



**GOVERNING BOARD AGENDA ITEM
AMPHITHEATER UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 10**

DATE OF MEETING: **January 25, 2022**

TITLE: **Presentation on Amphitheater Course Catalog**

BACKGROUND:

In Fall 2021, Beth Lake, Community and Family Engagement Coordinator, and Matt Munger conducted a comprehensive review of the Amphitheater's Course Catalog to consider potential revisions, updates and information that should be made to the existing Course Catalog.

The review included potential changes to the Course Catalog and Tyler SIS that would create alignment between the course names in the Course Catalog, Tyler course numbers and student transcripts.

Included in the review were the following team members:

- Michael Warrick, Student Data Management and Systems Analyst
- Karla Campillo-Soto, District Literacy Coordinator
- Polly Kimminau, District Math Coordinator
- Pam Vandivort, District Science Coordinator

The presentation to the Governing Board will include a review of the following topics

- Course description changes
- Course name changes
- Course number changes
- Alignment of course names and course numbers as reflected on transcript
- Newly included resources for parents and students
- Changes to weighted grades
- Forthcoming plans for Middle School Course Catalog

RECOMMENDATION:

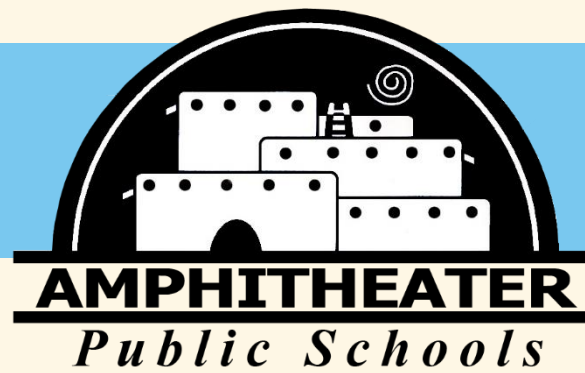
This is presented to the Governing Board as an informational item.

INITIATED BY:

Matthew Munger
Associate Superintendent for Secondary Education

Date: January 18, 2022

Todd A. Jaeger, J.D., Superintendent



Amphitheater Academic Guide

A Review of Revisions and New Features in the Course Catalog

Beth Lake

Community and Family Engagement Coordinator

Matt Munger

Associate Superintendent for Secondary Education





Advising Committee



Karla Campillo-Soto

- Former District Literacy Coordinator



Polly Kimminau

- District Math Coordinator



Pam Vandivort

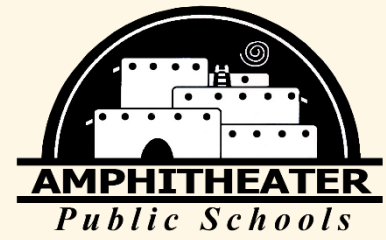
- District Science Coordinator



Michael Warrick

- Student Data Management and Systems Analyst





Rationale for Updates and Revisions

In Fall 2022, at the request of the Superintendent, a committee was formed to conduct a comprehensive review of Amphitheater's Course Catalog, which included a review and revision of course names and course descriptions.

As part of the review and revisions, we specifically evaluated current course names and the impact on student interest, as well as, the perceived academic experience students would receive in courses, such as English 9, 10, 11 and 12.

Additionally, we reviewed the current formatting of course descriptions and the student or parent experience when reading the descriptions.

Furthermore, we consider new features that could provide supporting information to students and parents as they looked at potential courses for the current/following year(s). Moreover, we also looked at creating alignment between the published Academic Guide, course numbers in Tyler and information that appeared on student transcripts.



Course Name Changes



| | | |
|--|----------|---------------------------------|
| Section: ENGo0g | | English 9 |
| Grade: 9 | All Year | Course offered at: AHS CDO IRHS |
| Prerequisites: <i>None</i> | | |
| This on-level course concentrates on grammar and usage, spelling, vocabulary development, sentence and paragraph writing, and research skills. Reading instruction includes an intensive study of the elements of fiction and informational texts. Listening and speaking skills are developed through class discussions and oral presentations. Independent reading is a requirement. | | |

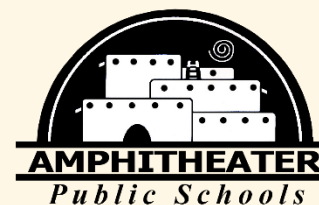
| | | |
|--|----------|-----------------------------|
| Section: ENGo16 | | Honors English 9 |
| Grade: 9 | All Year | Course offered at: CDO IRHS |
| Prerequisites: <i>Honors English eligibility and teacher recommendation</i> | | |
| This course concentrates on a survey of classical literature with an emphasis on improving critical thinking and reading skills. Composition instruction focuses on literary analysis, narrative and research writing, and includes applied grammar and vocabulary development. Listening and speaking skills are developed through class discussions and oral presentations. Independent reading is a requirement. This course carries a weighted grade. | | |

| | | |
|--|----------|---------------------------------|
| Section: ENGo10 | | English 10 |
| Grade: 10 | All Year | Course offered at: AHS CDO IRHS |
| Prerequisites: <i>English 9</i> | | |
| This on-level course concentrates on the writing process from pre-writing to revision, with an emphasis on writing for various purposes. Students read, discuss, and analyze selected poetry, short stories, novels, drama, and non-fiction. Listening and speaking skills are developed through class discussions and oral presentations. Independent reading is a requirement. | | |

| | | |
|---|----------|---|
| Course: ENGo09A/ENGo09B | | English 9: Analyzing Cultural Connections through Literature |
| Grade: 9 | All Year | Course offered at: AHS CDO IRHS |
| Prerequisites: <i>None</i> | | |
| Students will have an opportunity to develop their critical thinking skills applied to literature. Through an intensive analysis of fiction and informational texts, students will: | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop personal perspectives about challenges, relationships, and connections among different cultures • Concentrate on research skills applied to reading, writing, listening, and speaking. • Apply their critical thinking skills to class discussions and oral presentations (an integral part of the program) • Independent reading is a requirement | | |

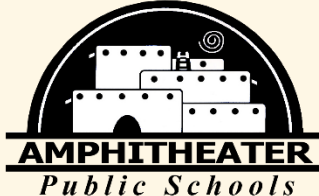
| | | |
|--|----------|---|
| Course: ENGo16A/ENGo16B | | Honors English 9: Classical Literature and Composition |
| Grade: 9 | All Year | Course offered at: CDO IRHS |
| Prerequisites: <i>Honors/AP English eligibility and teacher recommendation</i> | | |
| In this course, students will have an opportunity to exercise their critical thinking and reading skills applied to classic literature. Composition instruction includes applied grammar and vocabulary development, and focuses on: | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Literary analysis • Narrative and research writing • Independent reading is a requirement | | |
| In addition, students have ample opportunities to apply their critical thinking skills to class discussions and oral presentations as an integral part of this program. | | |
| This course carries a weighted grade. | | |

Course Name Changes



| Current (SY2021-22) Course Names and Course Codes: | | New (SY2022-23) Course Names and Course Codes: | |
|---|--------|--|-----------------|
| Electives: | | Electives: | |
| • Spanish for Spanish Speakers I | MLG030 | • Spanish for Native Speakers I | MLG030A/MLG030B |
| • Spanish for Spanish Speakers II | MLG031 | • Spanish for Native Speakers II | MLG031A/MLG031B |
| • Spanish for Spanish Speakers III | MLG032 | • Spanish for Native Speakers III | MLG032A/MLG032B |
| English: | | English: | |
| • English 9 | ENG009 | • English 9: Analyzing Cultural Connections through Literature | ENG009A/ENG009B |
| • Honors English 9 | ENG016 | • Honors English 9: Classical Literature and Composition | ENG016A/ENG016B |
| • English 10 | ENG010 | • English 10: Discovering a Personal Point of View | ENG010A/ENG010B |
| • Honors English 10 | ENG017 | • Honors English 10: Analysis of Literature and Composition | ENG017A/ENG017B |
| • English 11 | ENG011 | • English 11: America through Literature | ENG011A/ENG011B |
| • English 12 | ENG012 | • English 12: The British Classics | ENG012A/ENG012B |
| Math: | | Math: | |
| • Advanced Geometry | MTH013 | • Honors Geometry | MTH013A/MTH013B |
| • Advanced Algebra II | MTH004 | • Honors Algebra II | MTH004A/MTH004B |

Course Description Changes



| | | |
|---|----------|-----------------------------------|
| Section: ENGo19 | | AP English Language & Composition |
| Grade: 11 | All Year | Course offered at: AHS CDO IRHS |
| Prerequisites: <i>Honors/AP English eligibility or A/B in Honors English 9 & 10, and teacher recommendation</i> | | |
| <p>This course concentrates on an intensive survey of American literature and non-fiction, and prepares a student to take the College Board’s Advanced Placement exam in Language and Composition. Students analyze and interpret texts while identifying and explaining the author’s use of rhetorical strategies and techniques. Students write in a variety of genres and contexts including rhetorical analysis, argumentation, persuasion, and synthesis of research. Listening and speaking skills are developed through class discussions and polished oral presentations. Independent reading is a requirement. Each school has required summer reading to be completed before the fall semester begins. Please visit the English/Language Arts Department website for the list. This course carries a weighted grade.</p> | | |

Student/Parent user friendly



| | | |
|--|----------|-----------------------------------|
| Course: ENGo19A/ENGo19B | | AP English Language & Composition |
| Grade: 11 | All Year | Course offered at: AHS CDO IRHS |
| Prerequisites: <i>Honors/AP English eligibility or A/B in Honors English 9 & 10, and teacher recommendation</i> | | |
| <p>This course concentrates on an intensive survey of American literature and non-fiction, and prepares a student to take the College Board’s Advanced Placement exam in Language and Composition.</p> <p>In this course, students use their critical thinking skills to analyze and interpret text when:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identifying and explaining the author’s use of rhetorical strategies and techniques • Writing in a variety of genres and contexts, including rhetorical analysis, argumentation, persuasion, and synthesis of research • Developing listening and speaking skills through class discussions and <i>polished</i> oral presentations • Independent reading is a requirement • Each school has a <i>required</i> summer reading list to be completed before the fall semester begins. Please visit the English/Language Arts Department website for the list. • This course carries a weighted grade • For more information on this class, please visit the AP site <p>This course carries a weighted grade.</p> | | |

Course Description Changes



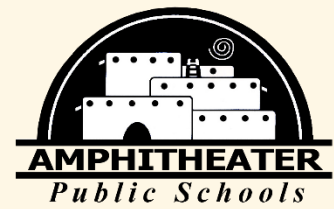
| | | |
|---|----------|---------------------------------|
| Section: SC1003 | | Chemistry |
| Grade: 10-12 | All Year | Course offered at: AHS CDO IRHS |
| Prerequisites: Concurrent enrollment in Algebra II preferred; current science teacher approval required | | |
| This course covers topics such as atomic structure, chemical reactions, stoichiometry, gas laws, bonding, and acid-base chemistry. Considerable time is spent executing analytical labs with accuracy being an essential component of success. Fee applied to students taking this as a fourth science course. | | |



Revise language to create interest without intimidation

| | | |
|---|----------|---------------------------------|
| Course: SC1003A/SC1003B | | Chemistry |
| Grade: 10-12 | All Year | Course offered at: AHS CDO IRHS |
| Prerequisites: Concurrent enrollment in Algebra II preferred; current science teacher approval required | | |
| Chemistry is the study of the behaviors and characteristics of matter- and matter is what makes up all things, both living and non-living. Students will have the opportunity practice critical thinking, problem-solving, collaboration and communication via: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing and using models to explore atomic structure • Investigating chemical reactions, conservation of matter, gas laws, chemical bonding and acid-base characteristics • Investigating phenomena through analytical laboratory experiments • Evaluating how the use of chemistry-related technologies have impacted societies ethically, socially, politically and economically • Practicing laboratory skills and accuracy goals | | |
| <i>Fee applied to students taking this as a fourth science course.</i> | | |

Course Description Changes

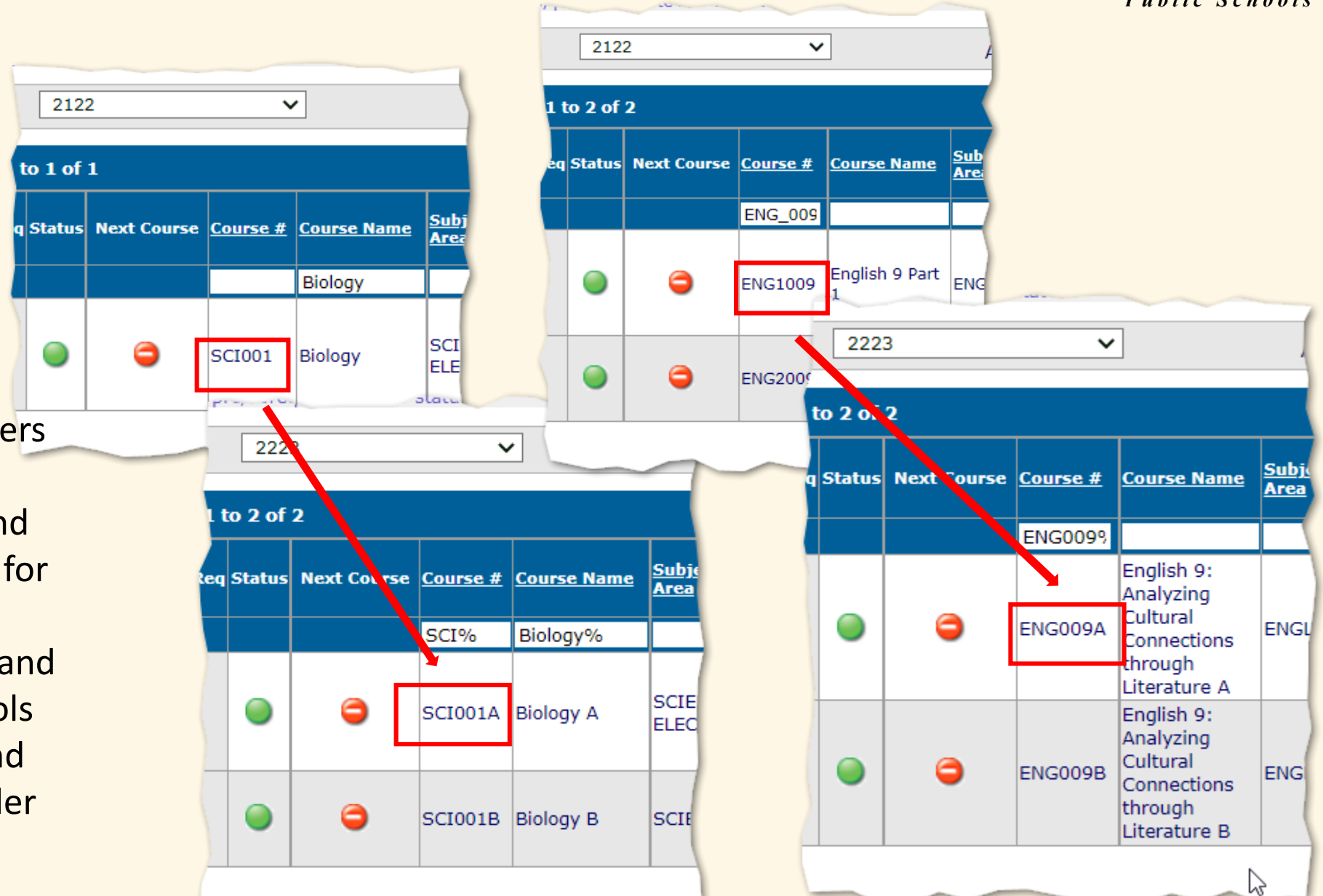


| | | |
|---|----------|---------------------------------|
| Section: MTHo18 | | AP Statistics |
| Grade: 11-12 | All Year | Course offered at: AHS CDO IRHS |
| Prerequisites: <i>Grade of "C" or better in Pre-Calculus or Advanced Alg. II or "A" in Alg. II</i> | | |
| This college-level course covers four major content areas: exploring data, designing studies, probability, and statistical inference and is equivalent to a one-semester college course in statistics. Students may elect to take the AP Statistics Test which may give them one semester of college math credit. This class may be taken concurrently with other math classes. | | |
| This course carries a weighted grade. | | |



| | | |
|--|----------|---------------------------------|
| Course: MTHo18A/MTHo18B | | AP Statistics |
| Grade: 11-12 | All Year | Course offered at: AHS CDO IRHS |
| Prerequisites: <i>Grade of "C" or better in Pre-Calculus or Honors Alg. II or "A" in Alg. II</i> | | |
| AP Statistics is an introductory college-level statistics course focusing on the major concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing, and drawing conclusions from data. Students develop an understanding of statistics using technology, investigations, problem solving, and writing as they explore concepts. Students may elect to take the AP Statistics Exam which may give them one semester college math credit. This course may be taken concurrently with other math courses. In this course, students will... | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore one- and two-variable data • Collect data • Study probability, random variables, and probability distributions. • Understand sampling distributions • Develop an understanding of and work with Inference for Categorical and Quantitative Data • Interact with the digital platform, SaplingPlus, which extends the learning with an interactive eBook, a variety of video supports, and online homework with error-specific feedback • For more information on this class, please visit the AP site. | | |
| This course carries a weighted grade. | | |

Alignment of Course Info

| Req Status | Next Course | Course # | Course Name | Subj Area |
|--------------|-------------|----------|--|--------------|
| Green circle | Red circle | SCI001 | Biology | SCIE ELE |
| Green circle | Red circle | ENG1009 | English 9 Part 1 | ENG |
| Green circle | Red circle | ENG2009 | | |
| Green circle | Red circle | SCI001A | Biology A | SCIE ELEC |
| Green circle | Red circle | SCI001B | Biology B | SCIE |
| Green circle | Red circle | ENG009A | English 9: Analyzing Cultural Connections through Literature A | ENGL |
| Green circle | Red circle | ENG009B | English 9: Analyzing Cultural Connections through Literature B | ENG |

Revision of course numbers promotes:

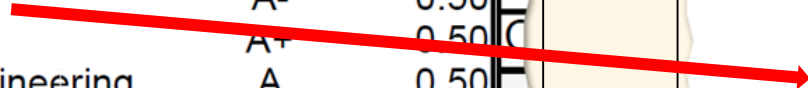
- Clarity between 1st and 2nd semester courses for students, parents, teachers, counselors and post-secondary schools
- Improves accuracy and predictability with Tyler scheduling tools.

Alignment of Course Info



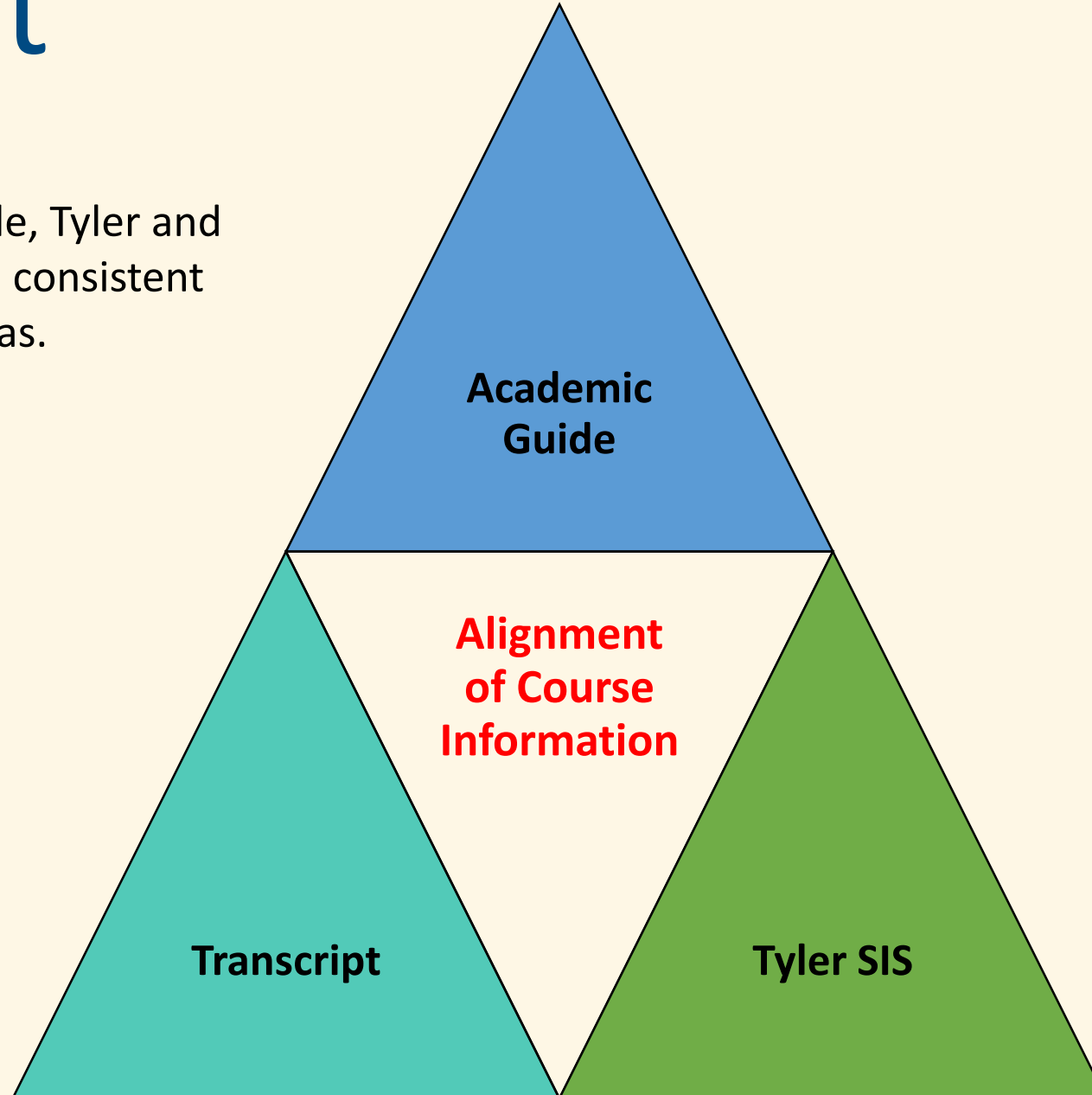
| Ironwood Ridge High School Grd 11 17-18 Fall | | | |
|--|-----------------------------|----|----------------------|
| 50 | AP Calculus AB | A- | 0.50 |
| 50 | Marching Band | A+ | 0.50 |
| 0 | Jazz Combo | A+ | 0.50 |
| | Pre AP Chemistry | B+ | 0.50 |
| | US/AZ History | A | 0.50 |
| 50 | Introduction to Engineering | A- | 0.50 |
| 50 | Design | | |
| 50 | English 11 Part 1 | A | 0.50 |
| 50 | Crd Att: 3.50 Cmp: 3.50 | | Weighted GPA: 4.1429 |
| Ironwood Ridge High School Grd 11 17-18 Spring | | | |
| 50 | AP Calculus AB | A | 0.50 |
| 9 | Jazz Combo | A+ | 0.50 |
| | Pre AP Chemistry | B+ | 0.50 |
| | US/AZ History | A- | 0.50 |
| 50 | Wind Ensemble | A+ | 0.50 |
| 50 | Introduction to Engineering | A | 0.50 |
| 50 | Design | | |
| 50 | English 11 Part 2 | A+ | 0.50 |
| 50 | Crd Att: 3.50 Cmp: 3.50 | | Weighted GPA: 4.1429 |

| Ironwood Ridge High School Grd 11 17-18 Fall | | | |
|--|-------------------------------|----|----------------------|
| | AP Calculus AB Part 1 | A- | 0.50 |
| | Marching Band | A+ | 0.50 |
| | Jazz Combo A | A+ | 0.50 |
| | Honors Chemistry A | B+ | 0.50 |
| | US/AZ History A | A | 0.50 |
| | Introduction to Engineering | A- | 0.50 |
| | Design A | | |
| | English 11: America through | A | 0.50 |
| | Literature A | | |
| | Crd Att: 3.50 Cmp: 3.50 | | Weighted GPA: 4.1429 |
| Ironwood Ridge High School Grd 11 17-18 Spring | | | |
| | AP Calculus AB Part 2 | A | 0.50 |
| | Jazz Combo B | A+ | 0.50 |
| | Honors Chemistry B | B+ | 0.50 |
| | US/AZ History B | A- | 0.50 |
| | Wind Ensemble B | A+ | 0.50 |
| | Introduction to Engineering | A | 0.50 |
| | Design B | | |
| | English 11: America through | A | 0.50 |
| | Literature B | | |
| | Crd Att: 3.50 Cmp: 3.50 | | Weighted GPA: 4.1429 |



Alignment

Revisions in Academic Guide, Tyler and Student Transcripts creates consistent appearance in all three areas.



Resources/Info for Students and Parents



EDUCATION AND CAREER ACTION PLAN (ECAP)
 "Effective for the graduating class of 2013, schools shall complete for every student in grades 9-12 an Arizona Education and Career Action Plan." (R7-2-302.05) "An ECAP reflects a student's current plan of coursework, career aspirations, and extended learning opportunities in order to develop the student's individual academic and career goals. Ideally, the initial plan will be developed in middle school and updated on a yearly basis throughout high school and the postsecondary years." (Arizona Department of Education)

The Amphitheater School District supports the use of our online program, [Major Clarity](#), to help students build their ECAP's. The student and parent accounts may be created at any time with access to it at any time via the internet. Please refer to the counseling web page for more information.

ACT Aspire / ACT
 ACT Aspire is the statewide high school achievement test, which will be administered to students in Grade 9. The Aspire test assess students' readiness in five areas covered by the ACT test: English, math, reading, science and writing. Beginning in spring 2022, this test will replace the AASA (formerly [AZMerit](#)).

ACT is the statewide high school achievement test, which will be administered to students in Grade 11. The ACT test covers five academic skill areas: English, mathematics, reading, scientific reasoning and writing. Beginning in spring 2022, this test will replace the AASA (formerly [AZMerit](#)).

| | | |
|--|----------|---------------------------------|
| Course: MTH018A/MTH018B | | AP Statistics |
| Grade: 11-12 | All Year | Course offered at: AHS CDO IRHS |
| Prerequisites: Grade of "C" or better in Pre-Calculus or Honors Alg. II or "A" in Alg. II | | |
| AP Statistics is an introductory college-level statistics course focusing on the major concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing, and drawing conclusions from data. Students develop an understanding of statistics using technology, investigations, problem solving, and writing as they explore concepts. Students may elect to take the AP Statistics Exam which may give them one semester college math credit. This course may be taken concurrently with other math courses. In this course, students will... | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore one- and two-variable data • Collect data • Study probability, random variables, and probability distributions. • Understand sampling distributions • Develop an understanding of and work with Inference for Categorical and Quantitative Data • Interact with the digital platform, SaplingPlus, which extends the learning with an interactive eBook, a variety of video supports, and online homework with error-specific feedback • For more information on this class, please visit the AP site. | | |
| This course carries a weighted grade. | | |

This course counts as a math requirement for graduation but does not meet the upper-level math requirement for state universities.

This course does not meet NCAA Clearinghouse requirements for collegiate student-athletes.

AZSCI
 AZSCI is a standards-based assessment that measures student proficiency of the Arizona Academic Content Standard in Science. A passing score on AzSCI is not required for graduation.

CARDIOPULMONARY RESUSCITATION (CPR)
 The State of Arizona Senate Bill 1137 states that school districts shall provide public school pupils with one or more training sessions in Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR), through the use of psychomotor skills in an age-appropriate manner, during high school.

FINANCIAL LITERACY/PERSONAL FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT
 The State of Arizona Senate Bill 1184 states that school districts shall provide public school pupils with financial literacy and personal financial management instruction during the Economics course.

Next Steps

Starting in Summer 2022, we will begin work on a unified Middle School Academic Guide. The Academic Guide book will provide students and parents with information on:

- Course opportunities
- Program and career pathways that students will have the opportunity to pursue in Amphitheater
- Information on 4 Year Academic Plans
- Educational Career Action Plans

