mechanics and Technology 1 - 18401A001**

**Credit:** .5 academic credit, semester

**Prerequisite:** Intro to the Agricultural Industry

This course will concentrate on expanding student's knowledge and experiences with agricultural construction technologies utilized in the agricultural industry. Units of instruction included are measuring, hand tools, power tools, design, construction, and math relating to construction. Careers in construction and other related occupations will be examined. Participation in FFA student organization activities and Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) projects is an integral course component for leadership development, career exploration, and reinforcement of academic concepts.

## **AG350: Agricultural Mechanics and Technology 2 (Welding and Electrical)- 18401A001**

**Credit:** .5 academic credit, semester

**Prerequisite:** Intro to the Agricultural Industry

This course will continue expanding student's knowledge and experiences with agricultural mechanics technologies utilized in the agricultural industry. Units of instruction included are design, construction, fabrication, and maintenance in electrical, arc welding, MIG welding, and oxyacetylene torch welding and cutting. Careers in welding and other related occupations will be examined. Participation in FFA student organization activities and Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) projects is an integral course component for leadership development, career exploration, and reinforcement of academic concepts.

#### **AG401: Biological Science Applications in Agriculture (Plant and Animal Science) – 18003A001**

**Credit:** 1 academic credit, year

**Prerequisite:** Intro to the Agricultural Industry or Biology I

This course is designed to reinforce and extend students' understanding of science by associating basic scientific principles and concepts with relevant applications in agriculture. Fall semester, students will examine major phases of plant growth and management in agriculture. Topics of study are in the areas of initiating plant growth – germination, plant sensory mechanisms, enzyme action, absorption, and managing plant growth – photosynthesis, respiration, translocation, metabolism, and growth regulation. During the spring semester, students will examine major phases of animal agriculture. Topics of study are in the areas of growth and development of animals – embryology, ethology, nutrition, immunity systems, and processing animal products – preservation, fermentation, and pasteurization. Participation in FFA student organization activities and Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) projects is an integral course component for leadership development, career exploration, and reinforcement of academic concepts. **This class counts as a science and agriculture elective.**

#### **AG400: Agricultural Business Management – 18201A001**

**Credit:** .5 academic credit, semester

**Prerequisite:** Junior or Senior Standing

Description This course is designed to develop student skills and teach students the fundamentals of agriculture business procedures, establishing an agribusiness, managing and financing the agribusiness, marketing, and advertising strategies, and sales techniques. Additionally, students will develop knowledge and skills in agricultural sales and marketing, commodity marketing, agricultural economics, and international agriculture. Computer use will be integrated into various topics in the course.

## **ART DEPARTMENT**

#### **AR100 Art 1 – 05155A000**

**Credit:** 1 academic credit, year

**Prerequisite:** None, Open to grades 9-12

Art 1 essentially deals with art production with special emphasis on these basic elements: line, shape, form, and color. The first part of the course includes the elements of composition, color theory, and the introduction of various materials and media.

**AR200 Art 2 – 05156A000**

**Credit:** 1 academic credit, year

**Prerequisite:** Art 1

Art 2 includes both two and three-dimensional art, drawing, graphic design, painting, ceramics, and sculpture. Projects will be demanding and will require students to solve specific art-related problems.

**AR300 Art 3 – 05162A000**

**Credit:** 1 academic credit, year

**Prerequisite:** Art 2

Projects in Art 3 will be detailed and demanding requiring high levels of skill, motivation, and critical thinking. First-semester problems will be assigned in areas such as drawing, illustration, graphic arts, and advertising design. Second-semester problems will be assigned in areas such as graphics, architectural design, interior design, and commercial art. Throughout the course, there will be an emphasis placed on art history as well as its role in the psychology of design. Art 3 is recommended for the serious art student. *Students must receive a first-semester passing grade to continue enrollment during the second semester.*

**AR400 Art 4 – 05154A000**

**Credit:** 1 *weighted* academic credit, year

**Prerequisite:** Art 3

Art 4 is also for the serious-minded art student and includes more advanced problems in advertising, graphic arts, fashion design, and commercial art, with a touch of fine arts. The interrelationships of design, art, history, psychology, communications, and business will be studied. Students will be provided the opportunity to specialize in career areas such as drawing and painting, commercial and advertising design, or ceramics and sculpture. Emphasis will be placed on high levels of problem-solving, skill, and dedication. The ever-changing role of the artist in our present world will also be studied. Art history will be emphasized and a portfolio will be assembled. *Students must receive a first-semester passing grade to continue enrollment during the second semester.*

**AR500 Yearbook – 11102A000**

**Credit:** 1 academic credit, year

**Prerequisite:** Sophomore-Seniors standing

Yearbook is a class that culminates in the creation of the school yearbook. During class time and beyond, students are in charge of everything needed for the creation of a yearbook; building a page ladder, taking pictures, designing the layouts, writing the stories and captions, selling the ads, and managing the

budget. Everyone in the class takes turns performing these roles. The students work collaboratively in small groups and as a class to make decisions for the final yearbook.

## BUSINESS DEPARTMENT

### **BU250 Marketing Management – 12166A000**

**Credit:** 1 academic credit, year

**Prerequisite:** None

This course, designed to provide a fundamental understanding of marketing management, will cover managing, marketing, financing, and communicating within a business environment. Skills taught will include communication, problem-solving, decision-making, economics, ethics, finance, and basic marketing principles. Assignments are individual, group, and project-based.

### **BU400 Work Program 1- 22998A000**

**Credit:** ½ academic credit, semester

**Prerequisite:** Junior or Senior standing

This course will provide students with work experience in a field related to their interests. Goals will be set cooperatively by the student, teacher, and employer (although students are not necessarily paid). These courses may include classroom activities as well, involving further study of the field or discussion regarding experiences that students encounter in the workplace.

### **BU405 Consumer Education – 22210A001**

**Credit:** ½ academic credit, semester

**Prerequisite:** Senior standing

Learning experiences focus on the understanding and skills needed to make decisions about the use of resources that contribute to an improved quality of life. Consumer Education includes units in utilizing resources and consumer information by applying goal-setting and decision-making skills, evaluating the use of resources to meet social, physical, and psychological needs, maintaining responsibilities in the marketplace, and analyzing resource/consumer management skills necessary for present and future decisions. This course may be used to satisfy the Consumer Education graduation requirement.

### **Work Program – 22153A001**

**Credit:** 3 academic credits, Year

**Prerequisite:** Senior standing

This course is designed to assist students in the development of effective skills and attitudes through practical, advanced instruction in school and on the job through cooperative education. Students are released from school for their paid cooperative education work experience and participate in related classroom instruction. Individualized supervised work experience directly related to a student's career goals and interests. Each student obtains employment which is consistent to goals specific to his or her long term career plans. This course integrates classroom theory and work applications to assist the student in making the transition from school to work. The classroom portion of the course will include resume writing, interview skills, job search techniques, employment law, employment benefits, retirement planning, and other topics related to employment. This course may be used to satisfy the Consumer Education graduation requirement.

### **SCED 105:Life Success(Dual Credit with HCC)**

**Credit:** Dual credit course with HCC, RHS ½ dual *weighted* academic credit, semester.

**Prerequisite:** Senior standing

This course will help students gain awareness of their academic, career and personal selves and facilitate development in each of these areas. Focus will be placed on gaining knowledge of each self, identifying areas of strength and those needing improvement and mastering the tools necessary to achieve growth in these life areas.

## **COMPUTER SCIENCE DEPARTMENT**

### **CS225      Computer Science 1 – 10152A001**

**Credit:** 1 academic credit

**Prerequisite:** MA125-Algebra 1

Computer Science 1 teaches fundamental features, such as visual programming concepts, graphical user interface (GUI) components, and database processing. Major concepts discussed in this course are data types, control structures, object-oriented programming, GUI concepts, and event-driven programming.

### **CS250      Computer Science 2 - 10156A001**

**Credit:** 1 academic credit

**Prerequisite:** Computer Science 1

Javascript & Python are the primary languages taught in this course. Methods for both of these languages are used in gaming, web design, and networking. Hardware design, robotics, and STEM designs will also be visited in this course.

## **CONSTRUCTION**

### **CON101      Building Trades - 17001A001**



**Credit:** 1 academic credit, year

**Prerequisite:** None

This beginning construction course exposes students to the opportunities available in construction related trades, such as carpentry, masonry, air conditioning/refrigeration, plumbing, and so on. Students learn about the processes involved in construction projects and may engage in a variety of small projects.

## ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

### **EN100 English 1 – 01001A000**

**Credit:** 1 academic credit, year

**Prerequisite:** None

The primary objective of English 1 is to improve each student's language arts skills through reading, writing, and speaking. This course includes critical analysis of four genres of literature including short stories, poetry, drama, and novels. While reading these sections, students are required to write several paragraphs and essays, participate in various group projects, and recognize literary terminology. There are a myriad of speaking opportunities that range from frequent class discussions to formal speeches. These various assignments are accompanied by a thorough review of English grammatical usage.

### **EN110 Advanced English 1 -- 01001A000**

**Credit:** 1 *weighted* academic credit, Year

**Prerequisite:** Teacher recommendation

Advanced English 1 covers a similar review and augmentation of grammatical, literary, and writing skills as English 1; however, it covers this material more quickly. The extra time created will be devoted to a more in-depth study of all facets of English class. The complexity of the literary selections will be greater, and there will be accelerated analytical and creative writing assignments. This advanced curriculum has been created to suit a college preparatory schedule.

### **EN200 English 2 – 01002A000**

**Credit:** 1 academic credit, year

**Prerequisite:** English 1

English 2 includes continued development of English grammar and composition skills and an in-depth study of several literary genres including short stories, poetry, novels, and drama forms. Major projects involve oral and written work including a memoir, book reviews, paragraphs, essays, short research papers, and numerous individual/group projects. Students will practice public speaking through class discussions, formal speeches, and project presentations.

### **EN210 Advanced English 2 – 01002A000**

**Credit:** 1 academic credit, year

**Prerequisite:** Advanced English 1 or teacher recommendation

Advanced English 2 is designed to challenge the accelerated, college prep sophomore student. In addition to material covered in English 2, the course will include a grammar unit reviewing previous instruction and presenting advanced material. Major projects will include individual and group assignments involving oral, written, and computer work based on in-class work as well as outside reading and research. Students will practice public speaking through class discussions, formal speeches, and project presentations.

### **EN300 English 3 – 01003A000**

**Credit:** 1 academic credit, year

**Prerequisite:** English 2

English 3 continues to develop students' communication skills through a chronological study of American literature, philosophy, and culture. Major literary movements in all genres are studied through a literary anthology, various novels, and plays. Research projects, essays, and presentations are assigned to corresponding units. Group discussions and small group projects are emphasized in literary analysis. A vigorous grammar review and SAT preview are conducted during the third quarter. Various vocabulary-building activities are also presented throughout the year.

### **EN403 AP English Language and Composition-01005A000**

**Credit:** 1 *weighted* academic credit, year-College Credit with Passed AP Test

**Prerequisite:** Advanced English 2, Advanced English 3 or teacher recommendation

Following the College Board's suggested curriculum designed to parallel college-level English courses, AP English Language and Composition courses expose students to prose written in a variety of periods, disciplines, and rhetorical contexts. These courses emphasize the interaction of authorial purpose, intended audience, and the subject at hand, and through them, students learn to develop stylistic flexibility as they write compositions covering a variety of subjects that are intended for various purposes.

### **EN400 English 4 – 01004A000**

**Credit:** 1 academic credit, year

**Prerequisite:** English 3

English 4 is a capstone course designed to review all skills learned throughout the students' previous three years in English including a brief overview of British and world literature. This course emphasizes a "real world" approach to education through the study of social issues and skills necessary for the transition from school to the workforce. During the 4th quarter, students will study a career of interest. An in-class speech and presentation will follow. Students will also read various modern novels.

### **EN402: AP English Literature and Composition-01006A000 (Projected available 2026-2027)**

**Credit:** 1 *weighted* academic credit, year-College Credit with Passed AP Test

**Prerequisite:** AP English Language and Composition-01005A000 or Teacher Recommendation

Following the College Board's suggested curriculum designed to parallel college-level English courses, AP English Literature and Composition courses enable students to develop critical standards for evaluating literature. Students study the language, character, action, and theme in works of recognized literary merit; enrich their understanding of connotation, metaphor, irony, syntax, and tone; and write compositions of their own (including literary analysis, exposition, argument, narrative, and creative writing).

## FOREIGN LANGUAGE DEPARTMENT

### **FL100 Spanish 1 – 06101A000**

**Credit:** 1 academic credit, year

**Prerequisite:** None

Spanish 1 introduces students to basic Spanish grammar and vocabulary. A basic understanding of English grammar is needed. Students will be expected to memorize and retain vocabulary and grammar rules throughout the entire course. They will be able to read, write, and speak Spanish within the limited vocabulary that has been acquired. The culture of Spanish-speaking countries will also be studied through movies and classroom-related activities. Students will be able to formulate their dialogues and respond when called upon with little hesitation. This course is highly recommended for college prep students.

### **FL200 Spanish 2 – 06102A000**

**Credit:** 1 academic credit, year

**Prerequisite:** Spanish 1

The objective of Spanish 2 is to expand the vocabulary skills introduced in Spanish 1. Students will continue to study basic grammatical structures while acquiring new vocabulary. More reading practice is involved in this second-year course. Some of the readings are historical, while others deal with contemporary living in Latin America. This course is highly recommended for college prep students.

### **FL300 Spanish 3 – 06103A000**

**Credit:** 1 academic credit, year

**Prerequisite:** Spanish 2

The third year of Spanish includes regular reviews of basic grammar and vocabulary as well as an introduction to more complex vocabulary and syntax. Increased reading of supplemental materials will be done. There will be additional emphasis on listening and speaking exclusively in Spanish. This course is recommended for college prep students.

### **FL400 Spanish 4 – 06104A000**

**Credit:** 1 *weighted* academic credit, year

**Prerequisite:** Spanish 3

The fourth year of Spanish is a continuation of Spanish 3 with greater emphasis placed on conversation. Spanish 4 includes the reading of a contemporary novel, which is appropriately adapted to an intermediate Spanish student's level. This course is recommended for the college prep student.

## MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT

### **MA100 Principles of Algebra and Geometry - 02074A000**

**Credit:** 1 credit, year

**Prerequisites:** teacher recommendation

Principles of Algebra and Geometry courses combine the study of some pre-algebra and algebra topics with introductory geometry topics. These courses include the study of formulas; algebraic expressions; first-degree equations and inequalities; the rectangular coordinate system; area, perimeter, and volume of geometric figures; and properties of triangles and circles.

### **MA125: Algebra 1 – 02052A000**

**Credit:** 1 academic credit, year

**Prerequisite:** None

Algebra 1 provides study in abstract mental self-discipline, solving for unknown numerical values in everyday situations, and discovering basic mathematical principles and concepts. This course deals with the properties of real numbers; solving equations, involving one or two variables, radicals, and exponents; and the use of the basic four operations with polynomials, inequalities, linear equations, and graphing. *This course meets one of the high school graduation requirements and is recognized as meeting most college admission requirements.*

### **MA220 Geometry – 02072A000**

**Credit:** 1 academic credit, year

**Prerequisite:** Principles of Algebra and Geometry AND Algebra 1 (11th grade standing)

This course is a traditional geometry course that covers plane geometry, similarity, congruence, proof writing, the parallel postulate, basic trigonometry, the study of surface area and volume, constructions, and transformations.

### **MA315 Math 2 – 02056A000**

**Credit:** 1 academic credit, year

**Prerequisite:** Algebra 1

Math 2 reviews the topics of Algebra 1, especially systems of equations, quadratics, rationals, radicals, and exponents. Geometry concepts of parallel lines, triangles, congruence, and trigonometry are all introduced and dealt with with varying degrees of difficulty. The purpose of the course is to further the student's math knowledge in preparation for the more advanced courses and/or College Algebra. This course meets one of the high school graduation requirements and is recognized as meeting most college admission requirements.

#### **MA316 Math 3 – 02303A000**

**Credit:** 1 academic credit, year

**Prerequisite:** Math 2

Math 3 reviews the topics of Math 2, especially statistics, probability, inequalities, geometric proofs, geometric modeling, functions, polynomials, and trigonometry on the unit circle. The purpose of the course is to further the student's math knowledge in preparation for the more advanced courses and/or College Algebra. This course meets one of the high school graduation requirements and is recognized as meeting most college admission requirements.

#### **MA401 PreCalculus AP – 02110A000**

**Credit:** 1 *weighted* academic credit, year

**Prerequisite:** Math 3

PreCalculus emphasizes preparation for college and advanced programs. The main topics receiving attention in PreCalculus are functions, trigonometry, analytical geometry, vectors, conic sections, probability, determinants, and matrices. *This course meets one of the two high school graduation requirements and is recognized as meeting most college admission requirements.*

#### **MA500 Calculus-AP- 02121A000**

**Credit:** 1 dual-weighted academic credit, year

**Prerequisite:** Pre-Calculus

Functions; derivative and its applications; integral and its applications; limits and continuity; trigonometric, exponential, logarithmic, and hyperbolic functions. This is an AP-approved course and students enrolled in it will be expected to take the AP exam

#### **MA700 High School Transition Math 4-STEM - 02055A001**

**Credit:** 1 credit, year

**Prerequisites:** Senior standing

**Note:** A student must have earned a C or better for the entire course to earn transferability.  
Relationship to Statewide Portability: Completion of this course with a C or better guarantees placement at any Illinois Community College into M1901 Quantitative Literacy, M1902 General Education Statistics, Technical Mathematics I, or College Algebra.

Math course framework built around essential algebraic competencies designed to prepare students for college and career pathways in areas such as Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math or STEM which require advanced algebraic skills or calculus. Course design will enable students to transition directly into credit-bearing college-level algebra courses. Students will engage in deepening conceptual understanding using algebra and mathematical applications of algebra and functions and how functions naturally arise using authentic modeling situations. The function families (linear, polynomial, rational, radical, and exponential) will be emphasized. Additionally, the course shall emphasize the eight mathematical practices, particularly modeling within the setting of authentic and contextualized applications, and upon completion, the student should be able to: demonstrate and justify both orally and in writing conceptual understanding of functions combined with advanced algebraic knowledge to solve complex, contextualized, multi-step problems in authentic settings.

## MUSIC DEPARTMENT

### **MU100 Instrumental Music – 05101A000**

**Credit:** 1 academic credit, year

**Prerequisite:** None; may be repeated.

Instrumental Music is a performance class that offers involvement in four music groups; marching band, concert band, pep band, and jazz band. This course requires a yearlong commitment. Students enrolled in the course are required to participate in all performances unless excused by the instructor. Grades in the band are based on ability, attitude, effort, cooperation, dependability, performance attendance, and participation. Currently, the band is on a four-year, major trip cycle. Students must be enrolled in band the previous two semesters to be eligible to go on the trip. The instructor and the administration must approve any exceptions to this policy.

- *The Marching Band* is composed of all instrumentalists in the band, plus drum major(s), flag corps, and color guard. This group emphasizes a high level of musicianship plus precision marching skills needed for drill designs used on the marching field and in parade appearances. *Participation in summer band camp is required.* The Marching Band participates in contests at the end of September and most Saturdays in October. Members receive a grade for each competition. Attendance at the competitions is mandatory.
- *Concert Band* offers students the opportunity to perform different types of instrumental music, broaden learning in music history and theory, and improve technical facility on instruments. The Concert Band will perform at least three concerts during the year.
- *Pep Band* emphasizes the study and performance of pop music for presentation at home basketball games. The Pep Band consists of all members registered for MU100. The Pep Band will play between 14 and 20 games per season. Additionally, the Pep Band may travel for outside performances.

- *Jazz Band* is composed of a select group of concert band members. Students are chosen by ability, attitude, desire, and, if necessary, by auditions. This group emphasizes precise instrumentation and covers the wide variety of styles available in the jazz band area. The Jazz Band will perform during the Concert Band concerts and will play for other community events.

### **MU110 Vocal Music – 05110A000**

**Credit:** 1 academic credit, year

**Prerequisite:** None; may be repeated

Vocal Music is a course that includes two performance groups, a mixed choir, and vocal jazz. This course requires a yearlong commitment. Students enrolled in vocal music are required to participate in all performances unless excused by the instructor. Performances include winter and spring concerts, music contests, plus numerous other school and community functions. Students are encouraged to participate in the Spring Musical. Grades in the course are based on attitude, effort, cooperation, dependability, and performance attendance and participation.

- *Mixed chorus* emphasizes methods of improving individual singing techniques, various styles of vocal literature, group cooperation, and appreciation of varying styles, periods, and types of music as they relate to differing vocal instrumentations. Musical Theatre will also be discussed during the year. Some years it is possible to take a field trip to a major Broadway musical.
- *Vocal Jazz* is a small, select group of chorus members chosen by audition. Emphasis in this group is on the performance of difficult vocal literature, emphasizing the jazz style and improvisation.

### **MUSI150: Music Appreciation – 05118A000**

**Credit:** Dual credit course with HCC, RHS ½ dual *weighted* academic credit, semester.

**Prerequisite:** Placement testing required. COMPASS test and/or ACT scores will be used for placement into this class.

Emphasis is on learning to listen to music and on the role it plays within the wider contexts of history and society. Listening materials are drawn from a variety of sources: classical music, non-Western music, American popular music (particularly jazz, country, and rock), and the American folk tradition.

## **PHYSICAL, HEALTH, AND DRIVER EDUCATION DEPARTMENT**

### **PE100 Athletic Physical Education**

**Credit:** ½ credit each semester

**Prerequisite:** None; priority to varsity and non-varsity athletes

**Lab Fee:** None

This course is designed to introduce students to the various concepts of personal training and strength & conditioning. Students will be introduced to various modalities of training through weight room workouts and other training applications. Training concepts covered will include weight room orientation, fitness planning recommendations, the 4 pillars of human movement, principles of training, heart rate monitoring, general plyometrics, cardiorespiratory training, and basic speed and agility training. This course qualifies toward the physical education graduation requirement.

#### **PE101 Physical Education – 08001A000**

**Credit:** ½ credit each semester

**Prerequisite:** None

**Lab Fee:** Certain activities, such as Bowling and Skating have user fees attached. Contact the instructor for prices at the time for those activities. It can be repeated.

This course contributes to all phases of a student's personal development through a variety of lifetime activities. In a non-competitive environment, students will be able to experience success regardless of their skill level or ability. Fitness activities will be emphasized. Units of study will include team sports, aerobics, fitness training, and other lifetime activities. Written work will be expected in addition to the normal daily lab work. Physical Education is required by the State of Illinois each semester for all students. Students are taught CPR and AED training by a certified nurse. This course qualifies toward the physical education graduation requirement. Exempt status for physical education-Students must be a junior or senior and involved in a varsity sport or marching band.

#### **PE103 Physical Education Leader**

**Credit:** ½ academic credit, semester

**Prerequisite:** Junior-Seniors

This course is designed to help students develop an awareness of their leadership qualities and abilities by providing a wide range of experiences. Students will have an active leadership role as teacher assistants in PE classes. The expectations for this class are as follows: no cell phones, assist with student behavior, help teach physical skills, and help maintain a safe learning environment.

#### **PE205 Health Education – 0851A000**

**Credit:** ½ academic credit, semester

**Prerequisite:** None

Following the School Code of Illinois, the comprehensive health education program includes but is not limited to, the following educational areas: human ecology and health; human growth and development; prevention and control of disease (including AIDS, and STDs/STIs, education); public and environmental health; mental health and illness; personal health habits; alcohol-drug use and abuse; tobacco use; vaping; nutrition; first aid; and dental health. Other topics covered will include human anatomy/physiology and the body systems. This course is required for graduation.

#### **PE211/PE 212: Driver Education – Semester 1/ Semester 2– 08152A000**



**Credit:** ½ credit, semester

**Prerequisite:** All students must have passed at least eight academic courses during the previous two semesters, and meet age requirements. Pre-registration must be verified by the School Counselor.

**Lab Fee:** \$250.00, plus \$20.00 for instruction permit required by the state

The comprehensive driver education program is a combination of classroom instruction along with behind-the-wheel training. Following the Secretary of State's office, each student is required to be in attendance for a minimum of 30 clock hours of classroom instruction (1800 minutes) and a minimum of 6 clock hours B-T-W (360 minutes). 1800 minutes will be met first, in the classroom. Once that is reached and the student has passed, they will move to B-T-W. 6 clock hours are not guaranteed to be finished by the end of the semester. Credit earned by the student from passing the "Behind-The-Wheel" program shall be recorded on the transcript, but no letter grade shall be computed when determining the student's overall grade point average. As of January 1, 2008, people under the age of 18 must follow the new "Graduated License Laws", which include 50 clock hours of practice driving with a parent or legal guardian, as well as other new regulations. A \$20 fee, made payable to the Secretary of State, is also required to cover the cost of the instruction permit and license application. Topics to be covered: Rules of the Road—laws, safety, proper driving techniques, driving under various conditions, mechanical operations, preventive maintenance, emergencies, auto insurance, and what to do when getting pulled over.

Only students who are **over the age of 15 at the start date of the course** are eligible to take Driver's Ed. All students should consult with the counselor before registration to verify their eligibility for the course and which semester they should register for. Questions regarding the graduating licensing program should contact the driver's education instructor. Please use [cyberdriveillinois.com](http://cyberdriveillinois.com) for additional questions.

## SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

### SC101 Integrated Science-03201A000

**Credit:** 1 academic credit, year

**Prerequisite:** None

Integrated science is a broad-spectrum class, meant to expose students to a multitude of different scientific studies available in the world. It will cover a wide variety of topics and subjects in moderate detail, as well as introduce or reiterate concepts such as the metric system. Topics included will be, but not limited to: the study of states of matter, chemical reactions, physical reactions, energy, motion, waves, forces, space, the history of the earth, and the history of life

### SC120 Biology – 03051A000

**Credit:** 1 academic credit, year

**Prerequisite:** None

Students will gain a better understanding of the living world around them through independent and cooperative investigations using models and real-world examples to demonstrate scientific concepts. The class is presented through a thematic approach. Major units covered: Characteristics of Life, Scientific Method, Chemistry of Life, Cells, Energy, Introduction to Photosynthesis & Cellular Respiration, Chromosomes, Mitosis/Meiosis, Heredity, DNA, Evolution, and Variation of Life.

**SC122 Biology II--03052A000**

**Credit:** 1 academic credit, year

**Prerequisite:** Biology 1

Students will expand on concepts learned in Biology. This course covers many similar units from Biology, but expands on the baseline information provided to gain a more accurate understanding of Biology as a whole and where science stands today. Major units covered: The Study of Life, Biochemistry, Differentiation of Cells, Systemic Biology & Body Systems, Evolution, DNA & Heredity, Biotechnology, and Advanced Concepts of Evolution. Students will be able to apply these concepts to new situations and will see the many uses of science in the real-world such as career and community involvement opportunities.

**SC200 Chemistry Concepts -03105A000**

**Credit:** 1 academic credit, year

**Prerequisite:** Biology 1

Chemistry Concepts is taught as an overview class of the multiple thought processes, models, and theories that go into the chemistry discipline, and how that affects the world around them. It focuses on topics such as the periodic table/periodicity, atomic theory, types of chemical reactions, chemical structures, gas laws, and the real-world applications of chemistry.

**SC210 Chemistry – 03101A000**

**Credit:** 1 academic credit, year

**Prerequisite:** Biology 1 and Algebra 1

Chemistry is a course designed to aid all students in understanding the chemical aspects of their environment, as well as providing a good foundation to enable college-bound and technical school students to succeed in advanced science courses. Concepts covered include naming, writing, and drawing chemical structures, chemical reactions, gas laws, stoichiometry, acids and bases, and atomic and molecular theories. Chemistry includes many demonstrations and lab exercises.

**SC115 Environmental Science – 03003A000**

**Credit:** 1 academic credit, year

**Prerequisite:** Biology 1

McLean County offers unique opportunities for the study of Central Illinois environments. The course will offer units of study in the following areas: scientific processes, decision making, and

scientific writing, ecological organization, data collection (forest, water, soil, etc.), Earth systems, energy flow and nutrient cycling, resources, current environmental issues, local and global concerns, and legislation. The class takes frequent trips to a local field site for hands-on experience opportunities.

### **SC310 Anatomy & Physiology– 03053A000**

**Credit:** 1 *weighted* academic credit, year

**Prerequisite:** Biology 1 and Chemistry

This weighted course will provide an in-depth tour of the human body systems. A big component of the class will be a cat dissection. Cat dissections are NOT optional. It is essential that students see the relationships of all the body systems and how they interact with each other in an organism similar to us. An emphasis will be placed on the human body and its interconnectedness to health, disease, growth, & development. Topics include: Medical vocabulary, body systems, cat dissection, & case studies pertaining to the human body.

### **SC410 Physics – 03151A000**

**Credit:** 1 *weighted* academic credit, year

**Prerequisite:** Chemistry and Math 2

Physics is the study of matter and energy. The topics to be studied include vectors, motion in one and two dimensions, force, work, power, energy, momentum, waves, sound, light, optics, and electricity. Physics includes laboratory exercises and demonstrations.

### **SC500 Chemistry 2 – 03102A000**

**Credit:** 1 dual-weighted academic credit, year

**Prerequisite:** Chemistry and Math 2

General principles of theories in chemistry and selected topics in organic & biochemistry. Topics include kinetics, equilibrium, acids and bases, thermochemistry, and redox reactions. A forensics unit is included at the end of this course. Lab reports will be required of students for multiple labs throughout the year.

### **BIO114: Contemporary Biology – 03099A000**

**Credit:** Dual credit course with HCC (4), RHS 1 dual weighted academic credit

**Prerequisite:** Placement testing required. COMPASS test and/or ACT scores will be used for placement into this class.

BIO 114 will introduce students to a broad range of biological principles, including organization, structure and function, heredity, evolution, and ecology. Students will demonstrate how their knowledge of biology is relevant to them, their community, and their world. Students will use scientific evidence as the basis for their arguments. Students will improve their skills in relaying biological information to peers and others. In addition, students will leave with a better understanding of scientific views that differ from

their own. The laboratory component will emphasize scientific inquiry and the use of knowledge in problem-solving. This course is intended for students who are not pursuing a science career.

## SOCIAL SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

### **SS101 Geography – 04001A000**

**Credit:** 1 academic credit, year

**Prerequisite:** None

The focus of Geography will be on introductory concepts. The students will be introduced to the basic skills of geography: map interpretation, climate and weather, the relations between people and their surroundings, and the study of conservation. This class will frequently take an unapologetic look at the world as it is today. Upsetting challenges that nations face today will be discussed in this class. Topics such as genocide, the drug trade, gang violence, and government abuse will make appearances now and then. The primary focus and concentration of the first-semester course will be the study of North, Central, and South America. Students will receive an overview of the Western Hemisphere's landscapes, history, and culture, as well as some issues these nations are currently dealing with. The same will be done in the second semester when the class will focus on the geography of Europe, Russia, the Middle East, and selected topics from Asia, Africa, and Oceania. Given that this is a history class, reading and writing will be expected of students.

### **SS110 World History – 04051A000**

**Credit:** 1 academic credit, year

**Prerequisite:** None

World History is a course that covers history in chronological order from the earliest civilizations to the present. Students will study how politics, economics, geography, science, and technology, as well as the arts, have played a role in forming and developing civilization as we know it. Students will study topics including ancient Greece and Rome, the French Revolution, and two World Wars. This class is structured so that each topic builds off the next. These interconnecting patterns and topics will result in a better understanding of the world today. Given that this is a history class, reading and writing will be expected of students. This course is strongly recommended for college-prep students.

### **SS300 United States History – 04101A000**

**Credit:** 1 academic credit, year

**Prerequisite:** Sophomore standing, Required for graduation

United States History is required for all juniors. The emphasis is placed on social, economic, and political aspects of United States history and presents an interpretation of the critical periods in our country's past. Students will understand the principles and institutions upon which our country has been built. Our focus will be from the Civil War era to the present, including the Holocaust.

**SS205 American Government – 04151A000**

**Credit:** ½ academic credit, semester

**Prerequisite:** Senior standing, Required for graduation

American Government is required of all students and should be taken in their senior year. Students will deal with the basic structure of government at the federal, state, and local levels with emphasis on the rights and responsibilities of the citizens within the system. Also, the United States Constitution, State Constitution, and United States Flag requirements for graduation will be taught and met within this course. All Constitution tests must be passed.

**SS320 Civics– 04161A000**

**Credit:** ½ academic credit, second semester

**Prerequisite:** Senior standing, Required for graduation

In Civics, a required course for seniors, the focus is on service and citizenship. The class is organized into six units with a test following each unit. The class topics range from the Illinois Constitution to national politics and current events, to civil rights and American problems. The course is separated into class projects, Discussions, and student-centered activities.

**SS305 Sociology – 04258A000**

**Credit:** ½ academic credit, second semester

**Prerequisite:** Senior standing or teacher recommendation

Sociology is the study of human society and social behavior. Concepts studied include socialization, social interaction, status, roles, mores/folkways, social control, social deviation, social institutions, and norms. Students will be encouraged to move outside their comfort zones as they study different cultures and schools of thought. Students will also be expected to participate in sociological discussions, as well as, complete class projects that will foster a new understanding of how societies work and the role of the individual. This course is recommended for college-prep students.

**SS315 Economics – 04201A000**

**Credit:** ½ academic credit, first semester

**Prerequisite:** Junior or Senior standing

Economics is the study of how people seek to satisfy their needs and wants by making choices. This class is designed to provide students with an understanding of economic theory and design such as scarcity, supply and demand, investments, economic systems, business cycles, GDP, and price setting, upon which our society is based. The course will equip students to use these concepts in dealing with problems of society and to be better informed about the economic world around them. Free market enterprise, competition, income, savings, credit, business organizations, labor unions, bonds, and the stock market will also be covered. This course may be used to satisfy the Consumer Education graduation requirement."

# SPECIAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

## ***General Information***

Ridgeview High School provides students with disabilities a full range of educational and related services to accommodate the individual characteristics, needs, abilities, and interests of high school students who are eligible to receive special education services. These eligible students have an Individual Education Program (IEP) that is reviewed annually. In addition to instructional classes, other educational and related services that are provided include resource study hall assistance, inclusive education service, special vocational instruction, and a work experience program.

The Special Education Department at Ridgeview High School is unique because it makes an individual educational plan for each student. Because individual differences are taken into consideration, special education students are not always placed into the same progression of classes as the regular division students. Not only are the classes individually scheduled for the students, but each subject is offered at different ability levels and is structured to the needs of each student enrolled in the class each semester or year. The flexibility of the department is what makes it effective for students with special needs. Courses listed in this department are offered based on student needs. Therefore, in any given year, all the courses listed may not be offered. Additions to the listed curriculum are also based upon student needs.

## ***Secondary Transitional Experience Program – STEP***

Ridgeview High School students who are approaching employment age can receive rehabilitation services through the STEP program. STEP bridges the gap between school and work. It helps students with disabilities get ready for his/her future by providing training, employment, and vocational counseling. This program combines academic studies with on-the-job training. Eligible students receive credit toward graduation and earn valuable work experience.

STEP is a cooperative program between our local school district and the Department of Rehabilitation Services (DRS). Enrollment in the program is dependent upon DRS approval. Please contact the Ridgeview STEP coordinator at Ridgeview High School for further information.

## **Special Education Course Descriptions**

The following are brief descriptions of the instructional courses offered in the Special Education Department at this time.

### **VE100 Vocational English 1 – 01999A000**

### **VE200 Vocational English 2 – 01002A000**

**Credit:** 1 academic credit, year

**Prerequisite:** IEP Placement

These courses are designed to identify and strengthen individual abilities in basic language arts: word attack skills, spelling, punctuation, capitalization, grammar, reading comprehension, functional vocabulary, personal information, research, composition, and communication skills. These courses earn credit toward meeting the graduation requirement for English.

**VE300 Vocational English 3 – 01003A000**

**Credit:** 1 academic credit, year

**Prerequisite:** IEP Placement

**VE400 Vocational English 4 – 01004A00**

**Credit:** 1 academic credit, year

**Prerequisite:** IEP Placement

These courses are designed to identify and strengthen individual abilities in basic language arts and English skills. The student will learn how to identify, search, gather, and compile information for a research project. The student will use appropriate grammar, punctuation, and composition skills in his/her research document. Additionally, the student will continue to improve and expand his/her vocabulary and comprehension skills through a variety of literature works. This course earns credit toward meeting the graduation requirement for English.

**VE110 Vocational Study Skills – 22003A000**

**Credit:** ½ academic credit, semester

**Prerequisite:** IEP Placement

This course is offered for the student to identify and improve study skills and communication skills. The student will learn how to take notes, organize and interpret information, and review information effectively. Instruction on how to develop listening strategies, scanning skills, and highlighting techniques to obtain and remember information will be given. The student will learn how to interpret graphs, tables, and illustrations for showing and comparing information. The student will receive instruction on how to identify and use resource books. Additionally, the student will learn how to write personal messages, develop communication strategies, and how to give and respond to criticism effectively. This course earns English credit and may be used toward the graduation requirement for English.

**VF105 Vocational Practical Life Skills -**

**Credit:** ½ academic credit, semester

**Prerequisite:** IEP Placement

This course is offered to the student to identify and increase functional and practical life skills. The student will learn about public transportation, how to read and use schedules, and identify key vocabulary in getting around. The student will develop money management, banking, and savings skills. Students will also receive instruction in government services, health care, taxes, and safety related issues. Being an effective consumer and responsible citizen will also be covered. This course earns

credit in Family and Consumer Science and may be applied toward the fine or applied arts graduation requirement or as an elective.

#### **VF405 Vocational Consumer Education – 22210A000**

**Credit:** ½ academic credit, semester

**Prerequisite:** IEP Placement

This course is designed to provide the student with the understanding and skills needed to make decisions about the use of resources that contribute to an improved quality of life. The course includes units in utilizing resources and consumer information by applying goal-setting and decision-making skills. The student will learn how to evaluate resources to meet social, physical, and psychological needs. The student will learn how to be a wise consumer. This course meets the graduation requirement for consumer education.

#### **VH205 Vocational American Government - 04151A000**

**Credit:** ½ academic credit, semester

**Prerequisite:** IEP Placement

This course is designed to provide the student with an understanding of the structure, functions, and concepts within federal, state, and local governments; a comparison of political systems, and an understanding of the rights and responsibilities of citizens and the democratic process. Constitution and Flag tests will be administered. This course meets the graduation requirement for Government.

#### **VH300 Vocational United States History**

**Credit:** 1 academic credit, year

**Prerequisite:** IEP Placement

This course is designed for the student to receive instruction on the history of the United States and will emphasize the social, economic, and political aspects of United States History. Students will be presented with an interpretation of the critical periods in our country's past and will start with a review of our early history continuing through the Civil War to WWII. This course is required for graduation.

#### **VM100 Vocational Math 1 – 02002A000**

**Credit:** 1 academic credit, year

**Prerequisite:** IEP Placement

#### **VM200 Vocational Math 2 – 02049A000**

**Credit:** 1 academic credit, year

**Prerequisite:** IEP Placement

These courses are designed to strengthen individual abilities in basic arithmetic skills: addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division of whole numbers, decimals, and fractions. The student may also strengthen his/her skills in the use of ratios, percents, time, calendar, money, and measurement.



Special emphasis will be placed on developing the ability to relate and apply these basic mathematical skills to everyday life. These courses earn credit toward the graduation requirement in Mathematics.

### **VM110 Vocational PreAlgebra – 02051A000**

**Credit:** 1 academic credit, year

**Prerequisite:** IEP Placement

This course is designed to introduce algebraic concepts such as the use of variables, representing words with numbers and symbols, adding, subtracting, multiplying, and dividing positive and negative numbers, using inverse operations to solve equations, reading and designing tables, number lines and graphs, and working with common algebraic formulas to determine perimeter and area for rectangles, triangles, and other geometric figures. Special emphasis will be placed on the order of operations in solving equations and on properties of numbers such as associative, commutative, and distributive. This course earns credit toward the graduation requirement in Mathematics.

### **VM220 Vocational Algebra 1**

**Credit:** 1 academic credit, year

**Prerequisite:** IEP Placement

This course is designed to give the student an opportunity to solve for unknown numerical values in everyday situations, and to discover basic mathematical principles and concepts. This course will cover the properties of real numbers, solving equations involving one or two variables, radicals, and exponents, the use of the basic four operations with polynomials, inequalities, linear equations and graphing. This course meets one of the high school graduation requirements.

### **VM330 Vocational Geometry**

**Credit:** 1 academic year, year

**Prerequisite:** IEP Placement

This course will explore geometry in terms of lines, planes, angles, triangles, similarity, congruence, quadrilaterals, perimeter, area of polygons and circles, trigonometry and surface area and volume of solids. There will be constructions and proofs. This course meets one of the high school graduation requirements.

### **VS200 Vocational Physical Science**

**Credit:** 1 academic credit, year

**Prerequisite:** IEP Placement

This course offers opportunities to explore and study the natural sciences of matter and energy. Students will engage in a variety of laboratory activities to develop a scientific way of thinking. Students will study and apply the metric system. As well, they will study the structure of matter, physical and chemical changes, motion, electricity, sound and light. This course meets one of the high school graduation requirements.

### **VS 300 Vocational Environmental Science**

**Credit:** 1 academic credit, year

**Prerequisite:** IEP Placement

This course offers opportunities to explore and study the environmental sciences. Students will study how humans interact with the environment, how we use natural resources and how our actions alter our environment. The course will offer units of study in ecosystems, Biomes, prairie, forest, lake and river systems, Central Illinois geology, and cultural history. Students will explore mineral and energy resources, renewable and nonrenewable energy and waste. This course meets one of the high school graduation requirements.

### **VW100 Pre-Vocational Skills – 2253A000**

**Credit:** 1 academic credit, year

**Prerequisite:** IEP Placement

This course is designed for the student to define interest, aptitudes, and abilities for individual vocational training. Emphasis will also include instruction in career preparation and the methods for obtaining and maintaining employment. This course provides the student with the knowledge and skills necessary to prepare for and enter the world of work. Credit for this course is applied as elective credit toward graduation requirements.

### **VW200 Vocational Work Experience – 22998A000**

**Credit:** 2 academic credits, year

**Prerequisite:** IEP Placement

This course is available to students who have met eligibility requirements set by the Department of Rehabilitation Services (DRS) to become DRS clients. The student is enrolled in the Secondary Transitional Experience Program (STEP). The student is placed in either an on-campus or an off-campus job site to gain work experience in this transitional program. The student will work an average of two to three hours everyday. Additionally, the STEP student is required to take the Pre-Vocational Skills course. This course earns elective credit toward graduation requirements.

## **BLOOMINGTON CAREER ACADEMY**

Ridgeview is happy to partner with the Bloomington Career Academy with the mission to help educate students to acquire the knowledge, attitudes, and skills necessary to become healthy, happy, and productive adults in their chosen careers; and become enthusiastic lifelong learners who can manage change; and perpetuate and improve the democratic process which has an impact on their communities, their country, and their world. Students will need to apply for admission on November 1st, and information will be released to students in the spring for the following school year. **All BACC classes are yearlong with minimal exceptions for dropping at semester, as RHS pays for each student to attend for**

the full year. Ridgeview reserves the right to deny admission to students due to behavior, attendance, grades, and total number of credits.

## **Automotive Technology**

**Available to: Juniors and Seniors**

Classroom and lab activities prepare students for an entry level job or advanced training in the automotive technology field. Students perform service work using industry standard tools and equipment in a modern shop setting.

Topics include:

- Engine, design operation, diagnostics
- Brake systems
- Steering & suspensions
- Alignment

ASE A1 Engine Certification

Dual Credit with Heartland Community College available.

## **CDL Trucking**

**Available to: Seniors (18+)**

This course is designed to fully prepare students for an entry-level position as a professional driver, with a strong emphasis on practical, behind-the-wheel experience.

- At the end of the class students will take the Class “A” License Road & Skill Test

Must hold valid Illinois drivers license\*

## **Certified Nurse Assistant**

**Available to: Juniors, Seniors**

Learn essential principles and skills needed for a career in health care.

- Patient care: dressing, feeding, bathing, transferring
- Vital Signs: height, weight, blood pressure, pulse, respirations
- Basic aseptic procedures

HANDS ON CLINICAL EXPERIENCE

- At nursing home 2 days a week (October – April)

Certified Nurse’s Assistant (CNA) Certification available.

Dual Credit with Heartland Community College available.

## **CNA Leadership**

**Available to: Seniors with CNA (Must be accepted into program)**

Three days a week internships in area hospitals, clinics, and doctors’ offices.

- Hands-on experiences available in ER, ICU, Mother/Baby Units, Oncology, Pediatrics Offices

- Learn advanced skills such as inserting urinary catheters, blood glucose monitoring, EKG's and venipunctures
- Introduction to pharmacology, mental health, respiratory therapy, nutrition, and specimen collection

## Computer Technology & Networking

**Available to: Juniors, Seniors**

The goal of this class is for students to complete the CompTIA A+ Certification.

- Install, configure, and troubleshoot computer: hardware, software, and operating systems
- Learn about administering network systems
- Field trips to local IT businesses & university
- Internship opportunities with businesses and school IT departments

Dual Credit with Heartland Community College available.

## Construction Trades

**Available to: Juniors, Seniors**

Build multiple structures while learning:

- Foundations, framing, roofing
- Exterior, siding, trim
- Interior finish work, trim
- Blueprint reading
- Proper use of power tools
- Safety procedures
- Mechanical systems, electrical wiring, plumbing
- Cost estimates, scheduling

OSHA 10 hour safety certification available.

Dual Credit with Heartland Community College available.

## Cosmetology

**Available to: Juniors, Seniors**

Attend classes at Tricoci to gain competencies in 2 of the 5 classroom modules. These modules are needed in becoming a licensed cosmetologist.

MODULE 1:

- Wet/dry; long/short styling
- Braids, curls, straightening
- Up and down styles

MODULE 2:

- Adding/removing texture
- Perming, relaxing, chemicals, rod styles

Hours accumulated go towards the requirements to sit for the Illinois State Cosmetology Exam.

## Criminal Justice & Law Enforcement

### Available to: Juniors, Seniors

Learn aspects of law enforcement and the legal system, such as:

- Constitutional & Illinois law
- History of law enforcement
- Dispatch, report writing, administration
- Search and seizure, arrest, due process, crime models
- Interrogation techniques
- Crime Scene Investigation, analysis, security

Stop the Bleed and AED/CPR Certification available

## Culinary Arts

### Available to: Juniors and Seniors

Learn skills to pursue a career in the Culinary Arts and Food Service Industry with hands-on experience in a commercial quality kitchen lab:

- Safety and Sanitation
- Knife Skills & Techniques
- Tools & Equipment
- Measuring & Culinary Math
- Standardized Recipe Analysis
- Culinary Community Events
- Commercial Baking Methods

ServSafe Food Handler, ServSafe Food Protection Manager & ServSafe Allergen Certifications available. Dual Credit with Joliet Junior College available.

## Cybersecurity

### Available to: Juniors, and Seniors

Explore the world of Cybersecurity through hands-on experiences and real-world training. Students will learn how to protect computer systems, networks, and data from cyber threats.

CompTIA Security Pro, Ethical Hacker Pro, AWS Training & Certification, CompTIA Cyber Defense Pro

## Emergency Medical Technician

### Available to: Seniors

- Emphasizes the care and handling of the critically ill and injured
- Assessment of illnesses
- Application of proper emergency care procedures

EMT LICENSURE TEST:

- After successful completion of EMT-Basic course
- Must be 18 years old and a High School Graduate

Dual Credit with Heartland Community College available.

## Esthetics

### **Available to: Juniors and Seniors**

Improve understanding of the day-to-day skincare, specialized skin treatments, and more. Curriculum is ideal for aspiring facialists, waxing specialists, body treatment specialists, and makeup artists and applicators.

Hours accumulated go towards the requirements to sit for the Illinois State Cosmetology Exam.

## Fire Science

### **Available to: Junior and Seniors**

Prepare for a career in Fire Service:

- Technical and hands-on skills
- Fire behavior, safety, rescue
- Fire control, extinguishers, fire hoses, ladders, ropes
- Ventilation, self-contained breathing apparatus, turnout gear

Emergency Medical Responder (EMR) Certificate available.

Dual Credit with Illinois Central College available.

## Foundations of Teaching

### **Available to: Junior and Seniors**

Introduction to the core principles of teaching, along with the responsibilities of educators. Combines both classroom instruction and experiences. Students will:

- Develop teaching objectives
- Design lesson plans
- Explore teaching opportunities

Dual Credit with Heartland Community College available.

## Graphic Design & Video Production

### **Available to: Sophomores, Juniors, Seniors**

Develop technical skills related to typography, composition, color theory, scripting, storyboarding, animation, sound design, by concepting and executing projects including:

- Print Displays & Publications
- Podcasts & Music Videos
- Branding & Design Systems
- Collateral & Merchandising — including apparel

Adobe Creative Cloud Industry Recognized Certifications available: Photoshop, Illustrator, InDesign, After Effects, Premier, and Audition

Dual credit with Heartland Community College available.

## Health Careers and Medical Terminology

**Available to: Sophomores, Juniors, Seniors**

Medical Terminology will be studied by breaking down medical terms, focusing on word parts, spelling and pronunciation. Medical Careers will be explored with field trips, guest speakers, job shadowing, and research. Careers that will be studied include, but are not limited to:

- Sports Medicine
- Physical/Occupational Therapy
- Radiology
- Dental Assistant/Hygienist
- Respiratory Care

Dual Credit with Heartland Community College available.

## Heavy Equipment Repair & Operation

**Available to: Juniors, Seniors (must hold valid Illinois Driver License)**

Through a combination of classroom instruction and hands-on training, students learn to operate and maintain a variety of heavy industry equipment. Students gain the foundational skills required to meet industry demands and excel in the workforce.

National Center for Construction Education and Research Credential

## Mechatronics

**Available to: Sophomores, Juniors, Seniors**

With a combination of lab work and classroom instruction on electricity, mechanics, robotic programming and operations, safely using industry-leading equipment, and so much more, students gain a strong foundation for careers in advanced manufacturing, engineering technology, and industrial maintenance. Real-world experience gained through hands-on training, industry certification, and dual credit opportunities prepares students to graduate with a strong foundation for careers in advanced manufacturing, engineering technology, and industrial maintenance.

Dual Credit with Heartland Community College available.

## Robotics & Engineering

**Available to: Sophomores, Juniors, Seniors**

Students will apply concepts learned in physical science and physics classes to mechanical devices.

- Develop skills in mechanical design and construction
- Introduction to coding, electronics, robotics, & engineering
- Build robotic devices
- Explore career opportunities
- Explore education needs for engineering fields

Drone Certification (part 107)

Onshape Certification

## **Welding**

**Location:** BCA or Tri-Valley High School

**Available to:** Juniors, Seniors

Learn topics and develop skills needed to pursue a welding career in a classroom and lab setting.

- Machine tool & Machining processes, Welding processes
- Safety, blueprint reading, basic math skills

Dual Credit with Heartland Community College available.

**\*\*Dual Credit is subject to change at the discretion of the community college. \*\***