

**MIDWEST CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL**  
**2026-2027 Curriculum Guide**



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# MCHS GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

<b>English</b>	8 Semesters/4 Credits. Must include the sequence of ENG I, II, III, and IV as well as successful completion of a research paper in ENG II.
<b>Math</b>	6 Semesters/3 Credits. Must include at least two semesters of Algebra and two semesters of Geometry.
<b>Science</b>	6 Semesters/3 Credits. Must include two semesters of Biology and two semesters of Physical Science.
<b>Social Studies</b>	5 Semesters/2.5 Credits Must include two semesters of World History, two semesters of US History and .5 semester of Civics. Students must also pass a Constitution Exam.
<b>Physical Education</b>	8 Semesters/4 Credits of Physical Education
<b>Health</b>	1 Semester/.5 credit is required for graduation.
<b>Computer Applications</b>	1 Semester/.5 credit is required for graduation.
<b>Consumer Management</b>	1 Semester/.5 credit is required for graduation.
<b>Vocational/Fine Arts/Foreign Language</b>	2 Semesters/1 Credit of classes from one of these departments is required for graduation.
<b>Electives</b>	Students will have the opportunity to take electives throughout their high school career.

**\*Aside from the required classes in specific departments, a student must have a total of 24 credits to graduate from MCHS.**



# ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

## Course Sequence

	<b>Freshmen</b>	<b>Sophomore</b>	<b>Junior</b>	<b>Senior</b>
<b>Required Courses</b>	English I	English II	English III	English IV
<b>Elective Courses</b>	N/A	N/A	Creative Writing Detective Fiction English 110 (ICC) English 111 (ICC)	Creative Writing Detective Fiction English 110 (ICC) English 111 (ICC)

## Course Descriptions

### English I

Grade Level: 9

Prerequisite: None

Required for Graduation: Yes

Description: In addition to the continued study of parts of speech, grammar, and vocabulary, the first semester of English I is writing-intensive. The study of composition is primarily achieved through the analysis of literary elements and strategies found in short stories and an autobiographical novella. The majority of written work is typed and must include textual evidence and MLA citations. Texts increase in complexity as the year progresses, ending with a focus on Shakespeare. Composition develops with an introduction to argument and a focus on persuasion and rhetorical strategies. The year culminates with a unit on communication and public speaking. This is a full year, two semester class.

### English II

Grade Level: 10

Prerequisite: English I

Required for Graduation: Yes

Description: This course is a continuation of the work begun in English I. There is a thorough grammatical review at the beginning of the first semester followed by an intensive writing workshop with a focus on clear organizational structure, argumentative strategies, and the use of textual evidence to support ideas. This culminates in the writing of a research paper. The second semester begins with the study of poetry and poetic composition. Students then analyze and contrast a variety of highly complex works of non-fiction for structure, intent, and efficacy. The survey of literature ends with a culturally analytical reading of Harper Lee's *To Kill a Mockingbird*. This is a full year, two semester class.

### English III

Grade Level: 11

Prerequisite: English I & II

Required for Graduation: Yes

Description: The English III courses continue to develop a student's writing skills, emphasizing clear and coherent writing techniques, precise language, usage and mechanics, as students write essays and



continue to develop skills in argumentative, informative, and narrative writing. Students will also study American literature from the early indigenous people and colonists to contemporary authors. The literature studied includes both fiction (novel, plays, short stories, poetry) and nonfiction (historical narratives, essays, articles). Literature often will be the foundation for many writing assignments. This is a full year, two semester class.

### **English IV**

Grade Level: 12

Prerequisite: English I, II & III

Required for Graduation: Yes

Description:

#### **English IV: COLLEGE PREP**

This course is designed for the senior who is planning on attending a two- or four-year college/university. Students will write essays with a descriptive, narrative, and persuasive focus alongside grammar usage and mechanics review and application during the writing intensive semester. Attention is placed on improving writing and MLA formatting skills. Building of vocabulary is also emphasized. Students also read and respond to a variety of short stories, novels, and plays. This is a full year, two semester class.

#### **English IV: CAREER PREP**

This course is designed for the senior who is intending on going directly into the workforce after graduation, or perhaps to a technical/trade school or into a two-year college. Soft skills are a main focus of this course. Article summaries, resumes, college application essays, and critical analyses are part of the writing intensive semester. Students also read from a variety of short stories, novels, and plays. This is a full year, two semester class.

#### **English IV: Honors**

English IV Honors is geared to prepare students for the rigors of post-high school education at a four-year college/university. The course is divided into two distinct semesters—one semester focuses on advanced lessons in writing, reading, grammar, and communication while the other semester provides a thematic study of British Literature that includes novels, short stories, poetry, and drama. During semester 1, students will write for a variety of purposes including a research paper on a topic of the student's interest. Advanced database navigation will be a component of the research project. Students will also present their research findings to their classmates in a symposium style. Semester 2 will focus on literature, particularly British literature (Chaucer, Shakespeare, Conrad, etc.) This is a full year, two semester class.

#### **Detective Fiction**

Grade Level: 11 or 12

Prerequisite: English II

Required for Graduation: No

Description: Genre of this Elective: Detective Fiction (19th-21st centuries/focus on American and British authors) Authors that will be covered: Poe, Doyle, Futrelle, Christie, Chesterton, Queen, Sayers, Pinkerton, Rinehart, Ball, and others. This class will analyze how the authors use their detective fiction in their writing. This class will also be looking at how the detective story has progressed from Poe's 19th



century detective Auguste Dupin to the 21st century detective seen throughout books and films. Avenues of literature that will be explored consist of but are not limited to, short stories, novels, film adaptations, children's books. Literature course (reading emphasis) with writing components (75% reading, 25% writing)

### **Creative Writing**

Grade Level: 11 or 12

Prerequisite: English II

Required for Graduation: No

Description: Creative Writing courses offer students the opportunity to develop and improve their technique and individual style in poetry, short story, drama, essays, and other forms of prose. The emphasis of the courses is on writing; however, students may study exemplary representations and authors to obtain a fuller appreciation of the form and craft. Although most creative writing classes cover several expressive forms, others concentrate exclusively on one particular form (such as poetry or playwriting). This is a semester long course.

**English 110 – Composition** – This is a college level course offered through Illinois Central College

Grade Level: 11 or 12

Prerequisite: Approved reading placement score, or equivalent, or ENGL 095 or 099 or an equivalent course with a grade of "C" or better

Transfer Credit: Successful completion will result 3 Hours of Transfer Credit towards a college degree

Description: This course progresses the student from writing expressive compositions (expressing the ideas of the writer) to writing referential compositions (explaining or analyzing the subject matter for the reader) to writing persuasive compositions (persuading an audience), through critical reading, discussion, exercises, conferences, and revision. The majority of the writing is referential. This is a weighted course when taught by a MCHS staff member.

**English 111 - Composition II** - This is a college level course offered through Illinois Central College

Grade Level: 11 or 12

Prerequisite: Approved reading placement score, or equivalent, and ENGL 110 or equivalent course with a grade of "C" or better.

Transfer Credit: Successful completion will result 3 Hours of Transfer Credit towards a college degree

Description: This course progresses the student from writing analysis of and inquiring about issues to writing argumentative and persuasive compositions using research, through critical reading, discussion, exercises, conferences, and revision. The majority of the writing is argumentative. A grade of C or higher fulfills IAI General Education Core Curriculum requirements for transfer programs.



# MATH DEPARTMENT

## Course Sequence(s)

	<b>Freshmen</b>	<b>Sophomore</b>	<b>Junior</b>	<b>Senior</b>
<b>Required Sequence 1</b>	Geometry	Algebra II	Pre-Calculus	
<b>Required Sequence 2</b>	Algebra I	Geometry	Algebra II	
<b>Required Sequence 3</b>	Algebra I Apps	Geometry Apps	Algebra II Apps	
<b>Elective Courses</b>				Calculus STEM Math College Algebra

\*Initial sequence placement will depend on MCMS Math Achievement.

## Course Descriptions

### Algebra I Applications

Grade Level: 9

Prerequisite: None

Required for Graduation: Yes

Description: The purpose of Algebra I Applications is to improve and maintain skills with the four basic operations over whole numbers, fractions and decimals. Other topics include the study of variables, linear equations, inequalities, graphs and functions, exponents, polynomial functions, factoring, and problem solving. This is a full year, two semester class.

### Algebra I

Grade Level: 9

Prerequisite: None

Required for Graduation: Yes

Description: This course covers the properties of real numbers, variables, linear and quadratic equations, and inequalities. Other topics of study are graphs and functions, exponents, polynomial functions, factoring, and radical and rational expressions and functions. Problem solving skills are developed throughout the course. This is a full year, two semester class.

### Geometry Applications

Grade Level: 10

Prerequisite: Algebra I or Algebra I Applications

Required for Graduation: Yes

Description: The purpose of this course is to introduce and develop geometry concepts. Topics include angles, triangles, parallel lines, perimeter, area, volume, congruence, similarity, and other topics at the discretion of the teacher. This is a full year, two semester class.



## **Geometry**

Grade Level: 9-10

Prerequisite: Algebra I (including MCMS Algebra I course)

Required for Graduation: Yes

Description: Geometry is designed for students bound for college or technical school. It will quickly review the topics introduced in Algebra I. Other topics include geometric reasoning, parallel and perpendicular lines, triangle congruence, properties of triangles, polygons, quadrilaterals and circles, similarity, right triangle trigonometry, perimeter, area, volume, surface area, and transformational geometry. This is a full year, two semester class.

## **Algebra II Applications**

Grade Level: 11

Prerequisite: Geometry Applications or Geometry

Required for Graduation: Yes

Description: This course will review the topics introduced in Algebra I applications. Topics include the study of statistics, linear systems, and functions – quadratic, polynomial, radical, exponential, logarithmic, and rational. Other topics include sequences and series, probability and statistics, and other topics at the discretion of the teacher. This is a full year, two semester class.

## **Algebra II**

Grade Level: 10-11

Prerequisite: Geometry

Required for Graduation: Yes

Description: This course briefly reviews the topics introduced in Algebra I. Topics include the study of linear systems, and functions—quadratic, polynomial, radical, exponential, logarithmic, and rational. Other topics include conic sections, probability and statistics, and an introduction to trigonometry. This is a full year, two semester class.

## **Pre-Calculus**

Grade Level: 11-12

Prerequisite: Algebra II

Required for Graduation: Yes

Description: This course briefly reviews the topics introduced in Algebra 2 by giving more attention to polynomial, rational, exponential, and logarithmic functions. Other topics include trigonometry, systems of equations and inequalities, matrices, sequences and series, probability, conics, and an introduction to calculus. This is a full year, two semester class.

## **College Algebra**

Grade Level: 12

Prerequisite: Algebra II or Pre-Calculus

Required for Graduation: No

Description: This course will review the topics introduced in Algebra II by giving more attention to polynomial, rational, exponential, and logarithmic functions. Other topics include trigonometry, matrices, and vectors. This is a full year, two semester class.



**STEM Math**

Grade Level: 12

Prerequisite: Algebra II or Pre-Calculus

Required for Graduation: No

Description: This course will review the topics introduced in Algebra 2 by giving more attention to polynomial, rational, exponential, and logarithmic functions. This course is a transitional math course. Students will be required to take the final exam both semesters. Students who receive a C or better both semesters will receive a portability code on their transcript. This portability code allows students to not have to take a placement exam at a community college in Illinois in order to be placed into a credit bearing class at the community college. This is a full year, two semester class.

**Calculus**

Grade Level: 12

Prerequisite: Algebra II or Pre-Calculus

Required for Graduation: No

Description: Students will continue the study of Calculus and cover topics deemed important by the instructor. Such topics include limits, differentiation, integration, logarithmic functions, exponential functions, differential equations, and conics. Students may prepare for the Calculus Advanced Placement test. This is a full year, two semester class.



# SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

## Course Sequence

	<b>Freshmen</b>	<b>Sophomore</b>	<b>Junior/Senior</b>	
<b>Required Courses</b>	Physical Science	Biology	Sequence 1 – engineering, medical, vet, chemistry, math, biology, physics	Chemistry, Anatomy, Physics, & BIO 111 or BIO 140 (ICC) *Course selection depends on plans after HS.
			Sequence 2 – ag, allied health science, computer science, wildlife, law	Take two or more: Anatomy, Chemistry, Physics, Environmental Science, BIO 111, BIO 140 (ICC)
			Sequence 3 – Non-Science Emphasis	Take one: Anatomy, Chemistry, Physics or Environmental Science

\*Only one course required for graduation Jr/Sr year, however sequence recommendation will better prepare students for post-secondary plans.

## Course Description

### Physical Science

Grade Level: 9

Prerequisite: None

Required for Graduation: Yes

Description: This course is divided into introductory studies of chemistry and physics. Basic Physical Science concepts are studied through activities such as parachutes, egg catch builds, boats, racers, and many more STEM builds. For the chemistry aspect of the class, students will study all aspects of Matter and how the many transformations matter can undergo. Additionally, changes in matter and their relationships with other chemicals are also studied. Students will be required to construct a Science Notebook holding all of their science works. This is a full year, two semester class.

### Biology

Grade Level: 10

Prerequisite: None

Required for Graduation: Yes

Description: Biology I will study the following areas: the life and function of cells, genetics, classification system, physiology and anatomy of organisms in all kingdoms, and ecology. Collaborative learning and lab experiences are highly emphasized. Dissection of organisms in the Animal Kingdom will take place in the second semester. This is a full year, two semester class.

### Anatomy & Physiology

Grade Level: 11-12

Prerequisite: None

Required for Graduation: No



**Description:** This laboratory-based course investigates the structure and function of the human body. Topics covered include the basic organization of the human body and major body systems along with the impact of injuries and diseases. This is a full year, two semester class.

### **Chemistry**

Grade Level: 11-12

Prerequisite: Algebra II

Required for Graduation: No

**Description:** This course covers matter and measurement, composition of matter, chemical bonding, compounds and chemical change, solutions, acids, bases and salts, the gas laws, nuclear chemistry and thermodynamics. Lab is a fundamental part of the class. This is a full year, two semester class.

### **Environmental Science**

Grade Level: 11-12

Prerequisite: None

Required for Graduation: No

**Description:** This course allows students to explore areas related to fish and wildlife conservation, management, establishment, and careers. Learning ecologically sound practices for managing our natural resources is emphasized. Students will explore the Illinois River and other surrounding freshwater resources, how to maintain a conservation habitat, and ways to better our environment. This course will prepare students planning to enter conservation careers such as marine biology, forestry, etc. This is a full year, two semester class.

### **Physics**

Grade Level: 11-12

Prerequisite: Algebra II

Required for Graduation: No

**Description:** The areas covered include measurement, motion, vectors, dynamics (forces), gravitation, work and power, energy and its conservation, heat, kinetic theory, waves and the transfer of energy, light, electricity, magnetism, and quantum theory. Experiments are performed on the computer, and the scientific method is followed. This is a full year, two semester class.

### **BIOL 111 – Concepts in Biology**

Grade Level: 11-12

Prerequisite: ICC Testing with approved reading placement score

Required for Graduation: No

**Description:** This course develops an understanding of the biological nature of various organisms including their reproduction, genetics, origins, and evolution. Topics include: Study of Life, Chemistry of Life, Cells, Animal Tissues, Energy of Life, DNA Structure and Gene Function, DNA Structure & Replication, Mitosis & Meiosis, Genetics, DNA Technology, Evolution (Forces, Evidence, Extinction), Origin & History of Life, Bacteria, Viruses, Animals, Animal Reproduction & Development. 4 Credit Hours (TC) – Lecture Hours: 3 with Laboratory Hours: 1. This is a weighted course.



**BIOL 140 – Human Anatomy Physiology**

Grade Level: 11-12

Prerequisite: ICC Testing with approved reading placement score

Required for Graduation: No

Description: This course presents an investigation of human organisms on the cellular, histological, and organ system level of development. It is intended as a survey of basic anatomy and physiology principles and relationships appropriate for students in certain degree programs. Please check your specific program requirements. Topics include: Introduction to Anatomy & Physiology, Chemical Level of Organization, Cells, Histology, Systems of the Human Body (Integumentary, Skeletal, Musculature, Nervous, Special Senses, Endocrine, Cardiovascular, Blood, Lymphatic, Respiratory, Digestive, Urinary, Reproductive & Development).4 Credit Hours (TC) – Lecture Hours: 3 with Laboratory Hours: 1. This is a weighted course.



# SOCIAL STUDIES DEPARTMENT

## Course Sequence

	<b>Freshmen</b>	<b>Sophomore</b>	<b>Junior</b>	<b>Senior</b>
<b>Required Courses</b>	World History	US History		Civics
<b>Elective Courses</b>	N/A	Psychology Sociology	Pop Culture & US History US History Thru Sports Psychology Sociology PSY 110 (ICC) SOC 110 (ICC)	

## Course Description

### **World History**

Grade Level: 9

Prerequisite: None

Required for Graduation: Yes

Description: World History traces the development of people and societies through time and includes World Geography. This course is the study of the world's major cultures and societies through their religions, wars, art, and literature, leaders, and common people. It includes the study of Classical Greece and Rome, the Enlightenment and the Age of Reason, the Renaissance, African Tribal Societies, the Reformation and the French Revolution. World History is recommended for college-bound students. This is a full year, two semester class.

### **United States History**

Grade Level: 10

Prerequisite: None

Required for Graduation: Yes

Description: United States History covers from colonialism to 1900, including the American Revolution, westward expansion, antebellum America, and the Civil War during the 1<sup>st</sup> semester. During the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester topics from 1900 to the present. Areas covered include the Second Industrial Revolution, World War I, the Great Depression, World War II, the Cold War era, the Civil Rights Movement, Vietnam and the Reagan era. This is a full year, two semester class.

### **Civics**

Grade Level: 12

Prerequisite: None

Required for Graduation: Yes

Description: Civics will cover an in depth look at the American and Illinois state governments. Students will analyze the US and Illinois Constitutions. In this course students will be required to pass the US Constitution Test as well as the Illinois Constitution test as required for graduation. Students will apply



modern US history to current events impacting the federal and state governments. This is a semester class.

### **Sociology**

Grade Level: 10-12

Prerequisite: None

Required for Graduation: No

Description: Sociology studies human interaction and its impact on personality and life. Sociology deals with the investigation and analysis of human relationships and their causes and consequences. Its purpose is to help people better understand themselves and their relationships with others. Sociology is recommended for college-bound students. It is also strongly recommended for students planning on a medical career and should be taken by those students interested in careers that involve working with people. This is a semester class.

### **Psychology**

Grade Level: 10-12

Prerequisite: None

Required for Graduation: No

Description: Psychology focuses on the ways in which human brains interpret the world around them. Students will conduct experiments and participate in activities to better understand this principle. Psychology is recommended for college-bound students. It is also strongly recommended for students planning on a medical career and should be taken by those students interested in careers that involve working with people. This is a semester class.

### **Pop Culture and US History**

Grade Level: 11-12

Prerequisite: None

Required for Graduation: No

Description: In Pop Culture and U.S. History, students will explore eras of American history through the lens of pop culture. Students will analyze factors of culture such as movies, fashion, consumerism, music, and celebrity figures to determine the effect culture has on American history. Additionally, students will discover how culture impacts and is impacted by major historical events such as the World Wars or the Space Age. Students will think critically about what pop culture is, why people care about it, and how accurately it reflects the values of a society.

### **US History Thru Sports**

Grade Level: 11-12

Prerequisite: None

Required for Graduation: No

Description: In this course students will examine the development of sports through various historical perspectives. Students will examine the historical context as well as the significance of gender, race, ethnicity and social class through readings, primary sources, audio and visual materials as well as class discussions.



**PSY 110 – Introduction to Psychology**

Grade Level: 11-12

Prerequisite: ICC Approved reading placement score

Required for Graduation: No

Description: Psychology is the scientific study of behavior and mental processes. This course will introduce the student to fundamentals of physiological psychology, sensation and perception, learning, emotions and motivation, and psychological disorders and their treatment. The role of research and the scientific method are emphasized throughout the course.

**SOC 110 – Introduction to Sociology**

Grade Level: 11-12

Prerequisite: ICC Approved reading placement score

Required for Graduation: No

Description: This course utilizes the approaches of functionalism, conflict theory, and interactionism to analyze the structures and processes of group life from a scientific perspective. Major areas of inquiry include theory and methodology, culture, social organizations, socialization, groups, institutions, formal organizations, collective behavior, and social change



# PHYSICAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

## Course Sequence

	<b>Freshmen</b>	<b>Sophomore</b>	<b>Junior</b>	<b>Senior</b>
<b>Required Yearly</b>	Physical Education	Physical Education	Physical Education	Physical Education
<b>In Place of PE (optional)</b>	Strength and Conditioning	Strength and Conditioning	Strength and Conditioning	Strength and Conditioning
<b>Required One Time at MCHS</b>	-Drivers Education -Health			

## Course Description

### Physical Education

Grade Level: 9-12

Prerequisite: None

Required for Graduation: Yes

**Standard P.E.** – Standard P.E. focuses on developing students' physical fitness, teamwork, and sportsmanship through a variety of activities. Students will participate in team sports, individual exercises, and fitness training to promote lifelong health and wellness. The course emphasizes skill development, strategy, and personal goal-setting in a supportive environment. Regular assessments will track progress in physical ability, effort, and understanding of health concepts.

**Strength and Conditioning** – The MCHS Strength and Conditioning course focuses on injury prevention, mobility, recovery, and building consistency between the physical education and athletic programs. Students will work to improve strength, power, speed, and overall performance through structured training and guided instruction. Throughout the course, students will learn how to set personal fitness goals and track their progress using several performance indicators. Instruction will also emphasize proper preparation for exercise through effective pre-workout routines and the importance of recovery through post-workout practices. In addition, students will gain an understanding of how to design and organize workout plans while making efficient use of time, space, and equipment. These skills are intended to help students reach their fitness goals during high school while also developing lifelong habits that support health, performance, and physical well-being.

### Drivers Education

Grade Level: 9-12

Prerequisite: Age and Grade Requirements as listed below

Required for Graduation: Yes

Description: Drivers' Education classroom instruction is a nine-week course. Students must pass eight classes the two previous semesters combined and must turn 15 within the first nine weeks of class to enroll. Students must receive a minimum of 30 hours of classroom instruction, so attendance is very important. Students will be removed from Driver Education and into a PE class if they miss too much



class instruction (3 days 1st semester, 4 days 2nd semester). Behind-the-wheel training runs concurrently with classroom instruction, with older students given the first chance to drive.

## **Health**

Grade Level: 9-10

Prerequisite: None

Required for Graduation: Yes

Description: Health education is an introductory course designed to help students adjust to high school pressures and mature attitudes and issues in the health fields. The areas of study include growing and developing, human sexuality and family life, consumer health, safety, mood-modifying substances, personal health practices, first aid, fitness and exercise, nutrition, and mental health. This is a semester long class.

## **HLTH 121 – Medical Terminology**

Grade Level: 11-12

Prerequisite: Accuplacer Reading score 237 or greater; or equivalent reading placement score

Required for Graduation: No

Description: This course is a study of terminology used in all areas of medical and paramedical specialties. Emphasis is placed on word-building techniques and understanding of typical medical reports.



# AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT

## Course Sequence

	Freshmen	Sophomore	Junior	Senior
<b>Elective Courses</b>		Intro to Agriculture Ag Mechanics Advanced Ag Mechanics Animal Science Agronomy (Fall Semester) Horticulture (Spring Semester) Construction I and II Ag Business Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE)		

\*All AG classes are one semester

## Course Description

### Introduction to Agriculture

Grade Level: 9-12

Prerequisite: None

Required for Graduation: No

Description: This year-long course introduces students to the range of agricultural opportunities. Through hands-on activities, projects, and problem-solving, students will study communication, the science of agriculture, plants, animals, natural resources, and agricultural mechanics. The course is structured to enable all students to have a variety of experiences that will provide an overview of the fields of agricultural science and natural resources so that students may continue through a sequence of courses through high school.

### Ag Mechanics

Grade Level: 9-12

Prerequisite: Intro to Agriculture

Required for Graduation: No

Description: In this course, theory and hands-on experiences provide opportunities for students to develop basic knowledge and skills in agricultural mechanics. Instructional areas include the basic fundamentals of maintaining and repairing small gasoline engines, basic electricity, welding, construction, cold metal work, surveying, and operating agricultural equipment safely. Improving workplace and computer skills will be a focus.

### Advanced Ag Mechanics

Grade Level 10-12

Prerequisite: Ag Mechanics

Description: This course builds upon the foundational skills developed in Agricultural Mechanics and provides students with opportunities to apply advanced mechanical and technical skills through hands-on projects. Instruction focuses on areas such as advanced welding and metal fabrication, electrical



systems, hydraulics, equipment maintenance and repair, construction techniques, and safe operation of agricultural equipment. Emphasis is also placed on problem-solving, project planning, and developing workplace skills relevant to careers in agriculture and skilled trades.

### **Animal Science**

Grade Level: 10-12

Prerequisite: Introduction to Agriculture

Required for Graduation: No

Description: The major focus of this course is to expose students to agriculture, animal science, and related career options, such as veterinarians, zoologists, and livestock producers. Students will have experiences in various animal science concepts with hands-on activities, projects, and problem-solving, including the study of animal anatomy, physiology, behavior, nutrition, reproduction, health, selection, and marketing. Throughout the course, students will consider the perceptions and preferences of individuals within local, regional, and world markets.

### **Plant Science**

Grade Level: 10 -12

Prerequisite: Introduction to Agriculture

Required for Graduation: No

Description:

#### **Agronomy – Fall Semester**

Focus: Field Crops & Sustainable Farming

- Basics of Plant Anatomy and Physiology
- Row crop production & tillage practices
- Soil fertility & nutrient management
- Pest control & agronomic weed ID
- Crop genetics & biotechnology
- Scientific field trials & research

#### **Horticulture – Spring Semester**

Focus: Greenhouse & Specialty Crops

- Basics of Plant Anatomy and Physiology
- Hydroponics & controlled-environment ag
- Fruit, vegetable, & ornamental production
- Soil amendments & plant nutrient deficiencies
- Pest & disease management
- Plant the Moon Challenge (Space Agriculture Experimentation)



## **Construction**

Grade Level: 10-12

Prerequisite: Basic Ag Mechanics

Required for Graduation: No

Description: This advanced course focuses on the knowledge, hands-on skills, and workplace skills applicable to construction in the agricultural industry and beyond. Major units of instruction include personal safety, hand tools, power tools, blueprint reading, surveying, construction skills in carpentry, plumbing, electricity, concrete, block laying, drywall and painting. Careers such as agricultural engineers, carpenters, plumbers, electricians, concrete and block layers, finishers, safety specialists, and other related occupations will be examined. Improving workplace and computer skills will be a focus.

**Construction II** – This will be a continuation of students who successfully completed Construction I.

## **Business of Agriculture**

Grade Level: 10 -12

Prerequisite: Intro to Agriculture

Required for Graduation: No

Description: This course provides students with the basic knowledge and skills necessary to manage personal finances and develop into a successful entrepreneur and/or businessperson. Instructional units include business ownership types; starting, managing, operating, and financing an agribusiness; managing personal finances; record keeping and financial management of an agribusiness; local, state, and federal taxes; sales and marketing; economic principles; and developing employability skills. Student skills will be enhanced in math, reading comprehension, and writing through agribusiness applications. Improving computer and workplace skills will be a focus.

## **Supervised Agricultural Experience**

Grade Level: 10-12

Prerequisite: Intro to Agriculture & Approve by Agriculture Instructors

Required for Graduation: No

Description: This course is designed to establish knowledge and skills in various agricultural careers. Students will gain credit by establishing a project at their home, at a local business, or at their school, usually after normal school hours. Example projects may include, but are not limited to working at a garden center, raising vegetables/grain/livestock, conducting agri-science experiments in a greenhouse, and training horses at a stable. Students will be required to verify their experiences by keeping written or computerized records on business agreements, budgets, inventories, daily activities, hours worked, income and expenses, total earnings, depreciation, and net worth. Instructor supervision will be conducted at the student's home or place of employment. SAE records will be evaluated at least once per month.



# ART DEPARTMENT

## Course Sequence

	<b>Freshmen</b>	<b>Sophomore</b>	<b>Junior</b>	<b>Senior</b>
<b>Elective Courses</b>	Introduction to Art Crafts and Jewelry	Introduction to Art Crafts and Jewelry Drawing Painting Sculpture Art 110 (ICC)	Introduction to Art Crafts and Jewelry Drawing Graphic Design Painting Sculpture Art 110 (ICC)	

\*All Art classes are one semester

## Course Description

### **Introduction to Art**

Grade Level: 9-12

Prerequisite: None

Required for Graduation: No

Description: This introductory course to visual arts covers a variety of areas including the elements of art, color theory, art history, drawing, painting, sculpture, collage, and perspective. Projects include both 2-D and 3-D design. The course also introduces different media including pencil, charcoal, pastel, and paint.

### **Crafts and Jewelry**

Grade Level: 9-12

Prerequisite: None

Required for Graduation: No

Description: This course covers a wide range of hands-on ancient as well as modern craft techniques such as quilling, origami, macrame, weaving, modeling, papier mache, henna design, and relief sculptures. The projects include both 2-D and 3-D types of artwork that can be decorative as well as functional. Students also learn about art history related to the crafting techniques.

### **Drawing**

Grade Level: 10-12

Prerequisite: None

Required for Graduation: No

Description: This course focuses on learning and improving drawing technique skills as well as the history of art. It includes a variety of drawing techniques including grid, observational, still life, figure, and gesture drawings. Some of the elements covered include proportion, perspective, line, space, value, and form. Pencil, charcoal, oil pastel, chalk pastel, colored pencil, and ink are some of the media that will be covered and used.



**Painting**

Grade Level: 10-12

Prerequisite: None

Required for Graduation: No

Description: Painting primarily covers acrylic and watercolor painting techniques along with some mixed media style paintings. The studies for the paintings include a wide range of historical art movements including Non-Objective, Realism, Landscape, Pointillism, Impressionism, and Fauvism. Painting also covers the importance of color usage in a work of art and how to create complex colors. Students will experiment with a variety of painting approaches and styles.

**Sculpture**

Grade Level: 10-12

Prerequisite: None

Required for Graduation: No

Description: The three-dimensional techniques covered in this class include sculpting, molding, carving, and modeling. Projects can be functional, decorative, figural, and architectural. Students will also study art history related to the sculpture units of study. The class includes the exploration of many materials including clay, wire, paper, plaster, papier mache, cardboard, and some mixed media.

**Graphic Design**

Grade Level: 11-12

Prerequisite: Introduction to Art

Required for Graduation: No

Description: The emphasis of this course is designing for the print industry, which includes studying the Principles of Design and consumer trends. Types of graphic design include illustration, printmaking, slogans, logos, advertisements, brochures, typography, editing, and packaging. This course also introduces and explores some basics to graphic design software. Some of the designing is done on the computer and some of it will be hand drafted

**Art 110 – Art Appreciation**

Grade Level: 11-12

Prerequisite: Approved reading placement

Required for Graduation: No

Description: This course is a survey of the visual arts, exploring the nature, language, and history of art, in relation to cultural, humanistic, and aesthetic values. Lectures are reinforced by written assignments, presentations, gallery visits, critical evaluations of art, and introductory art experiences. This course is acceptable for Humanities credit in the area of Fine Arts. It is intended for general studies of non-majors.



# BUSINESS & TECH. DEPARTMENT

## Course Sequence

	Freshman	Sophomore	Junior	Senior
<b>Required Classes</b>	Computer Applications		Consumers Management	
<b>Elective Classes</b>			Computer Science BUS 110 (ICC) COMM 110 (ICC)	

## Course Description

### Computer Applications

Grade Level: 9-10

Prerequisite: None

Required for Graduation: Yes

Description: This course is designed to introduce students to the Microsoft Office Suite of programs commonly used in educational and workplace settings. Students will develop accuracy and speed while learning to format personal and business letters, envelopes, and tables. Students will complete basic career interest activities and will create their personal resume and cover letter. In addition to Microsoft Word applications, students will learn to create basic presentations in Microsoft PowerPoint and will practice public speaking skills while presenting their projects to classmates. Students will learn the fundamental use of Microsoft Excel spreadsheets to display information and generate charts and graphs. Students will expand their critical thinking skills by creating and analyzing basic to moderately advanced formulas and functions in real-world business applications. Students will also learn the fundamentals of Microsoft Access to construct and maintain databases and generate tables, forms, queries, and reports based on the database.

### Consumers Management

Grade Level: 11-12

Prerequisite: None

Required for Graduation: Yes

Description: This course will help students identify the basics of our economic system, their role in the economy, and the importance of making informed economic choices. Students will participate in career research and planning activities and update their resumes created in Computer Applications. Based on their career choices, students will construct a workable budget in Microsoft Excel. Student budgets will include the hypothetical purchase of a home and car which will introduce students to the loan application process, interest rates, and the importance of the wise use of credit in achieving long-term financial goals. Students will investigate the functions of financial institutions and the process of selecting appropriate banking products including credit cards, balancing checkbooks, and exploring investment options and retirement planning tools such as IRAs and 401k plans. This course will also



cover basic information about the categories of insurance (auto, home, life, and health) essential to protecting financial security.

### **Computer Science**

Grade Level: 10-12

Prerequisite: None

Required for Graduation: No

Description: Computer Programming courses provide students with the knowledge and skills necessary to construct computer programs in one or more languages. Computer coding and program structure are often introduced with the BASIC language, but other computer languages, such as Visual Basic (VB), Java, Pascal, C++, and C#, may be used instead. Students learn to structure, create, document, and debug computer programs. Advanced courses may include instruction in object-oriented programming to help students develop applications for Windows, database, multimedia, games, mobile and/or Web environments. An emphasis is placed on design, style, clarity, and efficiency. In these courses, students apply the skills they learn to relevant authentic applications.

### **BUS 110 Introduction to Business**

Grade Level: 11-12

Prerequisite: ICC Approved Reading Placement Score

Required for Graduation: No

Description: This course covers the factual and informational survey of business designed to give the student a background for understanding the principles and practices governing the operation of modern business.

### **COMM 110 Introduction to Communication**

Grade Level: 11-12

Prerequisite: ICC Approved Reading Placement Score

Required for Graduation: No

Description: This course provides the foundations for theoretical understanding about interpersonal communication, intercultural communication, group communication, nonverbal communication, verbal communication, intrapersonal communication, and rhetorical strategies. The course also provides practical applications in public speaking and group membership.



# CAREERS & WORK BASED LEARNING

## Course Sequence

	Junior	Senior
<b>Elective Courses (MCHS)</b>	Careers I Work Based Learning	Careers II Work Based Learning
<b>Elective Courses (ICC)</b>	N/A	Welding Construction Emergency Medical Technician Certified Nursing Assistant

## Course Description

### Careers I

Grade Level: 11-12

Prerequisite: None

Required for Graduation: No

Description: Careers 1 is the first class in the Careers Program. It is offered for juniors and occasionally seniors may take Careers 1. The curriculum is based on preparing students for life after high school with an emphasis on job skills and exploring possible career interests. Students will also study units on life skills such as budgeting, time management and organization.

### Careers II

Grade Level: 12

Prerequisite: Careers I

Required for Graduation: No

Description: Careers II is the second class in the Careers Program. It is offered to seniors only. The curriculum builds on the material covered in Careers I, but the emphasis is on college preparation. Students explore information on colleges, trade schools, and on-the-job training programs. Students are encouraged to formulate goals for the future including their educational and work plans. In this course, students have the opportunity to file for Federal Student Aid and to apply for scholarships with help from the instructor.

### Work Based Learning Program – Through Local Employers in Conjunction with MCHS

Grade Level: 11-12

Requirements: Students who sign up to participate in the WBL program through MCHS must meet and follow the following requirements.

- Good attendance and no major discipline problems
- Good Academic Standing
- Complete an application with the school counselor prior to the end of the current school year



- Complete a consultation with the WBL Teacher at least once a month.
- Arrange and maintain employment throughout the semester.
- Work a minimum of 15 hours per week.

### **ICC Welding**

Grade Level: 12

Description: The mission of the Welding Specialist certificate program of study is to develop entry level welders for industry with skill in major commercial welding processes capable of part layout, inspection, and process troubleshooting. It provides additional welding skill, as well as enrichment in related areas such as fabrication and machine trades. The graduate is prepared for entry-level employment as a production, maintenance welder, or construction trades apprentice.

### **ICC Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA)**

Grade Level: 12

Description: The mission of the Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) Program is to provide the resources, curriculum, and clinical experiences to enable program completers to attain entry-level employment as nursing assistants in long-term care facilities, hospitals, and other health care settings. In addition to obtaining employment, earning certification earns stackable credential toward application for the Licensed Practical or Registered Nurse Programs at the college.

### **ICC Construction**

Grade Level: 12

Description: This certificate gives the student entry-level skills and knowledge necessary for an entry-level position in the commercial construction industry and other industry-related organizations. The program focuses on industry-related terminology, careers in construction, construction safety, construction project plans, methods and materials, as well as construction documentation and graphics.

### **ICC Emergency Medical Technician**

Grade Level: 12

Description: The mission of the Emergency Medical Technician certificate program is to prepare graduates for licensure/certification and employment as an EMT by providing theoretical knowledge, practicing technical skills, simulation, and field practicums, and enhancing professional behaviors.

Prerequisite for Admission into the ICC Work Based Learning Programs:

- Application in Spring Semester of Junior Year
- 2.75 GPA or Higher
- Good attendance and no major tardy/truancy/discipline problem
- Each student will take a written test, be interviewed, and may be required to have a drug screening completed at a Peoria hospital.



# FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCES DEPT.

## Course Sequence

	Freshmen	Sophomore	Junior	Senior
<b>Elective Courses</b>	N/A	Foods I Foods II	Foods I Foods II Culinary Arts Parenting Child Development Associate I Child Development Associate II (Seniors Only)	

## Course Description

### **Foods and Nutrition I**

Grade Level: 10-12

Prerequisite: None

Required for Graduation: No

Description: This is a beginning food course that includes units on nutrition, safety, sanitation, and basic food preparation. Lab experiences are provided for units on fruits, vegetables, grains, legumes, eggs, and dairy products. This is a one semester class.

### **Foods and Nutrition II**

Grade Level: 10-12

Prerequisite: Foods I

Required for Graduation: No

Description: This course places emphasis on nutrition. Laboratory experiences include units on cake decorating, meat cookery, advanced breads, and desserts. This is a one semester class.

### **Culinary Arts**

Grade Level: 11-12

Prerequisite: Foods II

Required for Graduation: No

Description: Culinary Arts will provide an introduction to the food service industry and give students an opportunity for practical experience in the operation of a food-related business. Students will learn advanced principles of sanitation and food preparation. This is a one semester class.



**Parenting**

Grade Level: 11-12

Prerequisite: None

Required for Graduation: No

Description: This course is designed to bring child development and parenting concepts alive for the students. Topics studied include growing with children, living in families, child behavior, teen pregnancy, prenatal development, preparing for arrival, physical development, emotional/social development, intellectual development, special needs children, caring for children and abuse/neglect of children. This is a one semester class.

**Child Development Associate I**

Grade Level: 11-12

Prerequisite: None

Required for Graduation: No

Description: This is a one-year class that will result in the student's ability to become a certified Child Development Associate (CDA). Students will study areas of child development and complete a professional portfolio. In addition to the classroom component, each student will complete work experience in a qualified daycare or classroom setting. This is a full year, two semester class.

**Child Development Associate II**

Grade Level: 12

Prerequisite: CDA I

Required for Graduation: No

Description: The second year of the child development associate class will further the students' knowledge of children and their developmental stages. Participants will continue working toward becoming a certified Child Development Associate. This is a full year, two semester class.



# FOREIGN LANGUAGE DEPARTMENT

## Course Sequence

	<b>Freshmen</b>	<b>Sophomore</b>	<b>Junior</b>	<b>Senior</b>
<b>Elective Courses</b>	Spanish I	Spanish I Spanish II	Spanish I Spanish II Spanish III	Spanish I Spanish II Spanish III Spanish IV

## Course Description

### Spanish I

Grade Level: 9-12

Prerequisite: Freshmen entering Spanish I should have earned a 90% average or better in regular 8th grade English classes. Sophomores, juniors and seniors should have had at least a B average in regular English classes at the high school level.

Required for Graduation: No

Description: Spanish I introduces Spanish as a spoken and written language. Emphasis is placed on listening comprehension, pronunciation, conversation, vocabulary development, and verb conjugation with the goal of learning and practicing typical usage of everyday, functional Spanish. All four facets of language, listening comprehension, speaking, reading, and writing, are developed throughout the course by means of extensive student participation. Culture of Spanish-speaking countries is also introduced. This is a full year, two semester class.

### Spanish II

Grade Level: 10-12

Prerequisite: Spanish I with a C or better

Required for Graduation: No

Description: This course is a continuation of Spanish I with advancement into additional verb tenses and more extensive grammar. Emphasis is again on listening comprehension, pronunciation, vocabulary, and conversation. In addition, composition is emphasized to a greater extent. Culture continues to be an emphasis. Class is conducted mainly in Spanish. This is a full year, two semester class.

### Spanish III

Grade Level: 11-12

Prerequisite: Spanish II with a B or better

Required for Graduation: No

Description: This course includes a review of the vocabulary and grammar learned in the first and second years of Spanish. More advanced vocabulary and grammar are introduced and more extensive reading, writing, conversation, and cultural topics are included. Class is conducted mainly in Spanish. This is a full year, two semester class.



**Spanish IV**

Grade Level: 12

Prerequisite: Spanish III with a B or better

Required for Graduation: No

Description: More advanced Spanish grammar continues to be introduced. Vocabulary expansion is emphasized, as well as listening, conversational, reading, and writing skills. Cultural themes are also discussed in greater detail. Class is conducted mainly in Spanish. This is a full year, two semester class.



# MUSIC DEPARTMENT

## Course Sequence

	Freshmen	Sophomore	Junior	Senior
<b>Elective Courses</b>	Band Choir Music Appreciation Electronic Music			

## Course Description

### Band

Grade Level: 9-12

Prerequisite: None

Required for Graduation: No

Description: Band takes instrumental students to the next level of achievement. Students will participate in three distinct performing bands which include Marching Band, Pep Band, and Concert Band. The Band performs in several parades and at home basketball games and gives three concerts during the school year. Additional performances are given outside of Manito. This is a full year, two semester class.

### Chorus

Grade Level: 9-12

Prerequisite: None

Required for Graduation: No

Description: Chorus prepares students in the performance of choral music on the high school level. It will expose students to a wide variety of choral music and advance them in the performance on their level. Chorus will give students confidence to use their ability to sing in college, community, or church choirs. This is a full year, two semester class.

### Electronic Music

Grade Level: 10-12

Prerequisite: None

Required for Graduation: No

### Music Appreciation

Grade Level: 10-12

Prerequisite: None

Required for Graduation: No



Description: The course will cover the elements of music such as tonality, melody, harmony, rhythm, and notation. We will listen to many different types of music. We will discuss what it takes to become engaged listeners to appreciate the music and try to better understand what the composer is trying to say. This is a one semester class.



# MCHS & ICC PARTNERSHIP

Midwest Central High School and Illinois Central College have a wonderful partnership agreement that allows MCHS students to obtain college credit and workforce certificates while still enrolled at MCHS. Below is a list of the 12 courses and four programs offered as a part of this agreement. Further details can be found within the course descriptions in their respective department pages.

## ICC Courses Open to MCHS Students

- ART 110 – Art Appreciation – 3 Credit Hours – Online
- BIO 111 – Concepts in Biology - 3 Credit Hours – IN PERSON w/ Mrs. DeSutter
- BIO 140 – Human Anatomy and Physiology – IN PERSON w/ Mrs. DeSutter
- BUS 110 – Introduction to Business - 3 Credit Hours – Online
- COMM 110 - Introduction to Communications – 3 Credit Hours – Online
- ENGL 110 – Composition I - 3 Credit Hours – Online or IN PERSON w/Mrs. Sidwell
- ENGL 111 – Composition II - 3 Credit Hours – Online or IN PERSON w/Mrs. Sidwell
- HLTH 121 – Medical Terminology – 3 Credit Hours – Online
- PSY 110 – Introduction to Psychology - 3 Credit Hours – Online
- SOC 110 - Introduction to Sociology – 3 Credit Hours – Online
- CRJ 110 – Introduction to the Criminal Justice System – 3 Hour Credit - Online
- CRJ 114 – Introduction to Corrections – 3 Hour Credit – Online
- THRE 110 Theatre Appreciation – 3 Hour Credit - Online

\*All ICC Courses run for one semester

## ICC Work Based Learning Programs

- Emergency Medical Technician / Emergency Medical Services (EMT/EMS) – Full Year
- Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) – Spring Semester Only
- Construction – Full Year
- Welding – Full Year

\*All ICC Work Based Learning Programs are hosted offsite in either Peoria or Pekin. Students are responsible for their daily transportation to and from these programs.



# MCHS COURSE MATRIX

	Freshman	Sophomore	Junior	Senior
<b>English</b>	English I*	English II*	English III* Detective Fiction Creative Writing English 110 (ICC)	English IV* Detective Fiction Creative Writing English 110 (ICC) English 111 (ICC)
<b>Math</b>	Seq. 1 Geometry* Seq. 2 Algebra I* Seq. 3 Algebra Apps*	Seq. 1 Algebra II* Seq. 2 Geometry* Seq. 3 Geometry Apps*	Seq. 1 Pre-Calculus* Seq. 2 Algebra II* Seq. 3 Algebra II Apps*	Calculus STEM Math College Algebra
<b>Science</b>	Physical Science*	Biology*	Anatomy Chemistry Environmental Science Physics BIO 111 BIO 140 One additional science required after 10th grade*	
<b>Social Studies</b>	World History*	US History*	Psychology Sociology Pop Culture & US History US History Through Sports PSY 110 (ICC) SOC 110 (ICC)	Civics* Psychology Sociology Pop Culture & US History US History Through Sports PSY 110 (ICC) SOC 110 (ICC)
<b>PE</b>	P.E.* Weight Training Health or Drivers Ed*	P.E.* Weight Training Health or Drivers Ed*	P.E.* Weight Training HLTH 121(ICC)	P.E.* Weight Training HLTH 121 (ICC)
<b>Agriculture</b>	Intro to Agriculture Ag Mechanics Advanced Ag Mechanics Animal Science Agronomy (Fall Semester) Horticulture (Spring Semester) Construction I and II Ag Business Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE)			
<b>Art</b>	Introduction to Art Crafts and Jewelry	Introduction to Art Crafts and Jewelry Drawing Painting Sculpture	Introduction to Art Crafts and Jewelry Drawing Graphic Design Painting Sculpture	
<b>Business</b>	Computer Applications*	Intro to Business Computer Science	Consumers Management* Intro to Business Computer Science BUS 110 (ICC) COM 110 (ICC)	



<b>Careers &amp; WBL</b>	N/A	N/A	Careers I Work Based Learning	Careers II Work Based Learning Welding (ICC) Construction (ICC) EMT (ICC) CNA (ICC)
<b>Family &amp; Consumer Sciences</b>	N/A	Foods I Foods II	Foods I Foods II Culinary Arts Parenting Child Development Associate I Child Development Associate II (Seniors Only)	
<b>Foreign Lang.</b>	Spanish I	Spanish I Spanish II	Spanish I Spanish II Spanish III	Spanish I Spanish II Spanish III Spanish IV
<b>Music</b>	Band Chorus	Band Chorus Electronic Music Music Appreciation		

